

Pinkston Division 2 & 3 Slalom
5th & 6th May 2018
Event Information

Pinkston Panthers would like to welcome you to our Division 2
and 3 double slalom at:

Pinkston Watersports Centre
75 North Canal Bank Street
Glasgow
G4 9XP



Photo 1 Look for the orange tower as a landmark. (Image copyright Tayler Made Adventures)

Many Sat-Navs will recognise the centre name, the postcode should get you within sight of the stack of orange containers.

Please note that if approaching on the M8 (westbound) you should use Junction 16 because Pinkston Road is closed between Junction 15 and North Canal Bank Street until summer 2018 due to major redevelopment of the area (the closed part has been removed from google maps). If you can't get directions from Sat-Nav or online maps websites (google, bing) please email us for directions.





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Parking

Event parking on-site is severely restricted due to a number of factors. The only people who will be allowed to park on site are campers and caravans (pre-booked), race officials, and disabled visitors.

We may operate a drop off zone in the car park in front of the main entrance. Once unloaded, please return through the gate and find street parking nearby. The main road parallel to the centre car park is a clearway, but there is street parking both sides of Borron Street opposite the centre entrance. We have permission to use the car park at 100 Borron street, straight up the hill on the right hand side if there is a shortage of on street spaces.

If you are bringing a trailer, we will endeavour to park it on-site (please let us know in advance) so you only need to worry about parking your car.

Boat parking

When you are not paddling your boat it must be stored neatly in the area that will be designated for boat parking on the decking to the left of the main entrance way. Temporary fencing and signs will be put up, boats must not be left between the fence and the front of the containers (access will be required by the different organisations that store their kit here).

Boats must not be left on the decking to the right of the entrance way in front of the changing rooms and control. Boats should not be left on other parts of the site. The only time your boat should be at the bottom of the steps to the course is when you have been told to go there by the pre-starter just before a run.

Throwlines and slings

Ropes and slings pose a serious threat to the pumps, if a rope is sucked into the inlet it will tangle in the pump and break it bringing the event to a premature end.

Pinkston Watersports Centre do not allow anyone to carry throwlines or rescue slings in their boats, so if you have been on a river trip, please make sure your safety kit has been removed from your boat before you leave home. Only authorised members of the safety team are allowed to use throwlines.

Remember the rules

Please remember the rules and do your short session of safety duty by remaining on the water until 2 more boats have crossed the finish line successfully. Please remind your parents and coaches of this rule. If you need to get off early, for example because K1 and C1 runs are close together, speak to the finisher and make arrangement for another paddler to take your place.

If you see a competitor flush into the basin already swimming, or capsize and swim in the basin, please try to get to them as quickly as possible and tow or push them towards the metal steps opposite the pump inlet. There is a shallow area around the steps where bigger people can stand, you may need to tow a smaller person all the way to the steps.

If you see anyone fall into the basin (except into the warm up zone) whilst on safety duty it also is your responsibility to assist them. If anyone falls into the warm up zone, the paddlers there are responsible for helping them.

If you are on a race run and catch up with the previous competitor who is swimming you must stop and assist them. The judges will see what has happened and you will be given another run later in the day (check notices at control to find out when).





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Basin zones

The basin is conveniently arranged in 3 zones:

Zone 1 is the furthest away polo pitch. Another organisation may be using zone 1 during our event, in which case you must keep clear of it.

Zone 2 is middle zone and is also a polo pitch. Zone 2 may be used for warm up. We ask that you do not cross to the moving water side of the goal line closest to the WW course during warm up. No warm up paddler should be 'upstream' of the finish line, unless they are taking part in the rescue of a swimmer or boat recovery.

Zone 3, extends from the end of Zone 2 all the way to end of the basin where the WW course joins. When the pumps are running zone 3 becomes a large eddy with some fast current that will be used for the final few gates of the course down to the finish line.

There are 3 floating pontoons in the basin, A is at the far end of zone 1, B is between zones 1 and 2, and C is between zones 2 and 3.

Use Pontoon B for general warm up access and after you have been released from safety duty. Pontoon C is pre-start, when the pre-starter calls you for your run, egress at pontoon C and move to the steps for the WW course. Only boats called by the pre-starter should use pontoon C.

If you end up swimming

The general advice is not to try to stand up in the WW course but to lay on your back and let the flow take you to the basin and around to the steps, however with only 1 or 2 pumps running you might find it easy to swim into an eddy. A safety volunteer or spectator may also help you to the side.

If you do end up swimming into the basin, the flow will take you across the end and along the far side. As soon as you have turned the corner and are going along the side past the judges, swim towards the wall and as you get closer, towards the steps. This will ensure you get to the shallow area and to the steps.

In the unlikely event that you are carried towards the pump inlet – don't panic! There is no way you can get past the grille, the centre staff have practised this many times and whilst it may be alarming there is no danger. If you are sucked against the inlet grille someone will come to your rescue (the judges will have seen what has happened and raised the alarm) and pull you out by your buoyancy aid (so make sure it is properly adjusted!). If there is any difficulty pulling you out, the pumps will be switched off.

Emergency Stop

Please familiarise yourself with the location of the emergency stop button on the wall to the left at the top of the launch steps – **DO NOT LEAN ON THE BUTTON BY ACCIDENT**. The emergency stop is hard on the pumps so is for genuine emergency use only (if the safety team or judges call for an emergency stop the nearest person should press the button).

No access to the island

The WW course runs around 3 sides of an island, on the other side of the island is the short course.

During the event the island will be criss-crossed by the judges wires, and will be patrolled by safety volunteers who may have throwlines, poles and paddles scattered around. These are trip hazards and you could delay the event if a broken wire has to be replaced or fixed. Therefore; the only people who are allowed to be on the island over the weekend are race officials, including the safety volunteers and judges.





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Spectator areas

Spectators are allowed to watch from anywhere downstream of the start area, around the outside of the course, and anywhere on the decking overlooking the finish and warm up zone.

The blue Astroturf path around the outside is split into 2 lanes, anyone may use the outer lane at any time however they are dressed. The inner lane along the waters' edge may only be used by people wearing a buoyancy aid (or lifejacket). Spectators and coaches wearing dry clothes are welcome to don a buoyancy aid and use the inner lane, as are competitors when wearing their buoyancy aid. Judges stations may be within the inner lane, please take care when passing them.

Camping

There is limited hard standing space on site for caravans and motorhomes. These must be pre-booked; email jim@jim-wallis.co.uk who will allocate you a dedicated pitch which will be marked out. The camping pitches are to the left of the entrance as you drive in. Please note that opposite the camping pitches will be parking reserved for customers of the wakeboard park which shares the car park so please keep within your marked pitch.

Control

Control will be situated in the classroom on the basin side of the building adjacent to the WW course and will accept late entries up to 9am on each day of the event. If there is any kind of symbol against your name in the RTC column of the start list, please report to control before 9am to find out what the problem is and rectify it.

Any paddler that does not have a bib (i.e. if you have recently been promoted and require a temporary bib) must go to control before 9am – remember that if you don't have a bib you will need to show your SCA, WCA, CANI or BC card to prove that you are a member.

If you have entered the officials event, please report to control for a bib and to find out what job you will be doing.

Changing rooms and toilets

Changing rooms are available on site, there are no lockers so please keep the changing rooms tidy and be aware that the floor may get very wet by the end of the day.

There are additional toilets accessed from the main entranceway.

Weather

We believe we have booked good weather for the weekend, but this is Scotland and the weather can change rapidly. The site can be windy so please remember to bring some warm clothes and waterproofs just in case our weather order went astray.

Slalom Café

The slalom café will be serving hot and cold snacks and beverages all day.

Prizegiving

Prizegiving will be approximately 30 minutes after the final run of each day





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Event programme

Saturday:

Official practice 10am
First runs 11:30am
Lunch break
Second runs 2pm

Sunday:

Official practice 9:30am
First runs 11am
Lunch break
Second runs 1:30pm

The provisional order of classes will be:

Officials (3 pumps, then change)
Div 2 K1M
Div 2 K1W
Div 2/3 Veterans
Div 2 C1M
Div 2 C1W
Div 2/3 C2

Change Pumps
Div 3 K1W
Div 3 K1M
Div 3 C1W
Div 3 C1M

There will be a short delay of approximately 5-15 minutes between Officials to Div 2 runs and Div 2 to Div 3 runs to change the pumps, allow the water to settle and adjust gate heights if necessary.

The pumps will be turned off when we are not using the course.

Bank safety cover will only be provided whilst the race programme (official practise, 1st runs and 2nd runs) is under way, if the pumps are on outside of these times for any reason there will be no bank safety cover guaranteed.

During practise sessions on Friday and Saturday evenings, there will be safety cover provided, but we will review whether bank or boat based safety cover (or a combination) is most useful bearing in mind that competitors are not normally required to do safety duty during unofficial practise. It would be helpful if parents or coaches could help out with safety cover for the evening sessions.

Evening Practice

Following course erection on Friday, the pumps will be running and the course will be available for practice, provisionally from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. Part of the time will be with 1 pump, and part with 2 pumps, the exact times will be decided based on the numbers pre-booked for each pump configuration.

For this year we are going to trust paddlers to be sensible and avoid crowding the sessions rather than designating set times. EPD UK have kindly sponsored the practice sessions so there will be no fee to paddle, but we do need you register in advance so we can schedule a suitable amount of time for each pump configuration. To book a session please send an email to jim@jim-wallis.co.uk stating your name, bib number, division, and what time you expect to arrive.

Any changes to Friday times will be communicated on www.canoeslalom.co.uk

Bibs are to be worn during practice. If paddling more than one class you can use the same bib for all of them, but please wear the one you told us.

If anyone is nervous about their first time down the course, please let us know and we will try to find you a mentor (which may be a safety boater). Alternatively chat to your fellow paddlers and coaches and see if one of them will shadow you.

Saturday arrangements will be similar, except that the sessions may start a little earlier depending on how quickly we can get the course changed and finish prizegiving. Information about Saturday times will be announced at prizegiving.



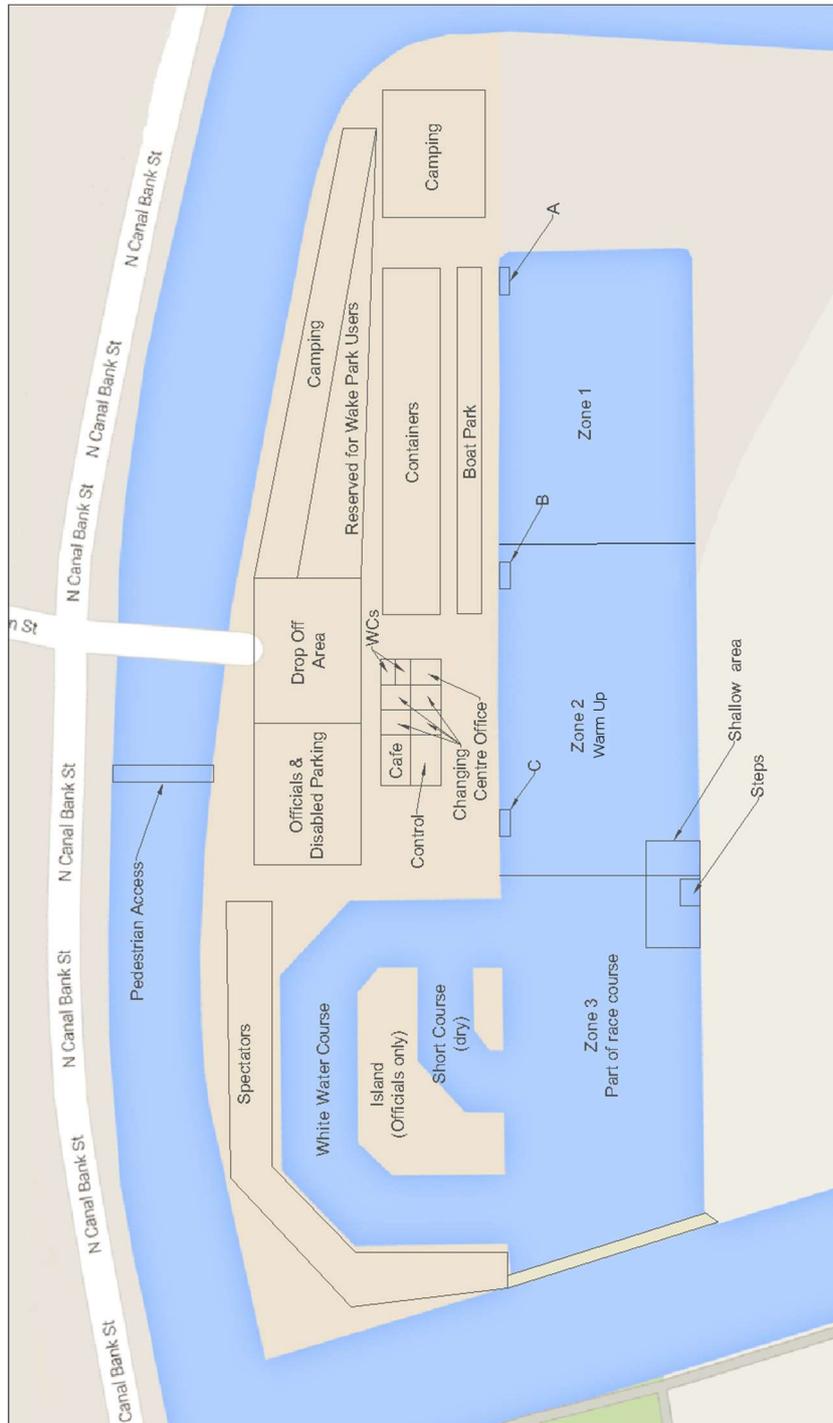


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Participation statement

“Canoeing and kayaking are ‘Assumed Risk’ – ‘Water contact sports’ that may carry attendant risks.

Participants should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement”



Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all the volunteers from many different clubs who are helping out to ensure that this event runs smoothly.

