



# Hekili OCC Hosting AO Ozone R2 Mini G Downwinder



| Yorkeys Knob to Ellis Beach, Cairns |

Saturday 15 July 2023



## WELCOME MESSAGE AOCRA



On behalf of the Board of the Australian Outrigging Canoe Racing Association (AOCRA), it is with great pleasure that I welcome athletes, coaches, sponsors, officials, guests and supporters to the second of three 2023 AO Ocean Downwind Runs. Hekili Outrigger Canoe Club is hosting in association with AOCRA the Ozone Race 2 Mini G Downwinder. It is a great honour to host this event in Cairns with a week of paddling leading into the GBROC event.

This event, is a significant celebration of athletic excellence, camaraderie and leadership with the country's top downwind paddlers in OC1, OC2, V1 and Ocean Skis who will compete in the in this series. We welcome OCb teams to give this downwinder a go and those new to downwinding may enter the short course as well. Bring on the weather for a great ocean downwind race.

We thank our Ozone Australia our series sponsor and V-Insurance for partnering with us on this event. Thanks as well to the local community for embracing the visiting competitors, officials, volunteers and supporters.

I would also like to wish every participant the very best of luck in this race and hope all the spectators have a wonderful day. This is the second of three races in the 2023 series and is a great location to run a 20 kms downwind course for outriggers and ocean ski competitors. While you compete with each other, we ask that you respect the same rules, share the ocean, the power and the spirit of outriggering with your fellow paddlers.

Enjoy the experience everyone.



Michael Seay  
President AOCRA Ltd



## Welcome from Hekili Outrigger Canoe Club, Cairns



Welcome to paradise! Our Hekili family is excited to be welcoming you to Cairns in July for the AO Ocean Downwind Race 2 in the land and sea country of the Yirrigandji tribe.

One of the great things about living and paddling in tropical north Queensland is just when the rest of Australia goes into winter hibernation - it's our time to shine!

The sun comes out and predictable South-Easterly trade winds kick in along our stunning coastline, delivering the best downwind runs you'll find anywhere.

Many of you have already challenged yourself over the past 11 years with the *45km Great Barrier Reef Ocean Challenge (GBROC)*, Australia's longest downwind iron and changeover event from Cairns to Port Douglas. Now you have a reason to come back to Cairns for not one, but two, awesome downwind runs over consecutive Saturdays, July 15 and July 22.

The AO Ozone Race 2 and its big sister event GBROC give you that opportunity, along with plenty of downtime to enjoy the natural wonders of the Great Barrier Reef and ancient Wet Tropics rainforest.

So, leave your wetsuits and fleeces at home, pack a paddle and bring your sense of adventure because that's all you're going to need for what promises to be a wonderful week-long paddling holiday.

We can't wait to welcome you to our backyard and look forward to doing whatever we can to ensure you have a memorable experience, on and off the water.

Ross Watson | President – Hekili Outrigger Canoe Club





## 2023 AO Ocean Downwind Runs – Event Information:



We are pleased to continue in 2023 with three ocean downwinder runs in a variety of waters around Australia. There is real demand for more ocean racing events in Australia and we are pleased to offer these races in partnership with our hosting clubs:

- Race 1 Port Hacking Outriggers at Cronulla on Sunday 26 February 2023
- Race 2 Hekili Outriggers at Cairns on Saturday 15 July 2023
- Race 3 Pacifica Outriggers at Coffs Harbour offering a double header weekend on Saturday and Sunday 14 & 15 October 2023

As leaders in ocean downwind racing we are offering more ocean canoe racing opportunities. This a progressive competition pathway for all paddlers wanting to compete at other prestigious events. These races are ocean downwinders offering distances between 20 - 25kms and a shorter course where the waters allow for everyone to get into downwinding.

**Each downwind run will offer specific incentives and recognition and will be announced closer to the event**

**All competitors should enter as many of the downwind runs on the 2023 Calendar to accumulate points as the 2023 AO Downwind Champions.**

Presentations for the 2023 AO Downwind Champions will be announced and the leaders will awarded with the AO Downwind Perpetual Trophies at the Coffs Harbour event on 14 & 15 October 2023.



## Race Rules and Safety



All AOCRA rules and regulations will be enforced, as per the [rules](#) on the [AOCRA](#) website.

Please note:

- The start time is flexible at the Race Director's discretion to maximise race conditions and may start from 11:30am to 12pm, Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July to ensure a great and safe downwind race.
- Junior participation is allowed in the Open Division. Juniors must have turned 16 in the year of competing and will be required to gain permission from AOCRA prior to online registration. Parental permission forms and information regarding level of experience must be completed and sent to [secretary@aocra.com.au](mailto:secretary@aocra.com.au)
- The AO Ozone R2 Mini G Downwinder race start will be on the water between two buoys, set up directly adjacent the beach.

Flags will be signalled from the start boat.

- The finish line will be between two buoys adjacent to the beach, north of the Ellis Beach Surf Life Saving Club.
- Mobile phones with Safetrx activated on continuous must be carried by competitors.
- Competitors in distress or are unable to continue at the discretion of the safety boat crews, in conjunction with On-Water Race Director, will be directed to the nearest beach or evacuation point.

There will be a designated first aid area on site and first aid/CPR in each safety boat.

**This is a COVID-19 Compliant Event**



## Nomination Information



Nominations to be completed through the [AOCRA website](#). It is not possible to register on the day. If club registrars are having problems with registration, please email [support@ocra.com.au](mailto:support@ocra.com.au).

Divisions per canoe discipline:

- OC1 - Open , Master, Senior Master, Golden Master, Platinum
- OC2 - Open, Masters
- OCb - Open, Masters
- V1 - Open, Masters
- Ski - Open, Masters

**Nominations due by:** Saturday 1st July 2023

**Race Fee** - \$110 per paddler or \* \$90 Early Bird Discount (\*applies nominations made before June 18)

Race Director, Colene Clifton, will have the discretion to not allow late registrations if there is concern regarding the paddler-to-safety boat ratio.

- V1 competitors will proceed dependent on the suitability and safety of the course at the discretion of the Race Director.

- No refunds given if you decide to scratch your race, no matter what the reason.



## Canoe Hire:



Hekili is committed to making our event easily accessible for interstate and overseas paddlers. We are able to put together paddlers with canoe owners for hire/borrow arrangements. Any fees or agreements will be between the canoe owner and the paddler. We'll facilitate the introduction and can help with movement logistics etc.

Please email your request to [hekili\\_gbroc@outlook.com](mailto:hekili_gbroc@outlook.com)

## MINI G parking

- Car and canoe trailers parking is available at the race start and finish:

Yorkeys Knob foreshore, Sims Esplanade

Ellis Beach, Captain Cook Highway (north of Ellis Beach Surf Life Saving Club)

- Canoe trailers can also be parked at Yorkeys Knob Boat Club, Buckley Street (5 min. walk to race start).

## Canoe transport to the event

- For those flying in, or without own transport, arrangements can be made to get you and your craft to the race start at Yorkeys Knob on Saturday morning prior to the briefing; and back again after racing is done. Competitors requiring support should email [hekili\\_gbroc@outlook.com](mailto:hekili_gbroc@outlook.com) once you've nominated.
- Volunteers may be available on request to drive your vehicle to the finish line from the start. We aim to assist in every way but be mindful our resources are not unlimited and it's 'first in, best dressed' basis. Email [hekili\\_gbroc@outlook.com](mailto:hekili_gbroc@outlook.com) as soon as you nominate if you need support.



## Local information:



## Accommodation

- Convenient locations:  
Yorkeys Knob and Cairns Northern Beaches
- Hotel Accommodation:  
Trinity Beach, Clifton Beach, Palm Cove and Cairns CBD
- Air BNB:  
Yorkeys Knob, Trinity Beach, Palm Cove, Clifton Beach  
Holloways Beach, Machans Beach, Trinity Park
- Paddling Community:  
Share a room or bunk with someone local!

## Be Croc Wise, Sun Smart and KEEP HYDRATED

Cairns is in croc territory. Local paddlers are aware of this but most have never seen or encountered a croc while paddling. We avoid paddling in rivers and estuaries, particularly at dusk. Your marine encounters are more likely to be with a turtle or dolphin. Box jellyfish are not present in our waters between May and November. You may still consider wearing long sleeves and leggings for sun protection

Even in winter, it's warmer than you expect and conditions are likely to be different to what you've been training in.

It's imperative paddlers keep well hydrated during and in the days leading up to racing. Carry enough water and food with you to stay energised.





# Event schedule



Please note times are approximate and paddlers should be ready well in advance of race start. Event times and courses may be altered at the discretion of the Race Director to give the best race conditions for competitors. Keep up to date with the latest information on [AOCRA](#) and [Hekili](#) facebook.

**Tides: July 15**  
**High: 07:49 am 1.99m**  
**Low: 13:54 pm 0.63m**

**Sunrise: 6:46 am**  
**Sunset: 17:59 pm**



## AO Ocean Downwind Series 2023

[AOCRA safety requirements apply to all craft](#)

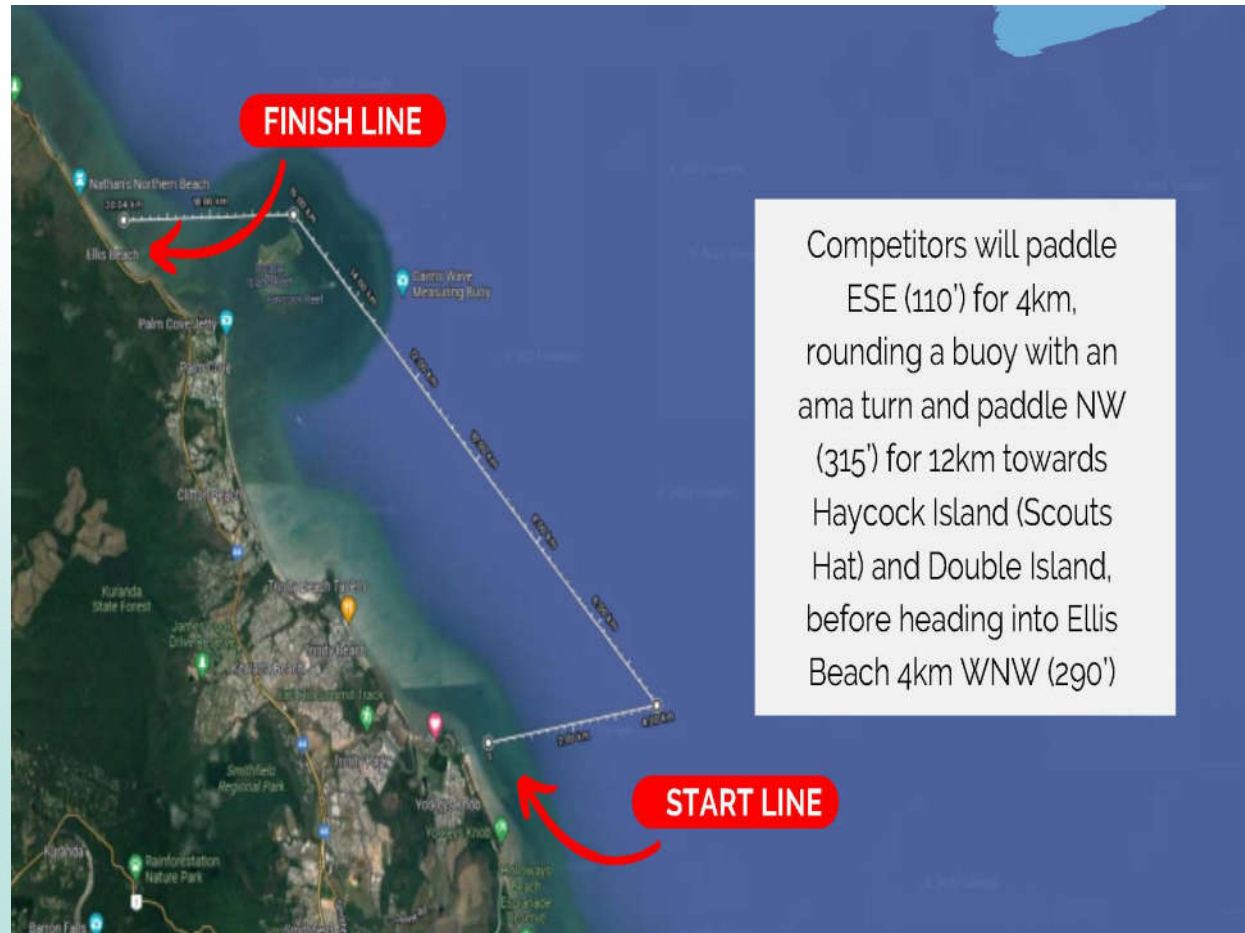
Get ready for the remaining race in this series: Race 3



## Race course details and navigation



- After the start competitors will paddle ESE (110°) for 4km rounding a buoy with an ama turn
- Then paddle NW (315°) for 12km towards Haycock Island (Scout's Hat) and Double Island
- Before heading into Ellis Beach 4km WNW (290°)
- As you hit the beach you will have paddled approximately 20km.

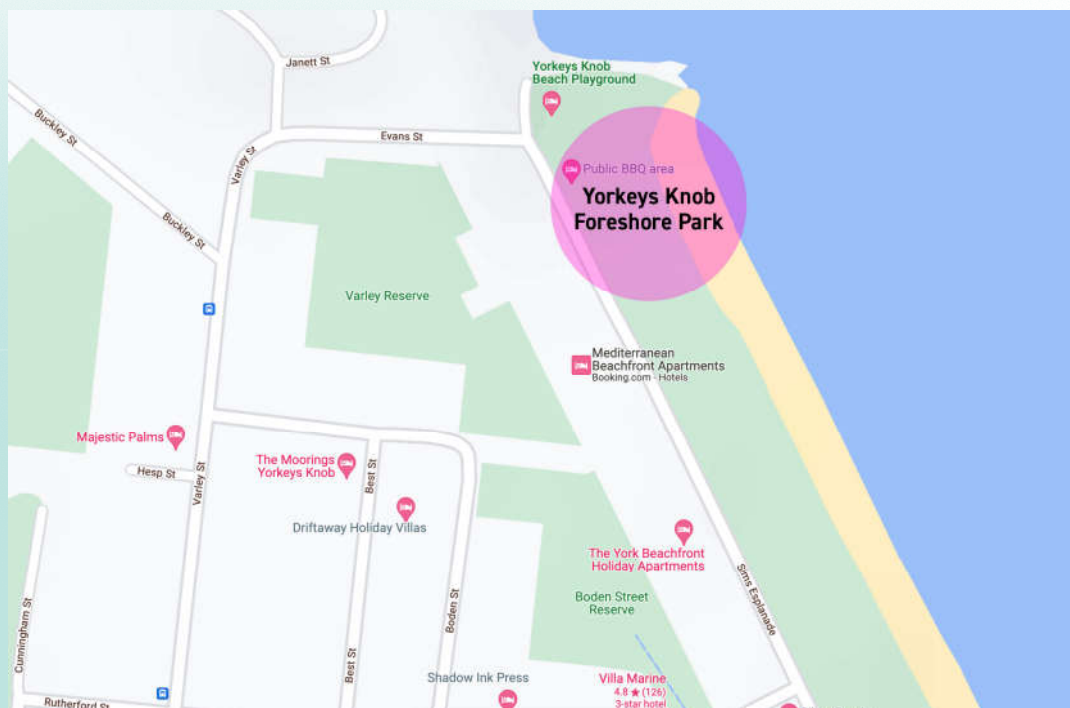


## Race Registration and Safety – Yorkeys Knob



All registration for this event will take place at Yorkeys Knob Foreshore Park. Paddlers will have plenty of grassed area in which to rig canoes, register, confirm craft number, emergency contact and collect race shirts.

Competitors must sign-in in person at the registration area (one representative per craft) and to ensure Safetrx app is installed and ‘continuous tracking’ mode is selected. You’ll find plenty of friendly faces and volunteers in blue t-shirts to assist with any questions or issues you might have prior to the race.



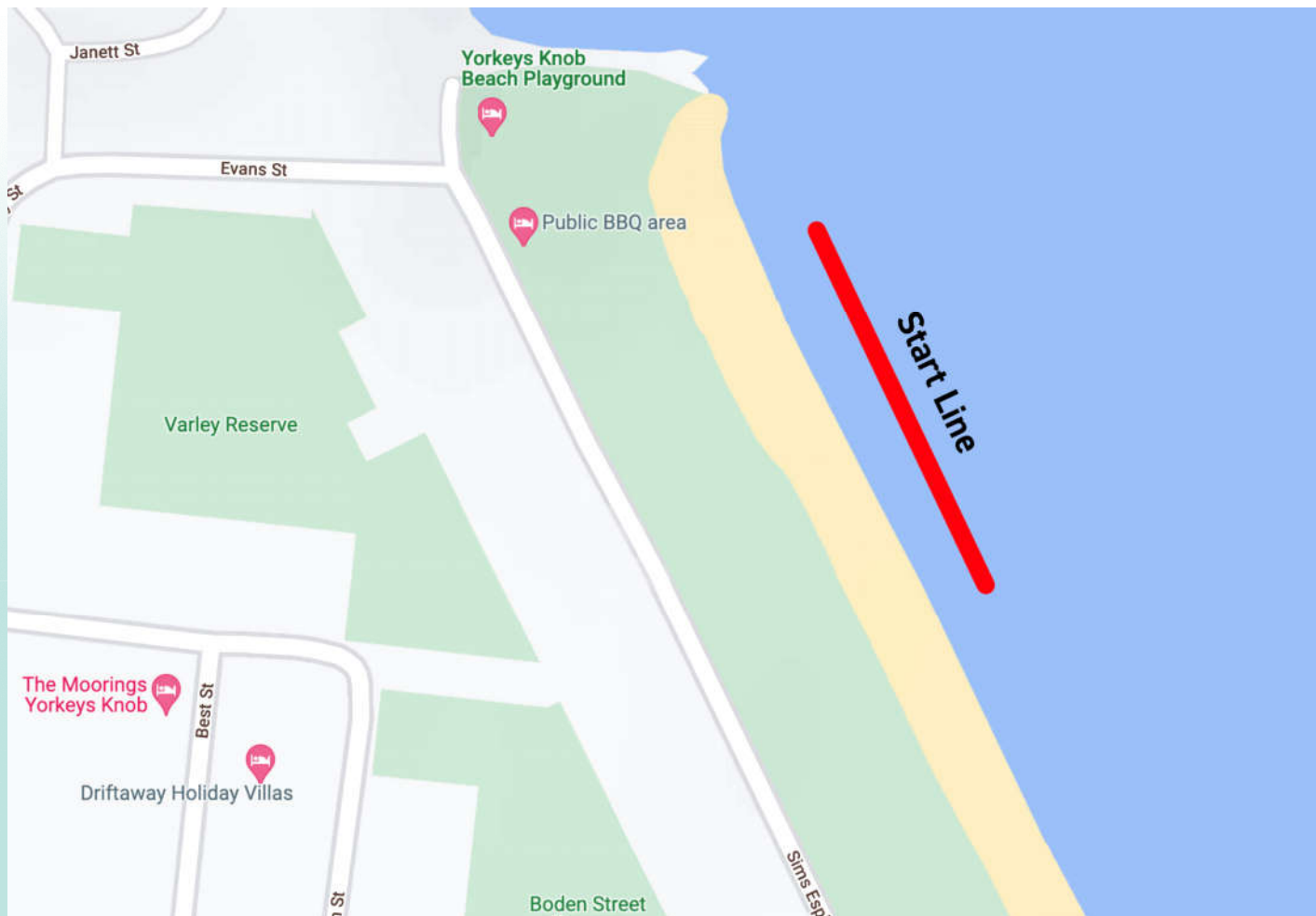
## Safety

Please note the **minimum** safety requirements for this event include :

- Spare paddle to be carried for all canoe paddlers
- Mobile phone must be taken per craft running Safetrx app on continuous tracking
- PFD to be easily accessible to all competitors for the period of the race. **Inflatable PFDs are allowed.**
- Leash attaching paddler to craft to be worn by all competitors for the period of the race. **V1's excluded.**



## Yorkeys Knob Foreshore Park start line and navigation

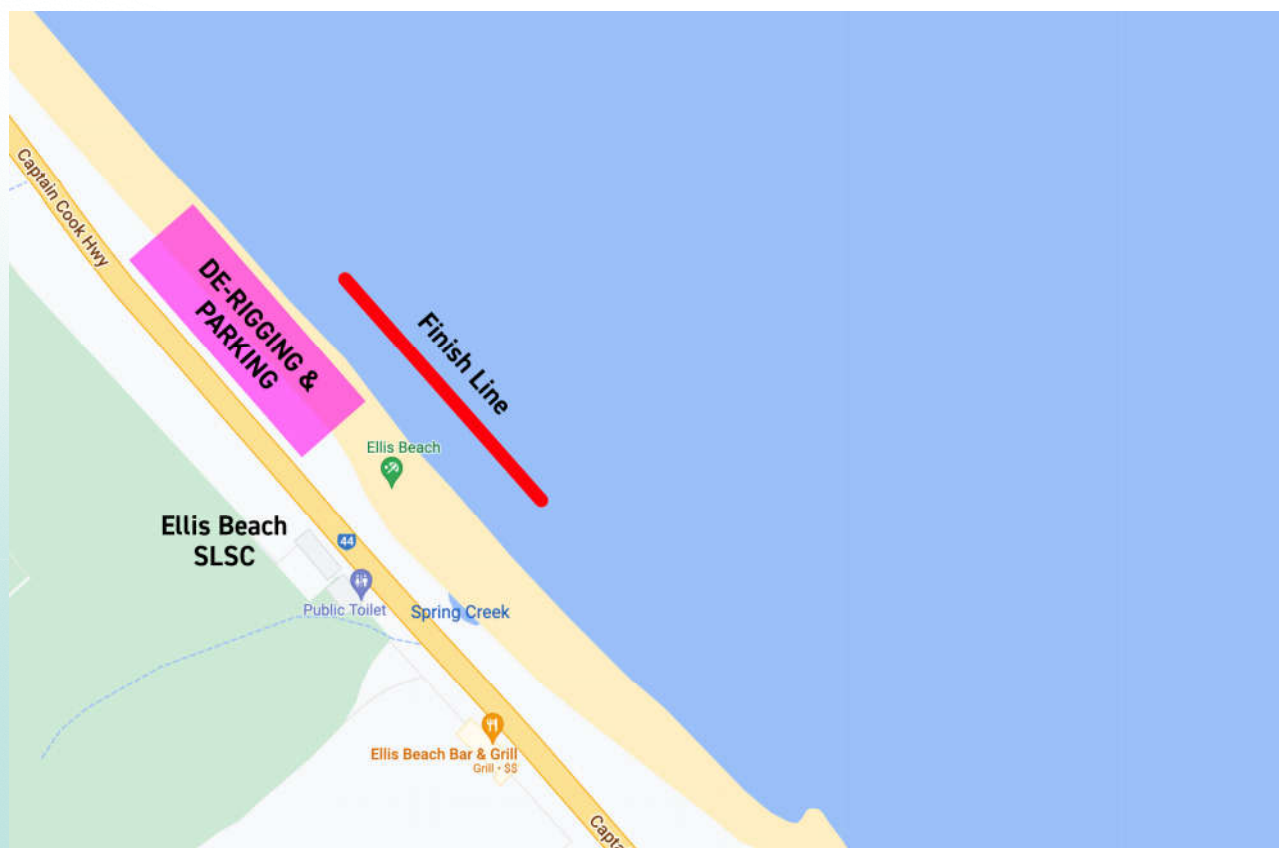


- Competitors to marshal on the beach
- Race Director and safety team will check off safety gear and competitors before getting on water
- Race Director will be on a jet ski and organise craft to line up between two start buoys for a fair start
- Race Director will hold start until a suitable line is formed

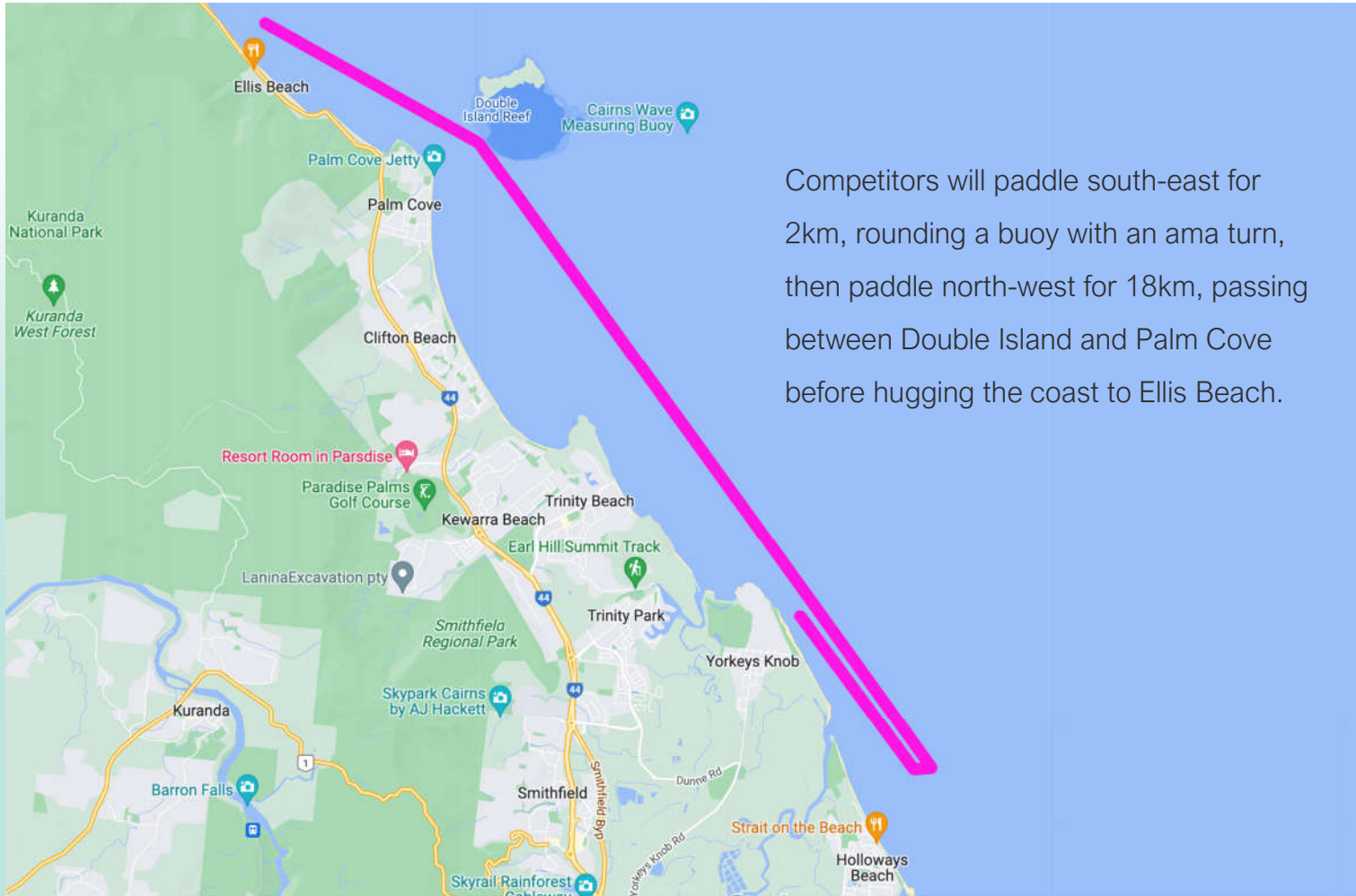


## Ellis Beach finish line and navigation

- Aim for the northern end of Ellis Beach foreshore, opposite Ellis Beach SLSC
- Be aware of swimmers in this well-protected beach area as you approach
- The finish line will be between two buoys adjacent to the beach.
- There are plenty of grassed areas away from vehicle and pedestrian traffic to load, rig and de-rig craft prior to presentation.



## Alternative race course navigation



Competitors will paddle south-east for 2km, rounding a buoy with an ama turn, then paddle north-west for 18km, passing between Double Island and Palm Cove before hugging the coast to Ellis Beach.

- An alternate course may be used, at the Race Director's discretion
- Competitors to paddle in between Double Island and Palm Cove Jetty to keep within 'partially smooth waters' for the entire course



## Safety plan and personnel

- All safety boats will have first aid and CPR personnel on board
- All safety boats will have emergency communication
- First Aid personnel will be available at the finish
- AED Defibrillator will be readily available at Ellis Beach SLSC (finish)
- All competitors will have safety gear checked before getting on the water

## Presentations

Saturday: 2:30pm after race at Ellis Beach Surf Life Saving Club

## Facilities on the day

- Yorkeys Knob: cafés and bakery within 100m of the race start area at Yorkeys Knob right beside beach access.
- Ellis Beach: Ellis Beach SLSC : BBQ lunch will be provided, water, soft drinks and bar available.



## This is a COVID-19 Safe Event



### COVID SAFE EVENT PLAN:

- This is an open-air event
- Observe social distancing at all times and keep in your social bubbles where possible
- Consider your teams seating plan before arriving and bring necessary seating equipment
- Paddlers should ensure that they have hand sanitizer and supplies to wipe down craft & equipment if it is being used by multiple people
- Registration Officers will have separate lines for each event. Only one person per team is required to sign in.

### DO NOT attend or enter the regatta if you have:

- a fever, cough, sore throat, headache, respiratory issue or loss to taste or smell
- Competitors & visitors are to adhere to Queensland Health Regulations regarding Covid-19 at the time of this event
- Please share this message with any visitors you have invited to the regatta

**For the most up to date information regarding Qld COVID-19 safety guidelines please refer:**

[COVID-19 in Queensland | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/diseases/covid-19)





# Cancellation Policy



AOCRA Refund Policy effective 30 November 2021

## The Nomination Fee

Total Nomination Senior Fee:	\$110:00
Host Club:	\$ 0.00
Zone:	\$ 0:00
AOCRA:	\$110:00

## Early Bird Fee

\$90.00
\$ 0.00
\$ 0.00
\$90.00

## AOCRA Refund Policy in the event of Postponement and or Cancellation

Refund policy may vary depending on the type of event and the Host or Organiser. The Host of each event must include a Refund Policy in the approved Regatta / Event Program outlining the terms for eligibility to request a refund. The Refund Policy must be the same wording as outlined in the AOCRA Rules, otherwise, the Host must seek approval from AOCRA Events for any changes prior to publishing a Refund Policy in the approved Regatta / Event program. The Refund Policy applies to nomination fees paid to enter a sanctioned AOCRA event only.

## Nominee Cancellation Prior to the Event Date

### Change of Mind or Unable to Attend

Once the nomination fee is paid there is no refund for change of mind. If you have paid the nomination fee and are unable to attend the event due to extenuating circumstances outside of your control, you may apply in writing using the AOCRA Request for Refund Form on the AOCRA website and email to support@aocra.com.au giving details of the reason for requesting a refund. The Host, Zone and AOCRA are not obligated to refund their respective portions of the nomination fee, and if a refund is approved it will be processed in full less an administration fee of up to \$10 for processing the refund. AOCRA determines the administration fee at the time of processing a refund and retains the administration fee to cover their processing costs. The nominee cannot request a refund on the day of the event or after the start date of the event.

## Host Postpones or Cancels the Event

### Host Giving Notice of Postponement or Cancellation

The Host must follow the AOCRA Rules to postpone or cancel an event and give notice in writing by: email, sms alert notification or text message to your mobile device, Host Facebook post, written announcement on the AOCRA website. The effective date is the date of dispatch.

## Event Postponed

Should the Host, Zone or AOCRA postpone an event, they are required to give notice at any time prior to the scheduled start time of an event.

A date for the rescheduled event must be announced within 7 days of the original event date in writing by: email, sms alert notification or text message to your mobile device, Host Facebook page, written announcement on the AOCRA website. The Host reserves the right to postpone the event (where no refund will be issued).

The rescheduled event program content / format may change including scheduled times which is at the discretion of the Host and they reserve the right to do without notice.

The Host, Zone or AOCRA may continue to postpone an event following the same process as above.

## Event Cancelled

The Host, Zone or AOCRA may cancel an event inline with the AOCRA Rules.

Cancellation more than 30 days before the event is at minimum a 80% refund of the Host, Zone and AOCRA portion of the nomination fee.

Cancellation more than 7 days before the event is at minimum an 70% refund of the Host, Zone and AOCRA portion of the nomination fee.

Cancellation more than 1 day before the event is at minimum a 60% refund of the Host, Zone and AOCRA portion of the nomination fee.

Cancellation on the day of the event is at minimum a 40% refund of the Host, Zone and AOCRA portion of the nomination fee.

The Host reserves the right to refund at a greater value of their portion of the nomination fee only, than the stated cancellation terms above.

The Zone reserves the right to refund at a greater value of their portion of the nomination fee only, than the stated cancellation terms above.

AOCRA reserves the right to refund at a greater value of their portion of the nomination fee only, than the stated cancellation terms above.

## Refund Payment

Refunds will be processed within 30 days of cancellation via the same method used for payment.



## Thanks to our sponsors:



We are really excited to have Ozone Australia and Paddling Promotions continued to support as we grow this series in Australia. The Ozone Team are passionate about ocean downwinding with so many great locations to get on a run.

Thanks for all your support for the 2023 Ozone Ocean Downwind series.

Ozone Australia and Paddling Promotions have supplied a brand new OC1 and OC2 canoes along with three Palafamala paddles for this year series prize pool. The more times you enter and place the more chances you have to win.

