



Specifications 2025

Northam's Avon Descent Association

1	Power Craft	3
2	Kayak and Canoe	3
3	Wildwater Craft	4
4	Ski	4
5	Ocean Racing	5
6	Recreational Paddle Craft	5
7	Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP)	6
8	Plastic Craft	6
9	Sundry Paddle Craft	6
10	Lifejackets/Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)	7
11	Helmets	7
12	Paddles	7
13	Other Equipment	8
14	Race Identification Numbers	8
15	Steering Rudders	8
16	Handholds	8

Important note:

It is incumbent on all competitors to ensure their craft and equipment meet the below specifications and requirements for the event. Officials and appropriate measuring equipment will be provided at the discretion of NADA for competitors to check their craft at pre-event scrutineering, however NADA will NOT be held responsible if a competitor who competes in the Avon Descent subsequently fails 'in race' or 'post-race' scrutineering.

1 Power Craft

- 1.1 All boats, paddles, lifejackets/PFDs, helmets and other equipment must conform to Power Dinghy Racing Club (PDRC) or MiniJetWA Specifications.
- 1.2 All equipment must be labelled with a Race ID Number

2 Kayak and Canoe

- 2.1 Listed below are Class specifications only. All Kayaks and Canoes irrespective of Classes will compete in the Single or Double Canoe Kayak Classes. To be eligible for prizes for the Open Canoe/Kayak Division, craft need to comply with Rules 11-17. To be eligible for prizes in Categories, the craft must comply with the relevant requirements of Rules 2-8.
- 2.2 All craft must be within the required dimensions of their respective Classes as below.
- 2.3 Craft must meet either Kayak or Canoe specifications for their respective ICF classification.
- 2.4 A craft must be constructed from non-hazardous materials.
- 2.5 Kayaks (Marathon)
- 2.6 Single Kayaks (K1) have a maximum length of 5200 mm.
- 2.7 Double Kayaks (K2) have a maximum length of 6500 mm.
- 2.8 Canoes (Marathon)
- 2.9 Single Marathon Canoes (C1) have a maximum length of 5200 mm.
- 2.10 Double Marathon Canoes (C2) have a maximum length of 6500 mm.
- 2.11 Canoes must meet the following specifications:
 - a. Sections of the longitudinal lines of the hull of the canoe must be convex and not interrupted.
 - b. The canoe must be built symmetrically upon the axis of its length.
 - c. Steering rudders or guiding apparatus are prohibited.
 - d. A keel, if any, must be straight and must extend over the whole length of the canoe and must not project more than 30 mm below the hull.
 - e. A Single Canoe (C1) may be open and in any case must not be decked more than 1500 mm from the stem and 750 mm from the stern, measured from

the outer edge of the stem or stern to the fullest point of the edge of the deck, for the fore and after decks respectively.

- f. A Double Canoe (C2) may be entirely open. The minimum length of the opening must be 2950 mm.
- g. Removable spray decks may be used.

3 Wildwater Craft

3.1 Wildwater Kayaks (WK1) must conform to the following dimensions:

- a. Maximum length of 4500 mm.
- b. Minimum width of 600 mm.
- c. Minimum weight of 10kg

3.2 Wildwater Canoes (WC1) must conform to the following dimensions:

- a. Maximum length of 4300 mm.
- b. Minimum width of 700 mm.
- c. Minimum weight of 11kg.

3.3 Wildwater Canoes (WC2) must conform to the following dimensions:

- a. Maximum length of 5000 mm.
- b. Minimum width of 800 mm.
- c. Minimum weight of 17kg.

3.4 Wildwater craft (WK1, WC1 and WC2) cannot meet the required dimensions by the addition of wooden extensions or similar means.

3.5 All craft must be of single hull construction.

4 Ski

4.1 The maximum length of a Single Ski is 5790 mm.

4.2 The maximum length of a Double Ski is 7320 mm.

4.3 All craft must be of a safe construction with no sharp edges or protrusions on hull, deflector or rudder system.

4.4 The outer construction should be of fibreglass, plastic or similar material with an inner framework or support and be of mono construction.

4.5 Flotation

4.5.1 Single skis shall contain a minimum flotation in the form of foam or other approved material to achieve 30kg of positive buoyancy.

- 4.5.2 Flotation foam must not absorb water. If polystyrene is used the surface MUST be sealed by the application of waterproof tape and/or laminate.
- 4.5.3 Plastic bags will not be accepted as a form of sealing.
- 4.6 All straps must be securely attached and capable of supporting the weight of the craft.
- 4.7 Paddles are the only allowed form of propulsion.
- 4.8 The paddler must be sitting on top of the craft but may secure the body position in seat and foot mouldings.
- 4.9 The hull and deck of the ski is to be sealed (water tight) so as not to allow water to freely flow inside.

5 Ocean Racing

- 5.1 The minimum length of an Ocean Racing Ski is 5790mm.
- 5.2 There is no maximum length limitation.
- 5.3 All Ocean Racing craft shall be boats in which the competitor sits on with one water tight compartment, and Self-bailing.
- 5.4 The shape, construction method, materials used and steering mechanisms are without restrictions.
- 5.5 All openings into the hull larger than 12mm in diameter (drain and vent holes) must be fitted with a cover that is mechanically fastened in place

6 Recreational Paddle Craft

- 6.1 Recreational Paddle Craft are those craft that do not meet international canoe, kayak or ski specifications for any paddle discipline but which are commercially available and mass produced for recreational use.
- 6.2 There is no maximum length for Recreational Paddle Craft.
- 6.3 Recreational Craft can be single or double only.

7 Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP)

- 7.1 SUPs can be single only.
- 7.2 The maximum length of a Single 12' 6" SUP is 3810mm
- 7.3 The maximum length of a Single 14' SUP is 4280mm
- 7.4 All SUPs in excess of 4280mm remain in the Open Single SUP class
- 7.5 An SUP may be inflatable or non-inflatable
- 7.6 An SUP paddler may sit or stand without restriction.

8 Plastic Craft

- 8.1 Plastic Craft are required to comply with either:
 - a. Kayak Specifications
 - b. Canoe Specifications
 - c. Ski Specifications
 - d. Ocean Racing Specifications
 - e. Recreational Paddle Craft Specifications, or
 - f. Stand Up Paddleboard Specifications
- 8.2 Any Plastic Craft not meeting one of the above is in the Sundry Class.

9 Sundry Paddle Craft

- 9.1 Sundry Paddle Craft are those craft that do not meet international canoe, kayak, ski or ocean racing specifications and are not readily produced or available from a commercial manufacturer.
- 9.2 Where the number of each type of individual craft is less than that defined to constitute a class, they shall collectively race as Sundry Paddle Craft.
- 9.3 There are no dimension, construction or design specifications for craft in Sundry Classes, however, the NADA Scrutineer must deem that the craft is safe and capable of completing the course.

10 Lifejackets/Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

- 10.1 The lifejacket/PFD must have sufficient buoyancy to float a 6kg legalised lead weight and be in good condition.
- 10.2 Particle filled or inflatable lifejackets/PFDs are not permitted.
- 10.3 A waterproof whistle must be attached to the lifejacket/PFD for use to attract the attention of rescuers.
- 10.4 All Lifejackets/PFDs must comply with the relevant Australian Standard.

11 Helmets

- 11.1 Each craft must have one helmet per competitor that **MUST** comply with the CE EN 1385 standard and:
 - a. be made of strong, lightweight material such as plastic or carbon fibre;
 - b. cover the head to provide ample protection to the forehead, temple and back of the head;
 - c. have enough positive buoyancy to float;
 - d. fit so as not to move;
 - e. have an effective fastener to fix it securely in place;
 - f. have a good system to absorb shock from impacts and to provide a separation distance between the outside of the helmet and the paddler's head;
- 11.2 Novice competitors must display a fluorescent strip on each side of their helmet during the race.
- 11.3 The helmet must be in good repair with particular reference to buckles and straps.
- 11.4 The Race ID Number must be displayed on both sides of the helmet. Numbers must be at least 50 mm high by 6 mm wide with black numbers on a yellow background.

12 Paddles

- 12.1 Kayaks may have double bladed paddles.
- 12.2 Canoes and SUPs must have single bladed paddles.
- 12.3 Paddles must be of strong and safe construction and must have no sharp edges.
- 12.4 Paddles in use must not be attached to the craft by any means whatsoever.

13 Other Equipment

- 13.1 All equipment must be labelled with a Race ID Number.
- 13.2 An emergency ration kit should be carried by each craft and include not less than 400 gram of high calorific food (for example glucose, chocolate, nuts) and a box of waterproof matches or cigarette lighter all in a waterproof container.
- 13.3 All equipment must be in good order and repair (buckles, straps). Particular attention should be paid to equipment that may be sun damaged.
- 13.4 Allowable replacement equipment (paddles, spare Race ID Numbers) should be carried by the support crew to avoid failing daily random scrutineering if original equipment is lost or damaged.

14 Race Identification Numbers

- 14.1 All craft must display their black race identification number that must measure not less than 100 mm high. One set of officially approved race identification numbers will be supplied in race packs.

15 Steering Rudders

- 15.1 Steering rudders are not permitted for Wildwater Kayaks or Canoes but may be used for other paddle craft.
- 15.2 The rudder system must be designed to flip up on contact with any obstacle to prevent damage to the rear of the craft. The rudder is to be operated by foot pedals or T-bar connected by flexible cable.
- 15.3 The maximum thickness of the rudder blade must not exceed 10 mm.
- 15.4 The rudder forms an extension to the length of the hull but is not included in the hull length measurement.

16 Handholds

- 16.1 All paddle craft must be securely fitted (not taped) with handholds of non-elastic material.
- 16.2 The minimum diameter of the handhold material must be not less than 6 mm or a cross sectional area of not less than 10 mm x 2 mm.
- 16.3 Handholds must be securely attached within 400 mm of the ends of the craft (Stand Up Paddleboards excepted).

16.4 Handholds must be in the form of loops to allow a 100 mm x 20 mm end radius measuring gauge to pass through them.