

# Woronora River for marathon kayak race

Woronora River will host more than 200 paddlers in the third round of the 2018 Marathon Series of Paddle NSW, with potential congestion on nearby roads on Saturday.

The event by Sutherland Shire Canoe Club is over a 10km course from Burnum Burnum Reserve south through Woronora, to a turn 5km upstream.

Good viewing of the action is available from the waterfront along the river, particular the start and finish points.

For the last two years this has been the biggest event on the NSW paddling calendar – but that means that parking will be difficult at the reserve, and boaters wanting to launch should consider other options nearby.

There will be checks on boat-speed limits during the event, unlike most other times when aqua-hoons seem to operate at full throttle with no attempt to stop them by Water Police or Maritime Services (RMS).

The default marathon distance is 20km, or two laps of the course, but there are shorter options to encourage paddlers of different ages and ability.

They have the choice of covering 15km, 10km or 5km.

Paddlers are expected to start arriving at the Woronora reserve from around 7am, with the race briefing at 10am and the first paddlers on the water at 10.45am.

The main event starts at 11, with the fastest paddlers likely to complete the 20km in around 90 minutes.

One paddler who will be missing from this weekend's action is former club president Alan Voges, who died late last month aged 71 (pictured).

Alan was a popular and respected member of the club. He was a regular competitor in events at club and state level, and his cheerful personality and readiness to encourage and assist anyone who needed help with the sport will be missed.

The Sutherland Shire Canoe Club extended sympathies to Alan's wife Gillian, and their children Deborah, Steven and Paul and their families.



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