



EVENT INFORMATION

1. General

Wyedean Canoe Club look forward to welcoming you to the beautiful Wye Valley. We don't want to get heavy with lots of 'dos' and 'don'ts' but there are sensitivities at the race site. We can only run the event with the kind permission of the private landlord and need to ensure we all follow some basic guidance:

- Only park in the canoe car park and pay for parking (if the car park gets full marshals will direct you to overflow parking – further information below)
- Don't use the hotel or pub toilets unless you are buying a drink etc and don't go wandering in in soggy kit
- Use the canoe car park for changing
- Take any rubbish home

Keep an eye on the UK Slalom chat page for updates to this information nearer to the event.

2. Location

The event is based at: **Symonds Yat, East, Ross-on-Wye HR9 6JL**

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Wyedean+Canoe+%26+Adventure+Centre+LTD/@51.840953,-2.638502,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x19ef1322e453d71!8m2!3d51.8409473!4d-2.6385377>

On google maps the car park is shown as Wyedean Canoe and Adventure Centre. You can also see alternative parking at Symonds Yat Rock.

3. Entries

It would help us if you could enter on-line in advance of race day at www.canoeslalom.co.uk as it helps us plan the event and publish an early start list so paddlers have a good guide to timings and can plan their weekend. If necessary, we will also accept traditional card entries by post or on the day. We won't accept e-mail entries. We have deliberately dropped late entry fees as we don't want to put people off entering but please help us by getting entries in as early as possible.

Entries are capped at 130 per day.

Entry fees are the standard UK Slalom fees plus £2 per boat per day. The £2 enhancement is to cover the cost of launch fee by the landowner.

For any queries on entries, or if you need the address for postal entries please e-mail: yatslalom@yahoo.com



4. Organisation

The event is being run by Wyedean Canoe Club. We would welcome any volunteers on the day to help with judging, race control or other duties. If you can help, please pop into Race Control during the weekend or e-mail in advance to yatslalom@yahoo.com

We expect all paddlers who enter as Officials to help run the event and judge.

5. Provisional Timings & River Levels

We'll aim to publish a provisional start list by Thursday 9th March on UK Slalom. We will do our best to run an event at any river level that is appropriate for divisions 2 and 3 and make course adjustments to suit the conditions. We know the river well and can generally predict river levels a few days ahead. If we are forced to cancel due to a very high river level, we will publish this on UK Slalom by Thursday 9th March to try and ensure paddlers avoid unnecessary travel.

- **Friday afternoon – course set.** We anticipate some time for free practice, but no safety boats will be on the water, so you need to provide your own safety cover. Please note the clocks won't have changed so it will be dark at 6pm. It's possible changes in river levels will mean final adjustments before the race, so we can't guarantee the course won't change before the actual race.
- **Saturday 8am – Race Control opens** for any final entries (we can't accept any entries after 9am for that day's racing)
- **Free practice: dawn to 9.15am** (no safety boats subject to late course adjustments)
- **Official practice 9.30am** (with full safety)
- **First runs 11.00am**
- **Second runs 1.30pm.**

We envisage the event to finish around 4.30pm with Prize Giving. There may be some limited free practice Saturday early evening for the Sunday course but this will depend on how long it takes to adjust the course and available light. Again, the course may need to be adjusted before the actual race.

Sunday will follow similar timings. Depending on entry numbers we may start racing a little earlier to allow an earlier finish.

6. Health, Safety and Welfare

- The event organisers will provide safety boats during official practice and during the actual racing. However, no safety boats will be provided outside of these times and paddlers need to provide their own safety cover. Entry in the event means all participants accept Canoeing and Kayaking are "Assumed Risk" – "Water Contact Sports".
- All paddlers are asked to observe the specific event notices including designated get-in and get-outs. A minimum of 2 paddlers must remain at the end of the course before getting-off.



- Paddlers and spectators are asked to be careful around uneven surfaces around the race area which is a natural riverbank. Please avoid creating trip hazards by keeping the paths clear of boats and equipment and by using the boat park.
- Following an incident in 2022 please ensure you keep to the footpaths and don't climb up the steep forest banks. This creates a serious risk of rock fall.
- A qualified first aider will be at the race site on both days Please also observe the notices on display regarding Weils disease, the risk of which can increase if the river is at a high level.
- There is a poor mobile phone reception around the race area, a little better nearer the car park. There are landlines available in event of emergency at the neighbouring hotel (The Royal Lodge).
- The nearest hospital (A&E) is Hereford County Hospital, Stonebow Rd, Hereford HR1 2ER.
- The nearest defibrillator is a short distance from the course at The Royal Lodge Hotel.
- For any welfare concerns, please come to Race Control.
- Due to the natural river environment, we cannot offer any changing facilities and we ask that paddlers discretely change in the canoe car park.
- We will provide two portaloos near to the course. Public toilets are available near to the canoe car park. Please don't use the hotel or pub toilets unless you are a customer.

7. Camping and accommodation

There is no camping at the race venue.

Recommended camping including caravans and camper vans

River Wye Caravan and Camping Park, Symonds Yat West (you can paddle down to the course from here, but not an easy paddle back up if the river is high)

[https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&tbs=lf:1,lf_ui:1&tbm=lcl&sxsrf=ALiCzsaZLnmbD-A8_xcnjFDBQYEd26fdYw:1672600537209&q=camping+symonds+yat+west&rflfq=1&num=10&rldimm=8659083002594475978&ved=2ahUKEwjifzGiqf8AhWKZ8AKHVkxAA4Qu9QlegQIDRAJ#rifi=hd::si:8659083002594475978;mv:\[\[51.8533447,-2.6458136\],\[51.8510735,-2.6458586\]\];tbs:lrf:!1m4!1u2!2m2!2m1!1e1!2m1!1e2!3sIAE,lf:1,lf_ui:1](https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&tbs=lf:1,lf_ui:1&tbm=lcl&sxsrf=ALiCzsaZLnmbD-A8_xcnjFDBQYEd26fdYw:1672600537209&q=camping+symonds+yat+west&rflfq=1&num=10&rldimm=8659083002594475978&ved=2ahUKEwjifzGiqf8AhWKZ8AKHVkxAA4Qu9QlegQIDRAJ#rifi=hd::si:8659083002594475978;mv:[[51.8533447,-2.6458136],[51.8510735,-2.6458586]];tbs:lrf:!1m4!1u2!2m2!2m1!1e1!2m1!1e2!3sIAE,lf:1,lf_ui:1)

Elmsdale Camping

<http://www.camping-and-caravan.co.uk/>

Here is a list of local B&Bs and hotels which are right by the course:

Royal lodge Hotel

Symonds Yat East

HR9 6JL

Tel: 01600 890238

Parking next to the course

www.royalhotel-symondsyat.com



Saracens Head Inn

Symonds Yat East
HR9 6JL

Tel 01600 890435

Parking next to the course.

Food available all Day

Tel: 01600 890435

www.saracensheadinn.co.uk

Garth Cottage B&B

Symonds Yat West.

HR9 6JL

Tel: 01600 890364

Parking next to the course

www.symondsyatbandb.co.uk

Other side of the river (15 min drive round or paddle across) also recommended:

Ye Old Ferrie Inn

Symonds Yat East

HR9 6BL Tel: 01600 890232

www.yeoldferrieinn.com

8. Parking & Launch

Event parking is only allowed at the designated canoe club car park at Symonds Yat East which will be open both days from 7.00 am. Please don't arrive before this time as the car park will be locked and a traffic jam will rapidly develop down the narrow lane. As you come down the lane this is the first car park on the right. We will provide marshals to help with parking. Parking at the site is a sensitive issue due to it being a busy tourist area and all the parking is privately run. We only have permission to run the event if all paddlers and spectators park in the agreed car park and pay the appropriate fees.

If the car park does get full, marshals will help direct to overflow parking. This will include options to drop off boats and making use of the nearby Forestry Commission Parking at Symonds Yat Rock and then walking down to the course (about a 15 min walk). This car park is open from 8.30am to 6.30pm. There may be limited parking at the Royal Lodge Hotel car park but please don't drive down to this car park unless directed by marshals. If you are staying at the hotel then parking is available for guests.

Please pay the parking fee at the machine, which accepts cards and coins. Marshals may also have handheld payment machines to avoid a queue. Parking is currently £6 to park for the day. There is no need to pay a launch fee as this has been included within the entry free.

Note: there is a camera operating in the car park with a vehicle recognition system. There is a £100 fine for non-payment.



It's easiest to launch from the steps at the car park on arrival and paddle down to the course. There is a boat park next to Pre-Start where boats can be kept during the day.

9. **Catering**

Due to the nature of the site we can't guarantee catering at the event, but there is a chance a local charity will run a butty and coffee stand. We will update on this on the UK Slalom chat pages. There are a number of hotels and a pub near to the car park.

10. **Contacts**

For any queries or if you need further information, please e-mail yatsslalom@yahoo.com