



2023 Vancouver Island Dragon Boat Festival

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Summary Info

Date: Main event Saturday 26 August and Sunday 27 August

Check-in: Friday, 25 August

Location: Fairway Gorge Paddling Club, 2940 Jutland Road, Victoria V8T 5K6

Race Courses: A new "pentathlon" format: a cumulative weekend of racing: 500M, 200M, 100M, our famous flag relay and a show-stopper 1500M guts and glory. On Sunday afternoon, the top 3 finishing women's and mixed teams will advance to a grand final 500M race in each division.

Categories: mixed and women's

Race Management: Fairway Gorge Paddling Club

Boats: Millennium dragon boats

Standard Races:

- 500M seeded heats
- 200M heats with advancements by place
- 100M heats with advancements by cumulative time from 500m and 200m heats
- 500M Final for top 3 women's and mixed teams with advancements by overall cumulative time

Specialty Races:

- 1500M Guts & Glory ovals, logging cumulative time
- 250M flag relay championships (each relay team races 250M for a 500m combined time), logging cumulative time
- 200M FGPC Staff Challenge (a fundraiser for BC Cancer), non-cumulative and by donation; this is an optional fun end-of-day option for teams or combinations of teams to jump into a boat to race against FGPC's race management staff

Medal Placements:

- All participating teams — with the exception of the top three Grand Final women's and mixed teams — will be awarded medals based on their cumulative final rankings, based on B, C, D (and so on) cumulative standings in progressions of gold, silver and bronze. In other words, after removing the top 3 finishing teams overall in each division (women's and mixed), every team will be awarded from fastest cumulative times through slowest in sequences of gold, silver, bronze until all teams have received medals. Each podium category will be listed as B, C, D, E and so on, calculated from fastest through slowest cumulative times.
- The top three women's and mixed teams will compete for placement in a Grand Final for each division: first past the finish line will win Grand Final Gold, second past the finish line will receive Grand Final Silver, and third will win Grand Final Bronze.

Team Check-In:

- Registration Tent (115-2940 Jutland, upper deck)
- 4pm to 7pm on Friday 25 August
- 7am to 8am Saturday 26 August

Saturday, August 26 (First Day of Races)

- Stern/Managers' Meeting (top of middle dock) -- 8:00am
- Marshaling for races (main breezeway) -- 8:30am
- First race -- 9:00am
- Retail and craft vendor tents open -- 8:00am - 4:00pm
- Cultural performances and entertainment -- 9am - 3:30pm
 - Free live bands start -- 12:00pm
- Lunch break 12:45 pm
- Food vendors open 11am - 4:00pm
- Beer Tent open 11am to 6pm
- FGPC Staff Challenge - 3:20pm

Sunday, August 27 (Second Day of Races)

- Marshaling for 1500M Ovals -- 8:30am
- 1500M Ovals start -- 9:00am
- Retail and craft vendor tents open -- 8:00am - 4:00pm
- Food vendors open -- 11am - 4:00pm
- Beer Tent open 11am to 6pm
- Cultural performances and entertainment -- 9:00am - 4:00pm
 - Free live bands start -- 12:30 pm
- 500m Flag Relay Championships - 12pm
- Medal Ceremony 1 - 2:30pm
- Grand Finals - 3:15pm
- Medal Ceremony Grand Finals - 4:00pm

Message from FGPC's Race Management Team

Welcome Teams

The Race Schedule (v1) is a separate document and is available [HERE](#). Results and race advancements will be posted at two locations (main dock bay doors and the main marshaling area) to let you know how your teams finish and when you race next. Every team in both mixed and women's divisions will have a minimum of five races.

Note for the FGPC Staff Challenge (a fundraiser for BC Cancer)

- Paddlers are part of any event-weekend roster can muster together informally (as long as they have wristbands) and load into a dragon boat to race 200m against the event staff. Number of paddlers must be limited to 20, but can be fewer than 20. Informal teams must submit cash, cheque, debit or credit card in one team lump sum as a donation in order to participate.
- FGPC staff will match the cumulative total of donations for this Challenge event, and 100 per cent of resulting funds will be donated to the BC Cancer Foundation on behalf of all participating teams.

- Medals will be awarded to the top three finishing teams in the challenge event, courtesy of the festival.

Note for the 500m Flag Relay Championships

- All mixed and women's teams will be paired with corresponding opposites to form relay pairs (e.g. fastest mixed with slowest mixed, second fastest with second slowest...and so on).
- Each slower relay pair will start the heat each race heading southbound from the finish line in an assigned lane (lanes 1 through 3) and race south in their lane to meet their faster relay partner who will be waiting in a held position at the 250m mark.
- Each of the 3 race lanes will have an 48" orange buoy placed in the middle of the 250 mark.
- After meeting each relay team's partnering team at the 250 mark and handing the relay flag from the arriving drummer to the departing drummer, the southbound team is deemed to have completed their leg of the race; they must remain in place until all northbound finishing teams have left the 250m mark before returning to the docks.
- The flag for each relay pair must be exchanged from port to port (e.g. from the right hand of the arriving drummer to the right hand of the departing drummer), and both boats must hold in place as their flag is exchanged, with the 250m buoy positioned between the drummer of each boat. Time penalties will be incurred if relay paired teams do not exchange their flag in this format.
- As soon as the arriving flag has changed hands, the northbound team can begin the final leg of their race, heading north through the finish line.
- There are no turns in this race: each team in the relay pair starts at one end and finishes at the opposite end of the 250m race course, amounting to 500m of racing shared by each relay pair.
- The official relay finish time for each relay pair is recorded when the northbound team crosses the north finish line.
- For the purposes of consistent racing, the fastest of the two teams in each pairing (as determined through Saturday advancements) will start at the south (250m) start line.

The race schedule and race times are subject to change. Please check www.vidbf.com regularly for updates. Although every effort will be made to stay on schedule, the races may run ahead or behind schedule. Please be on site and prepared to race a minimum of one hour prior to scheduled race times.

A heads up to paddlers who are racing on any combination of women's and mixed teams: provision for "hot-swapping" during division changeovers is built into the race schedule between mixed and women's division. However, no hot-swapping or

cross-rostering is permitted within the same division unless the affected team has been rated as “exhibition”; teams deemed to be cross-rostering within mixed or women’s divisions will be disqualified unless at least one of the affected teams is racing is an exhibition team.

Team Check In

Team Check-in:

- Friday August 25, 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm
- Saturday August 26, 7 am to 8 am
- Location: Registration / Information Tent

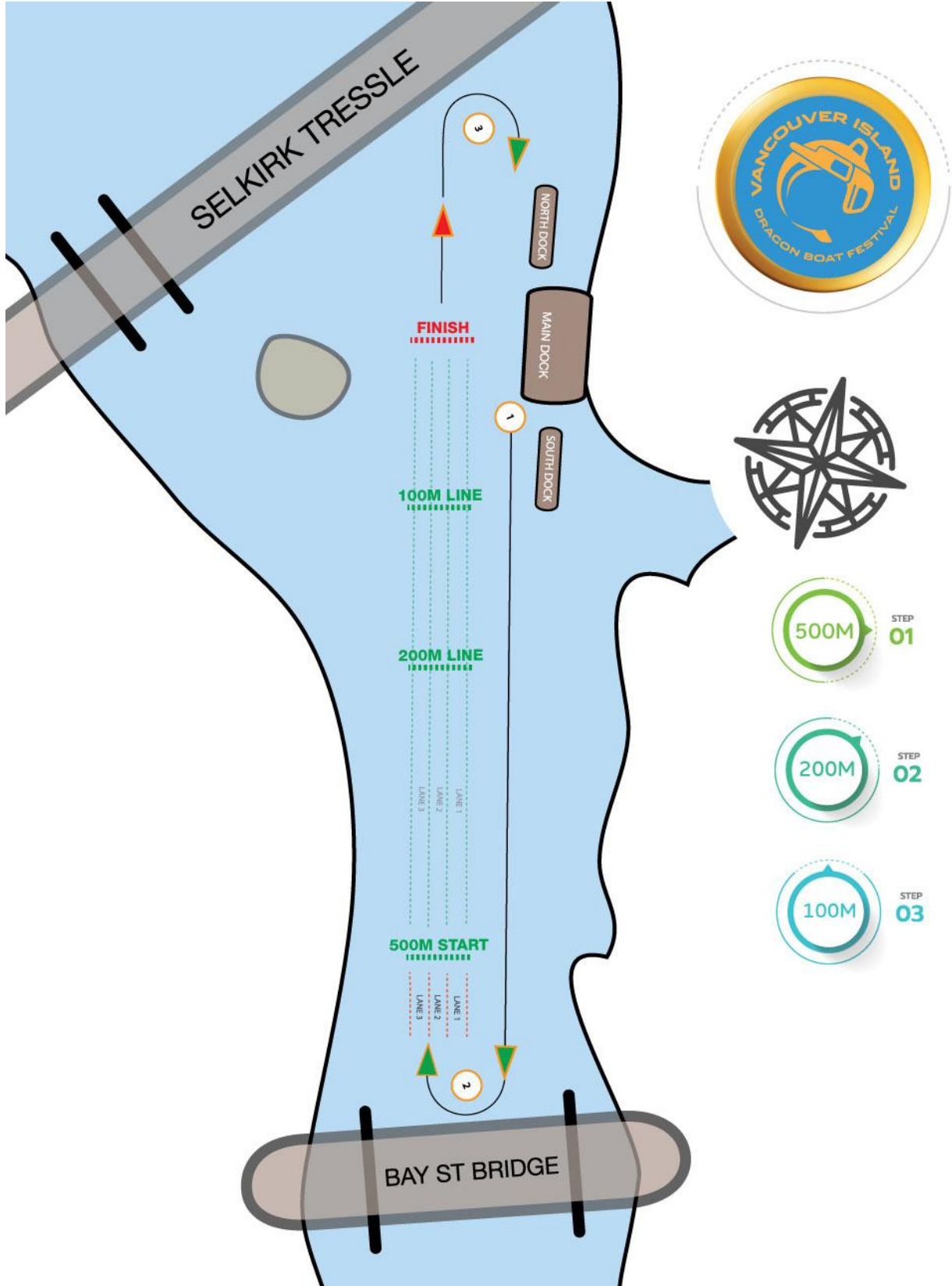
Only the team manager or captain may check in the team. Remember to bring confirmation of any outstanding online waivers (printout of email confirmation or electronic copy viewable on smartphone or tablet) for any additions to your roster made after midnight on Wednesday August 23.

Please Note: last minute changes/additions to your roster will only be accepted until 8 am Saturday morning.

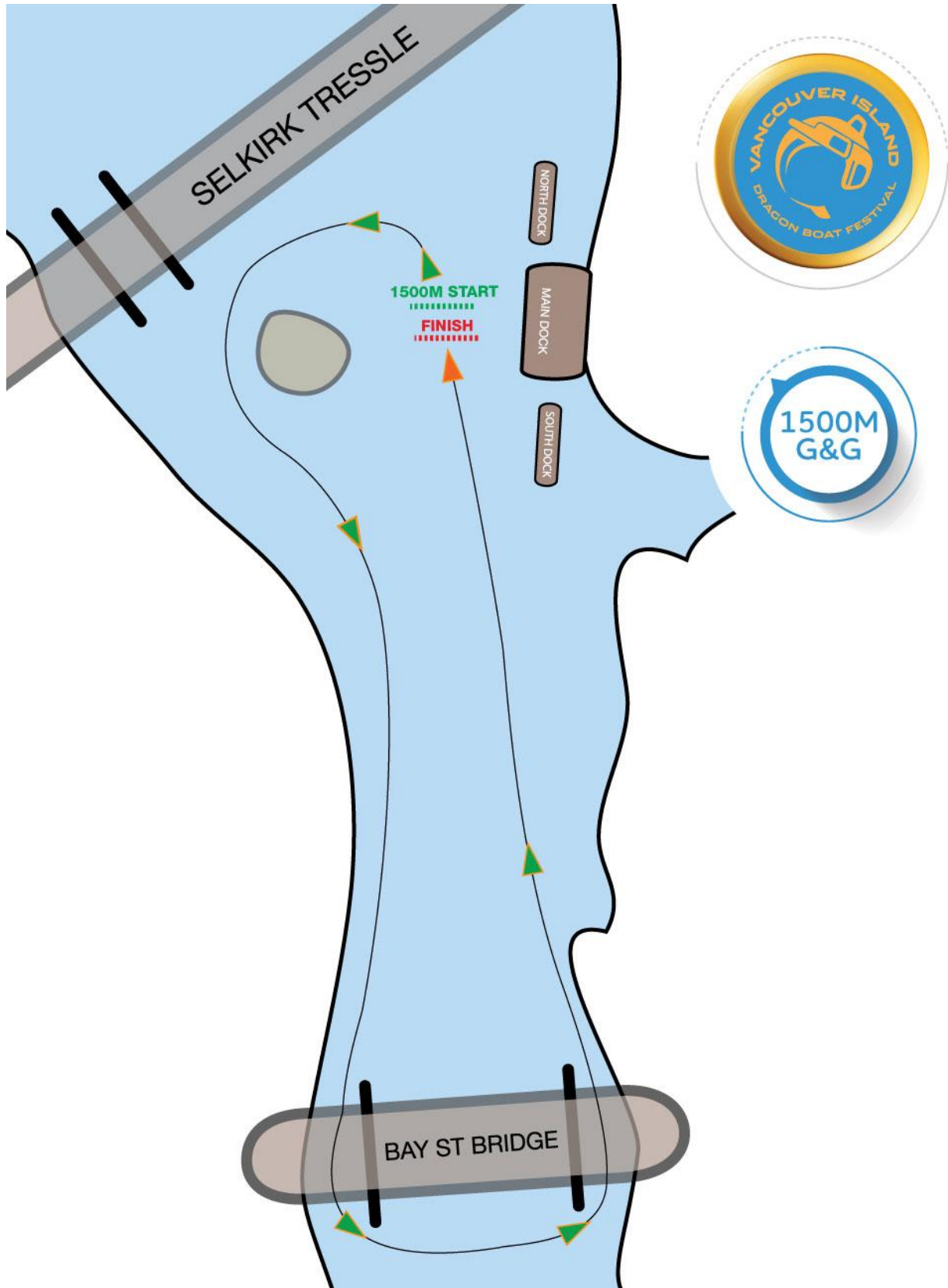
Race Maps



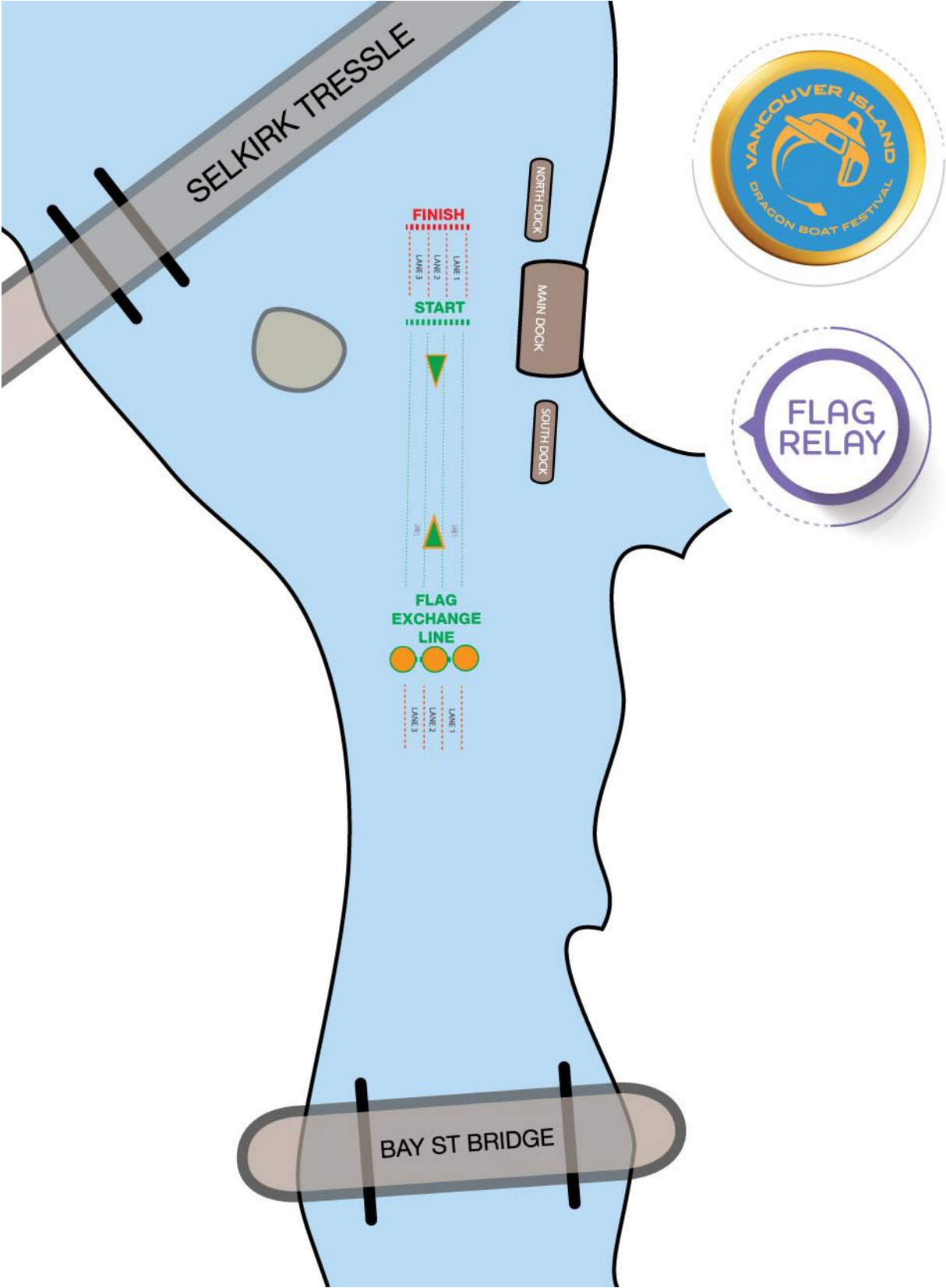
500M / 200M / 100M Race Map



1500M Oval Race Map



250M Flag Relay Race Map



Stern/Managers' Meetings

Saturday Sterns Meeting: Mandatory (attendance will be taken)

- Date: Saturday August 26
- Time: 8:00am
- Location: Upper platform, middle dock (immediately below finish line HQ)

Sterns are required to attend the sterns meeting. Note that the first teams will begin marshaling at 8:30am for the first races of the morning. Drummers and stroke pairs are encouraged to attend the sterns meeting as well.

Sunday Sterns Meetings: Mandatory (attendance will be taken) for Guts & Glory 1500m and for the Flag Relay Races

- Date: Sunday August 27
- Time: 8:00am (for Guts & Glory); 11:30am (for Flag Relay)
- Location: Upper platform, middle dock (immediately below finish line HQ)

On-Water Safety

Here is a review of some important on-water safety points for FGPC-managed festivals.

- Listen to water marshals and follow their directions.
- The head water marshal / safety officer will hand the dragon boats over to the starter for your final approach to the start line.
- Tide and traffic are taken into consideration when preparing to line you up to start.
- Race officials will only recall a race if they feel the race has been substantively compromised in the first 50-meters; otherwise time penalties and time credits will be applied to ensure continuous racing on schedule
- The start commands will be: "all boats hold; all boats we have alignment; attention..." followed by the sound of a digital horn. The digital horn will start the race between 1 and 3 seconds following the call for attention. Start times will deliberately vary.
- Each race will be accompanied by one or more chase boats. These are there to provide guidance should they see lane encroachment or safety issues. Steerspeople must listen to and abide by safety instructions as directed by water officials. Please remember that collision avoidance is the primary responsibility of every stern.
- Safety / chase boat referees will watch for wash-riding and may ask you to

increase spacing if they feel wash-riding is occurring. Maintain a separation of at least 5 meters between boats for open-lane straight-shot races.

- PFDs must be worn by all paddlers, sterns and drummers; Transport Canada-certified PFDs as well as ISO-certified PFDs are permissible at FGPC-managed dragon boat races (including both hydrostatic and manual inflatables providing air cartridges are installed and operational).
- Amplification (e.g. “cox boxes”) or any extra noise making devices are not permitted in the boat during the races without prior permission from the race director.
- Protests: if a team or teams wish to protest or contest the finish order or circumstances of a race, the stern or drummer must communicate with the head dock marshal and request, complete and submit an official protest form to the head dock marshal before they leave the dock, and they must pledge a \$50 protest fee.

With your attention and cooperation, you and your paddlers along with our race management team can ensure safe, fun and successful racing for everyone.

Paddlers’ Village:

VIDBF’s paddlers’ village will run on either side of Jutland Road adjacent to FGPC’s facility at 2940 Jutland Road. Tents are pre-assigned and tent numbers will be provided to team captains when they check in. Teams must locate themselves at their assigned tent number and location for the purposes of marshaling and safety. Note that security staff will patrol the race site and Paddlers’ Village after-hours, but the tent area is not fenced or secure. Paddlers should not leave valuables and personal items unattended. FGPC is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Location: [Refer to Map below for location of Paddlers’ Village and event parking](#)

Canadian Springs water coolers will be available in the Paddlers’ Village area and at locations around the event site. Please bring reusable water bottles.

Paddlers are encouraged to bring their own paddles and PFDs, but a limited quantity of “club” equipment will be available for racing. **Note:** FGPC-provided PFDs and paddles must be returned by paddlers after every race. Club-supplied paddles and PFDs are not permitted in the Paddlers’ Village.

Event Parking

EVENT PARKING

AT THE FAIRWAY GORGE PADDLING CLUB

FAIRWAY GORGE PADDLING CLUB
CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION
778.432.3472
105 - 2940 Jutland Road
Victoria BC V8T 5K6

KEY

- PARKING AREAS
- PADDLERS' VILLAGE & BEER GARDEN
- FGPC PADDLING FACILITY

AVAILABLE PARKING **

- 320 DUNEDIN (SURFACE) FGPC PASS AFTER 5PM + WEEKENDS
- ARC BUILDING (SURFACE) - FGPC PASS AFTER 5PM + WEEKENDS, 320 GARBALLY (PARKADE OPEN & FREE FOR SPECIAL EVENTS ONLY)

PLEASE NOTE: There will be free parking in LOTS 1, 2 & 3 for races at FGPC. In addition, on-street parking will also be free and unpatrolled on FGPC-sanctioned race days. Large events will also have the Garbally Road parkade made available.

Limited parking is available. Everyone is encouraged to use public transportation, bike, walk, or carpool as paid and no-charge surface parking is limited in the Selkirk area. A

parkade has been made available to festival participants for both race days, and we welcome paddlers to take advantage of this free, secure parking. The location of the free-for-the-festival parkade is: 320 Garbally Road (on the same street as Paddlers' Village). Please work with your team to ensure vehicles are unloaded quickly and not left unattended as there is very limited space in the Paddlers' Village area. Unattended vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense. Note that street parking is not permitted within the Paddlers' Village zone, and is time-limited and enforced / ticketed on Saturday for vehicles parked for more than 1 or 2 hours (as marked) in the Selkirk community. Please make use of the free-to-paddlers parkade at 320 Garbally Road. Paddlers, spectators and supporters may want to use the Victoria Harbour Ferry system to travel to the race site from downtown.

Volunteer Stern and Drummer Pool:

The information / registration tent will maintain a list of volunteer sterns and drummers. Sterns and Drummers **on existing registered teams** who are willing to volunteer to steer or drum for other teams should come to the Information Tent to be added to the volunteer pool. It is understood that should a scheduling conflict arise, home teams will take priority. It is up to the teams/steers/drummers to connect and let the race registrar know which other team/s they will be steering/drumming for. FGPC staff sterns are available through the registrar and for a fee; staff sterns cannot be hired by teams without prior arrangement with the registrar, or unless race management determines that safety requires replacing an existing team stern.

Help us attain a waste-free event:

The Vancouver Island Dragon Boat Festival is as green as we can make it. Your team can help us divert waste from our landfills by following a few steps:

1. Bring reusable water bottles
2. Take home what you bring in. We appreciate the efforts to take used and broken items home with them at the end of the festival.

Beer Tent (a fundraiser for Ukrainian refugees):

Open

- **Saturday August 26 from 11:00 am to 6:00pm**
- **Sunday August 27 from 11:00 am to 6:00pm**

Location: Purple Martin Pond - South Dock between the Glo Restaurant and Fairway Gorge Paddling Club.

Beer tent hosted by Ukrainian - Canadian Cultural Society of Vancouver Island. All proceeds support The Ukrainian Refugee initiatives in Victoria.

Entertainment Schedule

Saturday August 26	
9:00am	Wong Sheung Kung Fu Club - Lion Dance opening
9:15am	Lekwungen Dancers
10:00am	Wong Sheung Kung Fu Club - Lion Dance
10:45am	Team Photos with Lion Dancers
10:45am	Victoria Academy of Ballet
11:00am	Pearls of the South Pacific
11:30am	Victoria Academy of Ballet
12:00pm	Back Beat
1:30pm	Victoria Academy of Ballet
2:00pm	The Distractions
3:30pm	End of Entertainment
Sunday Aug 27th	
9:00 am	Wong Sheung Kung Fu Club - Lion Dance
10:00 am	Uminari Taiko Drummers
10:45am	Team Photos with Lion Dancers location TBA
11:00am	Chinese Victoria Dance
11:45am	Funkanometry Dance Duo
12:30pm	The Pick Ups
2:30pm	The Soul Shakers
4:00pm	End of entertainment

Listing of Vendors

Food Vendors:

The Dragon Bowl
Holy Cow Mini Donuts

Retail Vendors:

Builtwear
Scimitar Sports
Ukrainian Canadian Cultural Society of Vancouver Island
Waterfront Outfitters

Informational Vendors:

LeafFilter