



## **Canoe Club Challenge Southeastern U. S. Whitewater Championships!**

**When: Saturday a.m., August 18, 2012  
Where: Nantahala River, Bryson City NC**

The Southeastern U. S. Wildwater Championships, the oldest whitewater race in the Southeast, lives on and has become hugely popular again!!!! This will be our 44<sup>th</sup> year for the classic top to bottom downriver/wildwater race. Under the joint sponsorship of the GCA and the Nantahala Outdoor Center (in conjunction with the Canoe Club Challenge), the race grew to 99 competitors last year and we are expecting to break the 100+ mark this year!

We are delighted to keep the classic top to bottom downriver/wildwater race as a key component of the finale' of the NOCs "Canoe Club Challenge" series. The downriver/wildwater race will be held in the morning and the slalom races will be in the afternoon. The Canoe Club Challenge slalom races will run between the foot and road bridges at the NOC in the afternoon. You can earn participation points for your club by racing in both the downriver race and up to two slalom races. There will be a boat awarded to the canoe club with the most points at the end of the event series. For more information on the Canoe Cup Challenge see:

<http://www.noc.com/noccom/festivals-a-events/canoe-club-challenge/>

The Downriver Championships will begin in mass start waves and run 8 miles from the Forest Service's private boater put-in just above Patton's Run to Finish Rock just upstream of the NOC. The race is geared towards all paddlers and will likely include a few USA Team members who will be participating in the "championship" classes. To keep it interesting, the Georgia Canoeing Association will continue the tradition of paying you \$100 if you break any of these course records:

- K-1 – Terry White, 42:04.85, 1981
- K-1W – Kathy Boly, 45:20, 1989
- C-1 – John Pinyerd, 46:43, 1997
- OC-2 - Bill Baxter and Les Bechdel, 50:06 1983
- C-2 – David Jones and Mike Hipsher, 45:11, 1989
- OC-1 – Angus Morrison, 50:12, 1983.

In the tradition of the Southeastern's, recognition will also be given for the fastest downriver winners in these classes:

- Charlie Patton Award – fastest solo canoe (C-1 or OC-1)
- Julie Wilson Award – fastest female
- Ramone Eaton – OC-2.

These winners' names and the fastest boater overall, usually a K-1, also are engraved on the old Southeastern's trophies.

Awards for the downriver/wildwater and slalom races will be at Slow Joe's Cafe starting around 6:30 pm. on Saturday evening, 8/18. There will be free live music at The Pourover beginning at 8:00 pm.

SCHEDULE for Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup> (assuming a 9:00 release):

- Downriver Volunteer Check In: 9:00 (Forest Service Put In)
- Downriver (+ early Slalom) Registration: 9:15 – 10:30 (Forest Service Put In)
- Downriver Competitors Meeting 10:30 (Forest Service Put In)
- Downriver Race Start (first Wave off) 11:00
- 11:30am-12:30pm – Slalom Registration – Event Tent near Slow Joe's
- 12:45pm – Competitor's Meeting – Event Tent near Slow Joe's
- 1:00pm – Slalom Race Start - Beach near Slow Joe's
- 6:30pm – Downriver Awards and Slalom Raffle – Event Tent near Slow Joe's
- 8:00pm – Live Music at Slow Joe's

Come and race, volunteer to help with the race, or just watch and share the good times. For further information and updates about the Southeasterns see <http://www.gapaddle.com/> or the USA Wildwater website: [www.usawildwater.com](http://www.usawildwater.com). You can also contact:

- John Pinyerd: [jpinyerd@cs.com](mailto:jpinyerd@cs.com) GCA's SE Race Master (678-357-7843)
- Todd McGinnis: [paddlin@bellsouth.net](mailto:paddlin@bellsouth.net)
- Chris Hipgrave: [chris.hipgrave@noc.com](mailto:chris.hipgrave@noc.com)

See you there!!!