



Gael Force Marine Ness Marathon 2014

<http://www.gaelforcemarine.co.uk/>

SUNDAY 6th July 2014 Race Information

RACE INFORMATION – The tenth Ness Marathon (Maraton Abhainn Nis) has been Sponsored by Gael Force Marine and is organised and hosted jointly by Inverness Canoe Club and Nairn Kayak Club. It is not a SCA ranked marathon event, but is part of the Highland mini series. There is a long course for regular racers up the canal and down the river, also a short course for those looking for a fun race downriver only and an expansion this tenth anniversary year in the addition of a canal based youth events a under 14 and a under 12 Lightning \ K1 marathon race. The race is open to all and may be paddled in a wide range of boats as per the race categories. The River Ness is a grade 1 - 2 river; see the SCA Rivers Guide for more information. All paddlers should have experience in their chosen boat and have been down rivers before if they chose the long or the short course. If they chose the under 14 / 12 mini course it is canal based only. We do not require competitors to hold 1 or 2 star certificates.

This year the long and short course finishes will be at the first white pedestrian bridge as you reach the Ness Islands due to flood prevention works in this town making egress difficult \ parking not possible.

MEETING POINT

All paddlers should meet at the Scout Hall, Muirtown Basin, Inverness (IV3 8LS for satnav) at 10.30am to register/check-in. Event briefing will take place at 11.30am sharp. Due to limited parking at the Scout Hall, please use the parking areas on both sides of the canal, east of Muirtown Bridge - and, if these are full, the nearby retail park and Co-op car parks. Event organisers vehicles only in the scout car park.

EQUIPMENT

Buoyancy aids are compulsory for all, helmets should also be worn by all paddlers on the short course, though it is accepted SCA ranked racers will race in their normal style/equipment. Plastic wavehoppers can be made available for those wishing to try a racing boat, email macksteve@btinternet.com if so.

LONG COURSE, 15km

From the top of the Muirtown locks, up the Caledonian Canal to Dochgarroch, back down onto the River Ness, finishing at the first Ness Islands pedestrian bridge, Bucht park. Paddlers will need to portage Dochgarroch lock and both Dochgarroch weir and Torvean weir to prevent damage to boats. Plastic craft can run the weirs if the paddlers' ability level allows them to do so safely.

SHORT COURSE, 7km

From the eddy below Dochgarroch weir at the start of the River Ness and then downriver to the first Ness Islands pedestrian Bridge at Bucht Park Street pedestrian bridge. Paddlers can opt out of running the bottom Torvean weir and can avoid the rapid 'Fast Eddie'.

Under 14 \ Lightning \ wavehopper \ K1 course –

Inverness Rowing club pontoons back to Muirtown Locks – flat water canal race

ENTRIES

Entries will be accepted up till 11.30am on the day. All entries to be made on the day £10-00 senior and £5.00 junior. Please make cheques payable to the 'Scottish Canoe Association'.

TIMINGS

Registration/Check-in: 10.30-11.30am.

Race briefing: 11.30 am.

Long and short and mini course starts : 1pm.

Prize giving: 4.00pm.

For further information, please view and post on the Ness Marathon face-book events page – full information will be available from the events team on the day – it's the tenth race, we've done it before. Alternately email macksteve@btinternet.com , phone 07775682034 Steve Mackinnon \ ask on the ICC \ NKC websites \ facebook sites or your local race organiser to pass your query onto us

Race categories

Long Course – K1 \ K2 Sprint \ Marathon \ WWR, Sea kayaks, K2,s, Tandem Open canoes, doubles

Short course – River \ GP kayak, Wavehoppers, solo, plastic sea kayaks, slalom K1, Solo open canoe, Sit on tops

Under 14 mini course – Lightning's, Wavehoppers, K1s

Under 12 mini course – Lightning's \ GP kayaks

Anything else – query us on facebook and ask us to add it in.



Whiteness Project

The Racing Arm of Nairn Kayak Club - Smarter, Stronger, Faster

