



Last Update: 3/28/22

OVERVIEW:

The inaugural Sampler provides an opportunity for individuals and teams to experience the beauty of the South Fork River via human powered means (running, biking, and paddling) to challenge you mentally and physically. The goal of this scavenger hunt style event is to collect as many check points as possible in the shortest amount of time.

The South Fork Sampler will not require true orienteering/navigation skills (utilizing map and compass to plot UTM coordinates) like some other Adventure Races. Each individual/team will be given a map with checkpoint locations/hints at the start of the race. These checkpoints will be scattered on land and water in and around the South Fork River. There is no set course or route, so strategy, planning and environmental awareness are all key to collecting checkpoints as efficiently as possible. Welcome to adventure racing!

EVENT DESCRIPTION:

The Short Course will offer individuals or teams of 2 a chance to dip their toes into the Adventure Racing world by covering up to 20+ miles over the course of the 4-hour time limit. Participants will be tasked will collecting up to 12 different checkpoints (and bonus point opportunities) throughout the course. The Short Course will be contained within a roughly 1.5mi radius of Race HQ.

The Long Course will challenge individuals or teams of 2 to cover a distance of 35+ miles (25+ land and 10+ water) while collecting up to 20+ check points (and bonus point opportunities) throughout the 8-hour time limit. The Long Course will be contained within a roughly 3.5mi radius of Race HQ.



SCHEDULE:

Saturday, April 2

- 6:45am – Long course Boat/Bike drop off and participant check in begins
- 7:00am – Kayak Rentals and Bike Rentals begin (first come, first serve)
- 7:08am – Projected sunrise
- 7:45am – Long course participant check in ends (participant gear must be set up)
- 7:50am – Long course mandatory participant meeting
- 8:00am – Long course Start
- 9:45am – Short course Boat/Bike drop off and participant check in begins
- 10:45am – Short course participant check in ends (participant gear must be set up)
- 10:50am – Short course mandatory participant meeting
- 11:00am – Short course Start
- 3:00pm – Short course teams must be back to Race HQ
- 3:30pm – Short course awards
- 4:00pm – Long course teams must be back to Race HQ
- 4:00pm – Post Race Party/Social Hour
- 4:30pm – Long course awards

SCORING:

- First, Individuals/Teams will be ranked by the number of checkpoints completed
- Second, Individuals/Teams will be ranked by time
 - Example 1: The individual/team that collects 10 check points in 4 hours is ranked higher than the individual/team that collects 8 checkpoints in 3 hours.
 - Example 2: The individual/team that collects 5 check points in 2:15 hours is ranked higher than the individual/team that collects 5 checkpoints in 2:30 hours.

AWARDS:

The top three Individuals/teams in each category will receive a free [Slow Flow Kayak Rental](#) experiences from the Catawba Riverkeeper (\$30 value each). All award winners will also receive a custom-made wooden prize from our event partner at [Chronicle Millworks](#).

- Short Course Categories – Individual M/F, Teams of 2 (Male/Female/Co-ed)
- Long Course Categories – Individual M/F, Teams of 2 (Male/Female/Co-ed)



EVENT RULES:

- All solo participants must be 18 years of age or older to participate in either category
- Short Course youth must be 6 or older to participate with a participating parent or guardian at all times
- Long Course youth must be 12 or older to participate with a participating parent or guardian at all times
- Each individual/team must be fully self-sufficient and is responsible for their safety at all times
- Each individual/team should plan to carry what they need, be prepared to endure changing conditions, and navigate successfully back to Race HQ without assistance
- Each individual/team must abide by all federal, state, county, and local municipality rules at all times
- All roads, trails, parks, and waterways are open to other public use - Race participants do not have priority
- Individuals/Teams that are not back to Race HQ before their designated time limit, will result in an automatic DQ
- There is no set route or course and there are no course markings outside of the checkpoints
- Each individual/team will be given one map and one passport (aka: scorecard) at the start of the event
 - Your passport is what you will turn in at the end of the event for scoring purposes
 - You will not receive a replacement if lost or damaged (plan accordingly)
- Your first checkpoint must be collected by running/walking (bikes and boat are allowed after your first checkpoint has been collected)
- Altering, tampering, or moving any checkpoints will result in an automatic DQ
- Teammates must always be in visual contact of each other throughout the entire event
- Cell phones and GPS devices are allowed to assist in navigation
- E-bikes or any other non-human powered means of propulsion are not permitted
- Personal Floatation Devices (PFD) must be worn at all times while on the water
- Teams may use a tandem kayak or canoe if preferred - Getting in and out of the watercraft is the sole responsibility of the teams and is a part of adventure racing – Choose and plan accordingly
- Helmets must be worn at all times while riding a bike
- Weather and surroundings can change quickly. Dress and plan accordingly
- Physical awards will not be mailed - They will be available for pickup at The Boathouse during normal business hours until 5/8/22
- Long Course Participants Specifically:
 - All single-track trail at Rocky Branch Bike Park and George Poston Park must be ridden in the stated and marked direction of the trails
 - Service Roads at George Poston Park and Carolina Thread Trail section at Rocky Branch Bike Park can be ridden in either direction - South Fork Trail at The Boathouse can be ridden in either direction
 - Be aware that there is a “Float the Fork” community event going on in Cramerton on and baseball games on fields within George Poston Park.
- Individuals/teams cannot use, cross, disrupt or impact any private property at any point throughout the event
- Any team withdrawing from the race must notify Human Powered Movement Event Staff at Race HQ or by cell phone (757-630-3409)
- In case of emergency, call 911 first and then notify Human Powered Movement Event Staff at Race HQ or by cell phone at (757-630-3409)
- Teams or competitors who are known to be in violation of any of these rules will be DQ



REQUIRED GEAR (Per Individual/Team):

- Pack to carry all gear (backpack style)
- Hydration and nutrition (we will have hydration available at Race HQ however there is no other aid on course)
- Closed toed shoes
- Bike and bike helmet (limited bike rentals will be available on race day on a first come first serve basis)
 - Short Course = will include greenways, sidewalks, roads, and moderate “doubletrack” trails. A Hybrid/Mountain Bike with at least 1.75” tires is recommended
 - Long Course = will include all the above as well as technical singletrack trails. A Hardtail Mountain Bike with at least 1.95” tires is recommended
- Kayak, PFD, paddle (can be rented through the Catawba Riverkeeper - First come, first serve)
- Cell Phone

RECOMMENDED GEAR (Per Individual/Team):

- Personal first aid kit
 - Basic bike tools, spare tube, and CO2/Tire pump
 - Dry bag (to keep gear dry during paddle portion(s))
 - 1 or 2 One gallon zip lock bags (to keep map and passport dry)
 - Extra set of shoes and clothes (you will get wet during the paddle portion(s))
 - Rain gear (if necessary)
 - Extra layers (weather can change drastically throughout the day)
 - Towel and change of clothes for post-event festivities
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About Human Powered Movement:

Our mission is to facilitate greater human powered experiences in all of us. We encourage and promote a wide variety of activities and sports to, and for, all ability levels.

- We develop events and challenges to keep people active and accountable
- We create and promote inspirational stories to keep people engaged and motivated
- We lead by example and joyfully enable others along the way

To learn more, visit our [website](#), follow on [Instagram/LinkedIn](#) or join the [Strava Club](#) to learn more.



About the Catawba Riverkeeper:

We educate and advocate to protect the Catawba-Wateree River Basin’s lakes, rivers, and streams for everyone who depends on and enjoys them.

The Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation (CRF) is a local, community-based group of members and volunteers located throughout the 26-county river basin that dedicates time, talent, and treasure to ensuring the protection of the Catawba-Wateree River. Our goal is to sustain plentiful, clean water for generations to come.

To learn more, visit our [website](#) or follow us on [Instagram](#) for ways you can get involved.