

IVF World Sprint Paddler FAQ

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When are the next world sprint events?

August 9-16, 2022

What are other important dates?

11/13/21: PNWORCA's sponsored time trial for V1 and Elite hopefuls.

12/1/21: All time trial times for V1 and Elite need to be submitted to USAORCA. All Club Crews' demographic data needs to be turned in to the PNWORCA Area Rep.

Jan 2022: Paddlers submit registration fees and TUEs to England's race host.

What does IVF stand for?

International Va'a Federation is the governing board for international sport of Outrigger/Va'a. Va'a is the Tahitian name for outriggers.

What is the USA's structure of governance?

The IVF recently changed their bylaws, which required the USA MAINLAND to form a single governing body for all international outrigger teams. USAORCA (USA Outrigger Canoe Association) was formed in 2020, replacing the 4 regional boards amongst the mainland, as the representative of US paddlers for IVF. Hawaii has its own association and qualifies independently of the mainland.

What divisions are there?

Events are divided by boat type, age, gender, and ability. The following are the various divisions:

Boat type: V1 (solo), V6 (6 person), V12 (12 person)

Age: Open (anyone over 18); 40, 50, 60, 70, 75, 80; Under19, Under16.

Gender: Male, Female.

Ability: Able bodied, "Para"

Further, IVF sprint races include two additional divisions:

Elite: These are the top fastest paddlers in the US, who compete in the U19 or Open categories on the first two days of the event. The USA forms one Elite V6 crew each in the Women's and Men's categories. These two gendered crews will combine to create the V12 Elite crew.

All V1 paddlers, regardless of age group, are considered Elite. Their races occur throughout the next days of racing, interspersed with club crew divisions.

Club Crew: Club crews are age-based crews that are formed at the regional US level. A club may put forth a crew, or paddlers from across a region may combine to form a crew. ONLY 3 ELITE paddlers may be on any V6 club crew. V1 paddlers are not considered elite in this criteria.

Elite, Club Crew, and Para crews are considered different divisions, and have different qualifying criteria. They are sometimes selected by different governing bodies.

	How many berths are there in each division?	How do I qualify?	Who chooses what teams or paddlers go?
Elite V6/V12	Only the top fastest 6-7 paddlers in a country become the V6 elite crew in a gender category.	Paddlers must have a 500m time trial in an OC1 or V1 that meets the minimum qualifying time set by USAORCA.	USAORCA solicits time trials (OC1 or V1). The US coach then selects the crew.
Elite V1	The top 3 fastest paddlers in the US, per gender and age category	Paddlers must have a 500m time trial in a V1 that meets the minimum qualifying time set by USAORCA.	USAORCA solicits V1 time trials and selects the fastest paddlers.
Club Crew	6 crews in the mainland US, per age and gender category. Generally, each region is allotted 1 berth (4 total). The remaining 2 are generally given to the 2 fastest 2 nd place crews.	Crews submit their intent to compete to the region's Area Coordinator. The region may require a 500m time trial time.	*for 2021-22: The regions set the criteria for their crews and select their fastest crews for submission to USAORCA.
Para Crew	V1: The top 3 fastest paddlers in the US. V6: The top 6 fastest paddlers in the US. Races include coed.	Para Va'a athletes must be classified by the IVF classification program and are then provided a 'point' status for V6 and V12 crews (total crew points are used to approve the entry).	USAORCA solicits interest through their website.

What races will I participate in?

The following chart shows what length of races each age group races in. Note that 500m are usually straight courses. 1000m, 1500m, and certain 500m courses are on 250m courses and include turns. V6 are the only boats that will have turns.

AGE CATEGORIES *D.O.B in 2020	AGE CRITERIA	Championship Race Distances
JUNIOR 16	16 & Under (min. age: 11yrs)	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
JUNIOR 19	19 & Under (min. age: 14yrs)	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
OPEN	Min. age of 16yrs	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1500m
PARA (Open)	Min. age of 16yrs	V1 250m V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
MASTERS 40	40+yrs	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
MASTERS 50	50+yrs	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
MASTERS 60	60+yrs	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 1000m
MASTERS 70	70+yrs	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 500m 1 turn
MASTERS 75	75+yrs	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 500m 1 turn?
MASTERS 80	80+yrs	V1/V6/V12 500m V6 500m 1 turn?

How much does it cost?

This is an estimated budget for World Sprints. Bracketed items are dependent upon the situation.

Category	Item	Cost
REGISTRATION		
	IVF Registration Fee	\$200
	USA Shirt & Hat	~\$80
	[Renew Passport]	\$110-\$170
TRAVEL & LODGING		
	[Travel to practice with regional crew]	~\$100
	[Elite crew Camp travel]	~\$750
	Airfare to & from host country	~\$1200

	Lodging for 11-12 days	~\$1800
	Travel to & from venue	~\$200
	General Travel	~\$400
	Food	~\$500
RACE FEES		
	[Scratch fee]	\$100 per occurrence (cash)
	[Protest fee]	\$100 per occurrence (cash)

What do I need to know about drug, medication, and/or steroid use?

Paddlers should not use banned substances when competing internationally. A list of banned substances can be found [here](#). Paddlers who have a medically confirmed use of such a substance will have to fill out a TUE (Therapeutic Use Exemption) and submit it to their Area Rep for submission to the host club.

Elite paddlers may be drug tested during the event. More information about use, contesting, and disqualifications can be found [here](#).

What can I expect on race day?

World Sprint events are usually 9 days long. The rough outline of an event goes something like this:

Pre-Event (2 days): team practices

Day 1: Ceremony, blessing of the boats, team practices

Days 2-3: Elite V6, V12, and Para events

Days 4-7: Club crew and V1 events interspersed

Day 8: Finals & Awards

Day 9: Awards

- Area coordinators are responsible for attending Event meetings, knowing the heats, rules, and logistics, and conveying this information to teams and paddlers from their region.
- Race day and race heats are similar to regional OC sprint races and dragonboat races. However, crews/paddlers who do not finish in the top of their first heats may not progress to the next heat.
- Age, gender, and division categories are interspersed to give paddlers as much rest time as possible. However, the event host will not delay races if a paddler is in two back-to-back heats. The paddler would need to be replaced or scratch on a race.
- Paddlers may not race every day, depending on what divisions they are in.

What should I bring?

- Passport and ID. Passport should not expire until at LEAST 6 months PAST the event date.
- Vaccination card, proof of negative COVID test
- TUE (Therapeutic Use Exemption) form, to be on hand during every race.
- Paddle, steer paddle if double rostered
- Shoes, booties, or other footwear that you use to paddle
- USA shirt and hat
- Leggings, shorts, etc
- Water bottle, fuel, etc that you are familiar with. Don't expect to find exactly what you need in a new country!
- Sunglasses, music, charger etc.

Where should I find more information on IVF?

<http://www.ivfiv.org/>

or search "World Sprint Outrigger [date]" to find the host country's website.

Where should I find more information on official race rules?

<http://www.ivfiv.org/race-rules.html>

Where should I find more information on USAORCA?

<https://www.usaorca.org/>

or sign up for their newsletter [here](#).

Where should I find more information on PNWORCA?

<https://pnworca.org/>