

# CANOE LEG

Updates made for 2011---New and Former Racers: Please Read.

## 2011 Ski to Sea Race

## 100 Years - 100 Miles - Seven Sports



For More Information, visit the website at: [www.SkitoSea.com](http://www.SkitoSea.com)

### REGISTRATION:

A designated team representative must pick up the team's race packet prior to the race. Please refer to procedures on the website [www.SkiToSea.com](http://www.SkiToSea.com) under RACE GUIDE for pickup times and location. The packet includes the team timing chip, racing bibs & T-shirts. The designated team representative must distribute items to team members. There will be no extra racing bibs at the exchange areas.

### PRE-RACE MEETING:

There will be a pre-race meeting at 9:30 AM on race day at Riverside Park in Everson. Safety and an update on the river conditions will be discussed. It is important that all canoeists ATTEND this meeting.

### EQUIPMENT:

Coast Guard approved life jackets must be worn by all participants at all times in an approved manner. We will also no longer allow inflatable life jackets of any kind in the canoe leg of the race. Additional inflatable flotation designed to help keep your canoe afloat during a flip is not only allowed, it's recommended!

Anybody removing or even unzipping their life jacket is subject to immediate disqualification. Safety boats on the river are watching for this very thing. No water ski belts are allowed. No electric bilge pumps are allowed. All participants are required to have a whistle. Canoes conforming to the American Canoe Association 3/27 rule will be eligible for the race. Canoeists must use a single-bladed canoe paddle. Steering rudders, rowing frames and oars are not permitted. Canoes may be decked in the middle of the canoe. The following boats are not eligible for the race: canoes over 18'6" in length, any and all kayaks, Olympic Flatwater Canoes (C-1s, C-2s), Olympic Flatwater Canoes (K-1,-2,-4s), rowing shells and motor driven boats. Skirts will be allowed on canoes. If you flip in the river your timing chip should be ATTACHED to you so it doesn't sink to the bottom of the river because it was loose in the canoe. NOTE: The minimum length of canoe allowed for all divisions in the race is 15'2". Recreational divisions still have a maximum length of 18'. Rec. Division canoes must be less than or equal to 18 feet in length and wider than .1475 times the overall length when measured at the 4" waterline (ex: 31-5/8" for an 18' boat). This should only exclude racing hulls. For example: 18' Jensens, Sundowners and Trippers would qualify. "Pro-boats" (327s) and "cruisers" (432s) would not qualify.

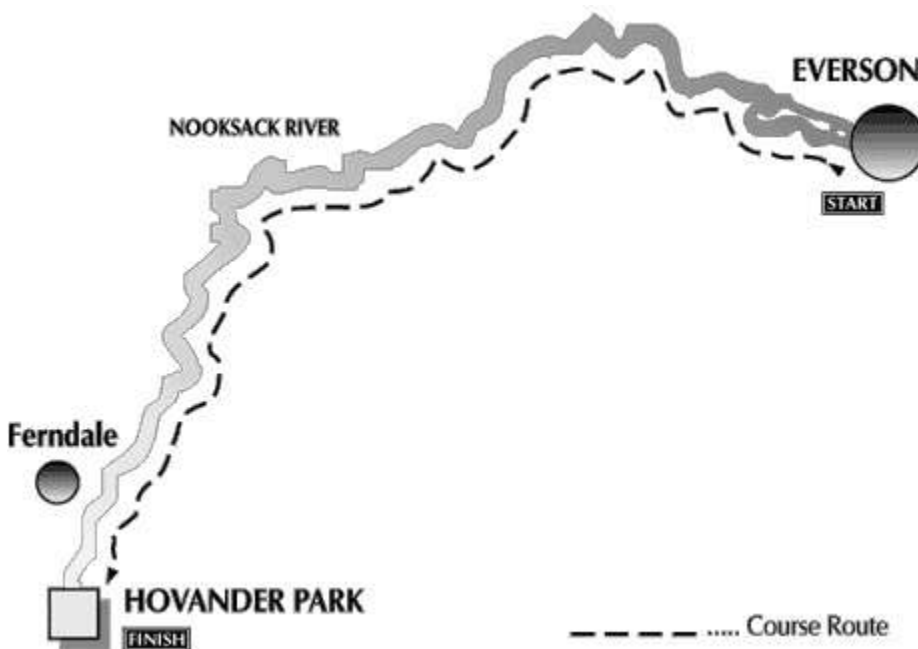
## CANOE LAUNCH:

The canoe launch will be at Riverside Park (left turn onto Park Drive after crossing bridge over Nooksack River when entering Everson from the west). Vehicles are to head directly to parking area as directed by volunteers who will be wearing orange OR green jackets BEFORE unloading canoes.

Watch the YouTube video to the right to get an idea of the canoe launch. Canoeists must paddle "up" river at the launch for several hundred feet, and go around the buoy before paddling down river.

**PARKING:** Parking for participants will be in the field just north of the park unless it rains. Please be advised that parking will be distributed throughout the area if the fields are too wet to drive on.

**ROAD CLOSURE:** Park Drive directly in front of the park will be closed from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM to all vehicles to facilitate the exchange. Traffic between Lynden and Everson will be rerouted to Van Buren Road and Hampton Road during the exchange time.



## COURSE:

The course is approximately 18 miles long. The actual passing of the timing chip from the biker to the canoe will take place on the pavement immediately in front of Riverside Park on Park Drive. The timing chip should be worn on the body so that if your canoe capsizes, you will not lose it. The canoeist is responsible for the road biker's finish time. Please be ready and in position when your teammate is approaching. When you receive the chip from the road biker, you must swipe the chip to create a finish/start time, canoe to Ferndale, and then pass the chip to the mountain biker.

The course is considered class 1 (on a 1-6 scale) but represents deceptive hazards due to log jams, submerged logs, undercut trees and other obstructions. At the completion of the canoe leg, the canoeists will beach their canoe between the two buoys. One buoy will be stationed 1/4 of the way across the river, the other on the sand bar. Both paddlers will carry the canoe, paddles, & life jackets up the sandbar to the finish line (about 30-40 yards; the mountain biker may help). After crossing the finish line, the canoe will be put in at the storage area (usually by volunteers) and the mountain biker can go to get their bike. NOTE: This is a potentially dangerous course.

**INFRACTION OF RULES:** Infraction of the rules by one team member may disqualify the entire team.

**RESULTS:** It is important for all racers to show their bib numbers when crossing the exchange area. Timing of individual legs may vary based upon exchange area layout. Therefore, personal time kept by racers may not correspond to official results.