

**FAIRBANKS OUTBOARD ASSOCIATION  
GENERAL RULES  
AND REGULATIONS  
2019**

**Officers:**

**COMMODORE – Kyle Malamute  
VICE COMMODORE – Leda Cruger  
TREASURER – Shawn Johnston  
SECRETARY – Sterling Dewilde  
DIRECTOR – Tom Kriska  
DIRECTOR – Tyler Huntington  
DIRECTOR – Arland Dick**

## **I. GENERAL RULES**

### **A) Race Class**

1. A minimum of three boats constitutes a class.

### **B) Entry fee**

1. Entry fees are one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) per race unless otherwise specified by the rules or determined by majority vote of the Captains prior to a specific race.
2. Entry fee must be paid before Captain's Meeting prior to each race.
3. Entry fee, once paid, is non-refundable once the boat crosses the official start line.

### **C) Riverboat Specifications**

1. All boats must be registered with the U.S. Coast Guard with proof of registration or a processed application of registration in possession of racer.
2. All riverboats shall be 24 feet or longer:
  - a) Measured from the transom along the outside perimeter to the bow.
  - b) With not over  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the length covered for a bow deck and no more than 50 percent of the remainder boat.
3. Must use a functional lift, 6 inches minimum movement top to bottom.
4. A minimum volume of 3 cu. ft. of flotation material, such as air bladders, styrofoam, polyurethane foam or flotation cushions will be securely fixed on or within the boat hull.

### **D) Boat Motor Specifications**

1. One stock motor of a fifty (50 hp) horsepower two-stroke or sixty (60 hp) horsepower four-stroke rating by manufacturer to be used at any one time for riverboats.
2. The outboard motor is allowed overbore not exceeding forty (40) thousandths. The following exceptions are allowed:
  - a) Props
  - b) Modifications of existing water intakes.
  - c) Re-gearing with stock gears to change the gear ratio.
  - d) Lower unit modifications for reliability, such as oil pumps and extra bolts.
  - e) Skag and trim tab modifications
  - f) Cowl modifications-material may be removed but, nothing added except to clean the air and keep water from entering, such as louvers or filters. No scoops allowed. Flywheel will be guarded.
  - g) Electronic systems modifications.
  - h) Superficial small parts that have been removed or lost.
  - i) Carburetion-removal or modification of air box with no material added.
  - j) Rubber motor mount may be modified.
  - k) Remote water intakes.
  - l) Lower Unit.
  - m) Any combination of stock parts manufactured by the maker of a particular model motor, regardless of year made, may be used.
  - n) Wiseco (forged) pistons are allowed to be used when rebuilding motor.
  - o) Carburetor jets are to be rated for 50 horsepower motor by factory.
3. The following will not be allowed:
  - a) Factory production, high performance racing motors.
  - b) Modification of exhaust system.
  - c) Modification of power head.
4. Motor must be bolted to life with at least two bolts each having a minimum diameter of 5/16th inch.

### **E) Fuel Specifications**

1. Amount to be carried is left up to the discretion of each crew.

### **F) Crewmember Specifications**

1. All crewmembers in every race shall be a member in good standing with the Fairbanks Outboard Association.
2. Riverboats shall have a minimum of two (2) members.
  - a) One crew member must be 19 years of age or older.
  - b) Other crew members must be 16 years of age or older and must have written consent of a legal guardian(s).
3. Any race on the Tanana River shall have three (3) crewmembers.
  - a) One crew member must be 19 years of age or older.
  - b) Other crew members must be 16 years of age or older and must have written consent of legal guardian(s).
4. Any type of alcohol consumption or illegal substance use is prohibited during the race.
5. In case a member of the crew has to be removed from the race due to any emergency, the replacement of this position will be left up to the captain with the approval of the race officials.
  - a) The Race Marshal has at his or her discretion to allow a captain to be replaced. Reasons for replacement include injury, illness, or other emergency.
  - b) If the "starting" captain is unable to continue racing, one of the other current crew members can replace that captain, and then a third crew member may be added to the crew of equal weight.

#### **G) Visible Identification during race**

1. All boats are required to have at minimum of one-third (1/3) of the boat colored in high visibility colors for safety purposes.
2. All boats shall have a number prominently displayed in two places.
  - a) One number placed on the bow using twenty-four (24) inches of contrasting color.
  - b) One number on both sides of a rigid flag displayed between six feet (6') and twelve feet (12') from stern.
    - (i) Minimum flag sizes are sixteen inches (16") height by (18") width, upright number, black on white background.
    - (ii) Flags are required for the Yukon 800 Shakedown, the Yukon 800 Marathon, and the Tanana 440 races.
    - (iii) All rookie entrants will outline their flags with a bright color.

#### **H) Equipment & Gear**

1. No boat shall accept, replace, or receive any navigational or equipment help from other racers or non-racers, with the exception of tools or fueling at turnaround point, start point, or in emergent situations as determined by the race officials. Any exceptions will be agreed upon by the Race Marshall and participating Captains.
2. One Coast Guard approved life jacket is required to be worn by each person on board. In addition, one Type IV flotation device with no less than fifteen (15) feet of rope attached or throwaway bag must be on board each boat.
3. High visibility helmets will be worn by all race participants.
4. Coast Guard approved fire extinguishers will be in the boat at all times.
5. An approved first aid kit shall be in the boat at all times.
6. First aid certifications and CPR training by all crewmembers are encouraged for all races.

#### **I) Race Officials and Official Decisions**

1. The race officials are the Race Marshal, the Timekeeper, and the Flag Person.
2. Exceptions to, additions to, and interpretations of these rules shall be at the discretion of the Race Marshal.
3. Decisions of officials are subject to appeal by boat captain(s) only and may be appealed to and reviewed by a committee consisting of participating boat captains involved in a race in which a dispute or question arises.
4. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the captains considering a matter is necessary to overrule a decision of any official.
5. In addition, an official or officials may refer a question to a captain's committee as described above in which case a two-thirds (2/3) vote is necessary to decide the matter.
6. Motions made by the officers of the Club regarding any particular race shall be taken into consideration by the Race Marshal.

#### **J) Starting Positions**

1. All races on the Yukon River will have a mass start at the discretion of the Race Marshal.
2. There will be no mass starts for any race on the Tanana River. Boats will leave in reverse order on return.
3. For mass starts or dual boat starts, there will be a one-minute penalty imposed for every second early start.

#### **K) Contact with other boats**

1. Racers will avoid contact with other race boats.
  - a) If contact is made, it will be up to the Race Marshal and all participating captains to decide as soon as possible whether it was intentional or unintentional contact.
  - b) Intentional contact will result in disqualification of that racer from the race.

#### **L) Protest Guidelines on the River Bank**

1. Protesting captain must notify the Race Marshal of protest.
  - a) Race Marshal will assemble and notify all participating captains of the protest.
  - b) The time and place of the tear down and details of the impounding and storage of the protested motor will be discussed and decided by the Race Marshall and all participating captains.
  - c) Protests must be filed within one hour after the official end of the race, which is officially 36 hours after the start of the race after the winning boat arrives on Sunday.
  - d) Verbal protests on items not requiring motor tear down can be filed with the Race Marshal at any time.
2. The person protesting will be responsible for the cost of the engine check, should the protest prove to be invalid.
  - a) There shall also be a two-hundred and fifty dollar (\$250.00) fee along with a letter of protest written to the race officials for each motor protest.
3. The validity of the protest will be decided by the participating Captains and the Race Marshal.
  - a) The protested captain will not have a vote.
  - b) A two-thirds (2/3) vote is necessary to disqualify the protested boat.
  - c) If the protest is proven valid and the motor does not meet the standards listed in the General Rules and Regulations, the person protesting will be reimbursed two-hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) and the owner of the protested motor will pay the entire cost of the motor check.

#### **M) Protest Teardown, Inspection and Assembly**

1. Mandatory pre-race inspection:
  - a) Compression check
  - b) Restrictor plate inspection: must be part # that is rated at 50hp.
2. Mandatory post-race inspection:
  - a) Lower unit must be removed for exhaust tube inspection. Must be stock.
3. Minimum individuals present at the protested motor tear down will be:
  - a) Race Marshal
  - b) Protesting Captain
  - c) Protested Captain and representative, if desired.
  - d) One participating Captain
  - e) No participating captain will be excluded from the tear down.
4. The following motor specifications must be checked at the tear down.
  - a) Compression:
    - (i) Compression PSI will be no higher than manufacturer specifications.
    - (ii) Signs that the head has been shaved to the point where the gasket seal has been completely removed, regardless if the intent was to recondition a warped head.
    - (iii) If a question arises, then a cubic centimeter check of the chamber will be done. Results must fall within five-percent (5%) of a new stock head.
  - b) Port timing:
    - (i) Limits to port size (intake and exhaust) top to bottom and side-to-side will be exactly the same as a stock sleeve within .010 or factory tolerance if available, as measured from cylinder check.
  - c) Balancing:

- (i) Weight balancing, done by hand, using a balance beam scale of rods, pins, rings and pistons is acceptable
- (ii) No matching or reworking of crankshaft is allowed. Any sign of grinding, polishing or adding weight is not acceptable.

d) Ports:

- (i) Cleaning of ports to match sleeve port is acceptable as long as port timing is not changed.

e) Exhaust:

- (i) No modifications of expansion chamber or gearbox outlet is allowed

f) Shaved head

g) Re-shaped head

h) Shaved block

i) Bore stroke

j) Head gasket thickness

k) Missing rings

l) Ground piston crowns

m) Ground piston skirts

n) Grind marks on crankshafts- balance holes and plugs

o) Perfectly matched sleeve block

p) Lack of burrs

q) Extra material in crankcase

r) Reed stop opening or presence

s) Jet size - shall be 50hp rated for that particular motor

t) Carburetor size - throat diameter must be stock

u) Cowling

v) Exhaust cutting, reshaping, smoothing

w) Lower unit and mid-section- extra exhaust relief

x) Obvious porting, etc.

5. Serial numbers and Race Marshal's mark will be fixed to motor parts for future identification.

**N) Conclusion and Outcome of Protest**

1. The final decision of the protest is to be decided by the original group of participating captains and Race Marshal at a special meeting.
2. Information supplied by those present at the tear down will be used by the participating captains and Race Marshal to arrive at final decision.
3. If a commercial establishment is used to do tear down, the opinions and findings of the mechanic who performed the tear down will also have information available toward the final decision.

**O) Except as otherwise indicated, general rules will apply to all races.**

1. All rules and regulations are subject to change by the General Membership until midnight May 1st of each year.
2. Rules may be changed after discussion of proposed changes at three meetings and voted upon by General Membership.

**II. SHAKEDOWN RACE RULES**

A) General Rules and Regulations apply.

B) Entry fee for the shakedown will be one-hundred dollars (\$100.00).

- C) In the Shakedown, all boats, including survival gear shall be inspected before the start and upon finish.
- D) To carry any of the following in addition to the standard motor is optional:
  - 1. Spare lower unit
  - 2. Spare power head with the cu. in. displacement each fitting the guideline of general rules.
- E) The racecourse for the Shakedown will begin at 11:00 a.m.

### **III. YUKON 800 MARATHON**

#### **A) In addition to the general rules:**

- 1. Entry fee for the Yukon 800 will be determined by May 1st of each year.
- 2. All Yukon 800 rookie entrants will pay one-half of the total entry fee amount.
  - a) A racer is no longer considered a rookie after starting one Yukon 800 Marathon.
- 3. The entry fee may consist of a dollar figure or a substitution of selling items or combination thereof.
- 4. Riverboats shall have three (3) crew members, with a total crew weight equaling four-hundred and ninety (490) pounds minimum (street clothes weight).
- 5. All captains must show proof of U.S. Coast Guard registration and pay a non-refundable entrance fee prior to drawing.
- 6. There will be a captains meeting for the Yukon 800 at the Yukon 800 Banquet on the Friday night prior to the race for the captain, crews, local safety officers, race officials, radio contact person, and news media.
- 7. A weigh-in will take place on Friday night prior to the race for captains and complete crew.
  - a) Following the weigh-in, the eligible captains will draw for starting positions.
  - b) The boat inspection will be held in conjunction with the weigh-in on the Friday evening prior to the race.
  - c) The boat inspection will require all boats and crew to be race ready.
  - d) Those captains not present at the weigh-in will be assigned the next consecutive starting time at the mandatory captains meeting one hour prior to start time.
- 8. The downstream leg of the Yukon 800 will begin at 11:00 a.m.
  - a) The race boat must be at the starting dock 1.5 hour prior to the start of the Yukon 800.
  - b) There will be a mandatory captain's meeting one (1) hour prior to the start and/or re-start of the race.
  - c) Captains not in attendance may be penalized five (5) minutes per every fifty (50) race miles rounded up to the next fifty (50) mile increment, at the discretion of the Race Marshal.
- 9. Stops for fueling
  - a) Tanana will be a fuel stop checkpoint on both the downriver and upriver legs of the race.
  - b) All riverboats will have a mandatory stop at Tanana and Galena for gas.
  - c) The fuel stop in Tanana will be for 25 minutes.
  - d) No other gas stops will be made unless in case of emergency to be determined by the officials.
- 10. General rules on motor and fuel protests will apply.
- 11. Start of Race in Galena
  - a) The upstream leg will begin at 6:00 a.m.
  - b) Mass start will be mandatory out of Galena, unless otherwise determined by the Race Marshal.
  - c) Flag start by a pace boat, keeping the race boats between the pace boat and the north side of the river.
- 12. In the Yukon 800, all boats, including survival gear shall be inspected before leaving Fairbanks, upon arrival at Galena, and upon arrival at Fairbanks.
- 13. Matches in waterproof container or disposable butane lighter must be on all crewmembers at all times.
- 14. The following must be carried in the boat at all times:
  - a) Adequate rations to provide six meals.
  - b) One (1) rifle or one (1) shotgun or one (1) pistol with ten (10) rounds of ammunition secured to firearm.
  - c) One (1) Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher

- d) One (1) flare on each crew member's person
  - e) One (1) sleeping bag or a 3M bag and space blanket
  - f) One (1) first aid kit
  - g) One (1) ax or hatchet
  - h) Two (2) paddles at least three and one-half (3.5) feet long with a blade of at least six inches (6") wide or one (1) paddle and one (1) pole, pole being at least ten (10) feet in length.
15. All boats will carry sufficient supplies such as lube oil.
16. All boats may not exchange props after pre-race inspection.
17. To carry any of the following in addition to the standard motor is optional:
- a) Spare lower unit
  - b) Spare power head with the cu. in. displacement each fitting the guideline of general rules.
18. All boats, in order to be seen by observers at checkpoints, will pass checkpoint specific checkpoints as follows:
- a) Boats will pass in front of Nenana so as to be seen by observers on the bank by passing between center pillars or the highway bridge.
  - b) Boats will pass directly in front of Old Minto, directly in front of the landing at Manley, and will stay near the north bank when passing Tanana.
  - c) Boats will pass between buoys, markers, etc. placed by officials and observers at checkpoints, as per the Race Marshal's instructions.
19. At the discretion of the Race Marshal, there will be a fifteen-minute (15) penalty for any deviance from previously instructed racecourse.
20. Potential Breakdowns
- a) All captains and crew must report into a checkpoint or to the Race Marshal as soon as possible after breakdown to avoid unnecessary search and rescue and use signal fires and flares as needed to assist searchers.
  - b) Any boat being repaired at halfway point must be repaired on the riverbank. If a boat leaves the riverbank, it will be disqualified.
  - c) Tanks or lifts may be repaired with approval of Race Marshal and participating captains.

#### **IV. ROLAND LORD MEMORIAL RACE**

1. Riverboats shall have three (3) crew members, with a total crew weight equaling four-hundred and ninety (490) pounds minimum (street clothes weight). If there are only two (2) crew members, the total weight will be five-hundred (500) pounds minimum.
2. All captains and crew must be present one hour before race time for weigh-in and to draw for starting position. Each crew member should bring their own weights if needed.
3. Any Captains arriving after one-hour show up time will receive the remaining starting positions in the order in which they arrive.

#### **V. TANANA 440 RACE**

1. General rules and regulations apply.
2. The captain, crew and race boat must at the starting dock 1 hour prior to the start of the Tanana 440.
3. There will be a mandatory captain's meeting 1 hour prior to the start and/or re-start of the race.
4. Captains not in attendance may be penalized 5 minutes per every 50-race miles rounded up to the next fifty (50) mile increment, at the discretion of the Race Marshal.
5. Yukon 800 gear rules apply.

#### **VI. BIG SPRINT RACE**

1. General rules and regulations apply.

#### **VII. OTHER RACES:**

Includes: Yukon Flats 400, Businessmen's Race, Lou Kinda Memorial, Winner's Picnic Race, Tea Race, Golden Days/Mayor's Cup, Manley 140, Tanana/Rampart Race, Dawson's Excursion Races.

1. General rules and regulations apply.
2. Entry fees will be determined prior to race time.

