

Race Packet – September 28, 2019

Hello Greens Bayou Racers!

Thank you all for joining us for this year's Regatta. We value your contributions and participation in this great event. The weather is looking promising for Saturday! Be sure to read the **entire race packet** and review the park maps.

Start: [Brock Park Golf Course](#), 8201 John Ralston Rd, Houston, TX 77044

Finish: [Thomas Bell Foster Park](#), 12895 Greens Bayou Street, Houston, TX 77015

Check-In

Opens at 7:30 AM and is located outside of the Brock Park Golf Course shop. There will be port-o-cans, coffee and snack bars provided. **Check-In will close at 8:30 AM** in preparation for the Opening Ceremony with Mayor Turner at 8:45 AM.

1. Check-in by your last name.
 - a. Sign waiver. **Every racer must sign a waiver before receiving a boat decal.**
2. Collect whistle and boat decal.
 - a. Adhere boat decal to the front on the **right** (starboard) side of the canoe/kayak. You will want the decal as far above the water as possible. Make sure your boat is dry before sticking.
3. Pick-up event T-Shirt and "swag" bag.
 - a. If competing for the **Styrofoam Cup** (most trash picked up along the course), inform the check-in volunteers. Bags and grabbers will be provided.
4. Proceed to ID Check table for a wristband to receive two complimentary beers at the finish line. (Thank you 11 Below Brewing for your fantastic beer)!
5. Proceed to the boat rental area (for Corporate Cup or Bayou City Adventure Rentals) or please move your boat to a staging zone near your

preferred “Put-In” spot.

Corporate Cup Canoes & Kayak Rental Pickup

If you are in the Corporate Cup; canoes, paddles, and PFD’s are provided for you. Please pick them up in the “Rental Pickup” Area. You’re looking for the aluminum canoe trailer courtesy of Harris County Commissioner’s Precinct 4.

If you rented a kayak through Bayou City Adventures, please pick-up your boat at the “Rental Pick-up Area”. **Rental reservations must be made in advance** (Bayou City Adventures, 713.538.7433 or reserve online [here](#)).

Opening Ceremony

Will begin at 8:45 AM at the “Announcing Tent” with remarks from Mayor Sylvester Turner; and a race briefing afterwards. Trail access to “Put-In #1” will open after the opening ceremony. Please be near the “Announcing Tent” at 8:45 AM (see Brock Park Map).

Race Schedule and Put-Ins

The race will have staggered start times determine by boat class. All boats will start on the water. There are two launch areas available. These are depicted on the site map. Put-In #1 is accessible down a short trail leaving the area of the golf green and going to the beach along the bayou near the start line.

Put-In #2 is located between the golf course bridges (*since removed*) on the east side of the bayou. The start line is two hundred yards downstream from this put-in and marked with red poles. You may wait along the upstream of the starting line along banks until you are told to line up for your start time. You may warm up on the bayou upstream of the chute.

**The initial start time is approximate with the waves following each other by 5 minutes.

8:45 AM	Brock	Opening Ceremony	Paddle Trail Chair, GBC Chair, Mayor Turner, Race Director
9:00 AM	Brock	Boat Staging	Racers
9:10 AM	Brock	Corporate Cup Start	Race Director
9:15 AM	Brock	Rec C-2 Start	Race Director
9:20 AM	Brock	Rec K-1 (short) Start	Race Director
9:25 AM	Brock	Rec K-1 (long) Start	Race Director
9:30 AM	Brock	Unlimited Start	Race Director
9:35 AM	Brock	Solo Unlimited Start	Race Director
9:40 AM	Brock	ICF K-1/Surf Skis & SUP Start	Race Director

What to Bring

- Comfortable clothes (synthetics perform better than cotton when wet).
- Old canvas shoes, sport sandals, or water shoes. (Anything you don't mind getting wet or muddy).
- Wide brimmed hat, long pants, and long sleeved shirt if you are sensitive to the sun.
- Sunscreen (even if it's cloudy).
- Gloves to minimize blisters, many other sports offer functional gloves (paddle sports, cyclists, golf, baseball, etc.) avoid inexpensive cloth gloves if you can.
- Bug spray if you're highly attractive to mosquitoes; a problem when standing still at the start but diminishes once you get on the water.

Drink and Food

You will get thirsty and there is no substitute for bottled water or athletic drinks (Gatorade, etc.). **Bring your own for the race. Limited supply of water bottles at the start.** Plenty of water in 20 qt coolers (to refill your bottle) at the finish line.

High energy snacks are recommended during the trip. We recommend placing snacks in Ziploc bags or dry bags and securing the bag to your boat. Coffee and snack bars available at starting line.

Lunch will be provided to paddlers at the finish line, as well water, tea, lemonade, and 2 complimentary beers.

Safety

Everyone must wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) on the race course. We will have race marshals looking for people without PFD. If anyone in your boat is not wearing a PFD, your boat will be disqualified.

There will be water safety personnel on the water and an EMT at starting and finish line.

PLEASE BRING WATER! We recommend at least 1 quart per person per hour. Water will be available at the finish line, not at the start. A source of electrolytes is also helpful; whether that is tablets or Gatorade. You lose electrolytes fast when working hard and in hot weather.

Parking

Brock Park has ample parking. Once the main lot fills up, please park in the grass along the main entrance road within the park.

Thomas Bell Foster Park does not have public parking. If you have family or supporters who want to join you or finish line festivities (which they are welcome to!), please ask them to park at Brock use the shuttle.

Shuttle

METRO is graciously providing free shuttle service from the finish line back to the starting line. Shuttles will run between 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM and occur every 15-20 minutes.

PLEASE NOTE: Boats are not allowed on the shuttle, therefore please stage your boat in the “Boat (waiting) Area” near the entrance of Thomas Bell Foster Park until you’re able to return and pick it up.

Closing Ceremony/Awards

Lunch and beer will be available at 11:00 AM. The closing ceremony will begin around 12:00/12:15 PM. (* It may be possible that all racers have not crossed the finish line before the ceremony begins). Food and drink will be served until 1:45 PM.

Medals will be awarded to the 1st Place winner of each division. Winners of the Styrofoam Cup and Top Individual Fundraiser will also receive an award.

Race Course Description

The Greens Bayou Regatta will start at Brock Park and end at Thomas Bell Foster Park 7.7 miles downstream. **This can take anywhere between 1 - 3 hours to complete.** The bayou banks are wooded all along the course. The bayou is deep and flat. Normally, there is very little current.

There are six bridges that will help you mark your progress and keep you aware of your location. The mileage listed shows distance from the start, the distance to the finish, and leg length.

Ley Road/Green River Drive Business	0.5	7.2	0.5
90/Union Pacific RR	1.5	6.2	1.0
US 90 double bridge	4.0	3.8	2.5
Wallisville Road	4.4	3.4	0.4
Woodforest Boulevard	5.7	2.0	1.4
Normandy Street	7.5	0.3	1.8

Foster Park Finish line

7.7

0.0

0.25

When the Normandy Bridge comes into view, you will be able to see the finish line. The two red buoys will mark the end of the race. Proceed to the far side of the park along the exposed bank. There are steps and volunteers there to assist you.

Photo and Video Notice

By participating in the Greens Bayou Regatta as a paddler, volunteer, spectator, or by entering the premises of Brock Park, Thomas Bell Foster Park and the race route of the Greens Bayou Regatta. You grant permission for the Greens Bayou Coalition and its Regatta partners to photograph, record, broadcast, and otherwise use in any media, including web pages, you or your child's participation in this Regatta and to use your name, and voice concerning you in connection therewith.

Thank You!

We greatly appreciate your participation in this year's Greens Bayou Regatta. This race is meant to raise awareness and funds of the proposed 27.5 mi Greens Bayou Paddle Trail. Thank you for being a part of this event. We are so excited for you to experience Greens Bayou!

Don't hesitate to contact Jordan Kieffer at 281-874-2139, jkieffer@greensbayou.org if you have any questions. We will see you bright and early Saturday, September 28, 2019.