



USA Wildwater

John Pinyerd – Chairman
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Request for Bids to Host 2007 National Wildwater Events Team Trials, Junior Team Trials, and the National Championships (Bids Due September 15th)

Bids are being requested from race organizing committees to host the 2007 USA Wildwater Team Trials, Eastern US Wildwater Junior Team Trials, Western US Wildwater Junior Team Trials and the USA Wildwater National Championships. Organizers should choose the Wildwater event(s) that they are best suited to host and bid on the selected event(s). Bids should be submitted in writing via email in the format described below to the Wildwater Chairman, John Pinyerd (jpinyerd@cs.com) by September 15th 2006. A decision will be made on the location and date of these races and made public no later than October 1st.

BACKGROUND

All venues will consist of a two-heat sprint race and a “classic” race. A sprint race course should be from 400m to 800m in length (or approximately 80-150 seconds in duration). A “classic” race should not exceed 30 minutes (and is normally 15-22 minutes in length). All races must be on a minimum of Class II whitewater, with rapids not exceeding Class IV. Continuous or long rapid sections are desirable and each race should include at least one rapid of Class III or Class IV whitewater.

In 2005 and 2006, the USA Team Trials were combined with the Eastern Jr. Team Trails and were held on the Nantahala River (Bryson City, NC) in March and April. The event was attended by an average of 55 racers and their support teams. The 2005 and 2006 USA Nationals were held on the Arkansas River (Salida, CO) in mid-June and were combined with the Western Jr. Team Trials. The event was held in conjunction with the Fibark Classic Downriver Race and Whitewater Festival and was attended by an average of 40 racers and their support teams. It is believed that we can continue to increase attendance at our national level Wildwater events by offering additional prizes (cash or merchandise), scheduling well in advance of the events, and with additional promotion of the events.

As a result, we are calling for bids earlier than in past years. USA Wildwater is committed to promoting our events. We recommend that interested parties review the articles related to the 2004-2006 events on www.usawildwater.com.

WILDWATER TEAM TRIALS

USA Wildwater (Senior) Team Trials in 2007 will be conducted in order to select a team for the 2007 World Cup races which will all be held in Europe June 9th-24th. Team Trials should be in April in order to allow time for athletes to organize travel. Weekends in mid to late April are considered the optimal dates to host the Senior Team Trials.

The Junior World Championships will be held in the United States July 15-22 2007. Unless the Junior team trials are held on or near the race venue site of the Junior World Championships (in Charlotte and Columbia SC) Junior Team Trails should be completed 6 weeks in advance of the



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Junior World Championships if possible. Eastern US Wildwater Junior Team Trials will be conducted to select half of the US Junior Wildwater team for 2007. The location at which Trials is held should reflect the geographic distribution of junior Wildwater paddlers in the Eastern US. If Senior Team Trials are to be held in the Eastern US, Junior Team Trials may be combined with Senior Team Trials as we did in 2005 and 2006.

Western US Wildwater Junior Team Trials will be conducted to select half of the US Junior Wildwater team for 2007. The location at which Trials is held should reflect the geographic distribution of junior Wildwater paddlers in the Western US Trials. If Senior Team Trials are held in the Western US, Junior Team Trials may be combined with Senior Team Trials.

Both Eastern and Western Jr. Team Trial could be combined into one single event (and also possibly combined with the USA National Championships), if they were held on at least a portion of race venue site of the Junior World Championships a week/weekend prior (to the Jr. Worlds Dates of July 15-22 2007).

WILDWATER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The USA National Championships will be conducted to select the USA National Junior and Senior Wildwater Champions for 2007. The location at which Nationals is held should attempt to maximize participation in all classes with consideration given to the level of difficulty, school schedules and also consideration to the geographic distribution of Wildwater paddlers in the USA. Optimal dates are mid July through mid-August in order to encourage the participation of Juniors. In the past there has been a provision for combining the National Championships with other large whitewater festivals and events.

SANCTIONING/INSURANCE REQUIRMENTS

All 2007 USA Wildwater national level events must be sanctioned by USA Canoe/Kayak. For race organizers, this means that you must purchase insurance for the event through USACK which provides very cost effective insurance and is committed to helping paddle-sports. For more information contact Rachel Gunn (rgunn@usack.org, 704-348-4330).

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ORGANIZER

- Preparation and distribution of entry forms
- Organization of a pre-race meeting
- Organization of Boat Control (Team Trails only)
- Provision of reliable start and finish timers, and posting of results each day
- Provision of safety cover in sections of the river where self rescue may be difficult
- Organization of a post race meeting to announce results and have team members meet to do paperwork
- Organization of press coverage to showcase the premier Wildwater racing events in the USA

REQUIRED BID INFORMATION

Organizations desiring to host one or more of the events must respond in writing to jpinyerd@cs.com with the following information by September 30th.



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1. Event(s) being bid on
2. Proposed dates
3. Name of race organizer (including details of races organized in the past)
4. Name of River
5. Location of nearest town and distance from the river for lodging and race meetings
6. Nearest major airport (and distance)
7. Description of the river that contains the following information
 - a. Section of the river where the events will be held
 - b. Average flow and rating of rapids
 - c. Water control (dam or natural flow)
 - d. Accessibility (user fees or special access required)
 - e. Length of course
 - f. Details of river shuttle
 - g. River traffic (Commercial rafting and/or play boaters)
 - h. Amount of water time for practice
 - i. Average weather at time of race
 - j. Description of other Wildwater/downriver races normally held on this section of river
8. Number of known paddlers regularly racing Wildwater in the area and the anticipated turnout from these paddlers (or the number of racers that attended Wildwater races in the past)
9. Any other information that may relate to the event (Is the race to be part of another regular local event, or are there other event activities information that you would like us to consider?)

Please direct any questions and all responses to John Pinyerd (jpinyerd@cs.com) and/or Doug Ritchie (dougcritchie@hotmail.com) no later than September 15th.