



Minnesota Boat Club

Pike Island Challenge Regatta Packet

September 10, 2022

The Pike Island Challenge is 13 miles long and it starts at 7:15 a.m. The channel around Pike Island is open this year. Small boats, Singles (1x), Doubles/Pairs (2x/2-) and Coxed Pairs (2+), should be able to row around the island. Larger boats, Quads/Fours (4x/4-), Coxed Fours (4+) and Eights (8+) will be advised on the day of the race.

While this event is **not** sanctioned by US Rowing Association, it is to be a **fun** rowing scrimmage for the rowing community.

COVID-19 PROTOCOL

As of August 11, 2022, the Atlanta Center for Diseases Control (CDC) designated Ramsey County as “Low” for COVID-19 Community Transmission. Please click [here](#) to view detailed recommended prevention measures. The CDC updates the county designation every Thursdays.

REGISTRATION & ENTRY FEES

The only way to register for the Pike Island Challenge is through the Minnesota Boat Club website at [Pike Island Challenge](#).

Each entry requires Club Name, Boat Name, and Contact Information (e.g., Stroke Seat). Crew listing for the Pike Island Challenge is not required.

Entry fees are \$10 per rower and \$5 per coxswain. Registration close at 9:00 PM on Wednesday, September 7, 2022. Fees include breakfast for competitors. Entry fees are not refundable due to scratches. No refunds will be given if MBC canceled the races on the day of the regatta due to deteriorating weather conditions or other unforeseen events.

No new entries will be accepted on the day of the Pike Island Challenge.

PIKE ISLAND CHALLENGE COURSE

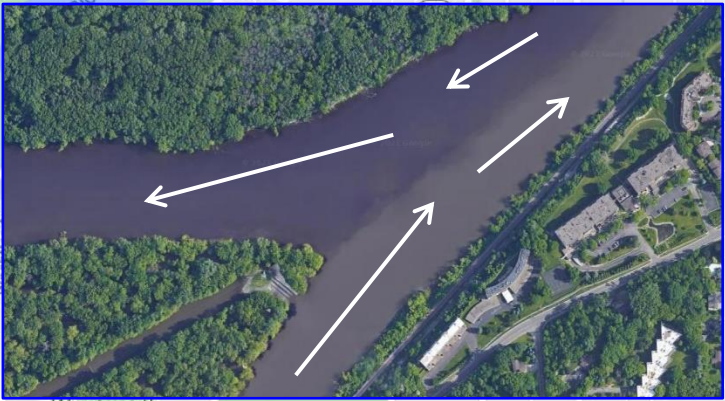
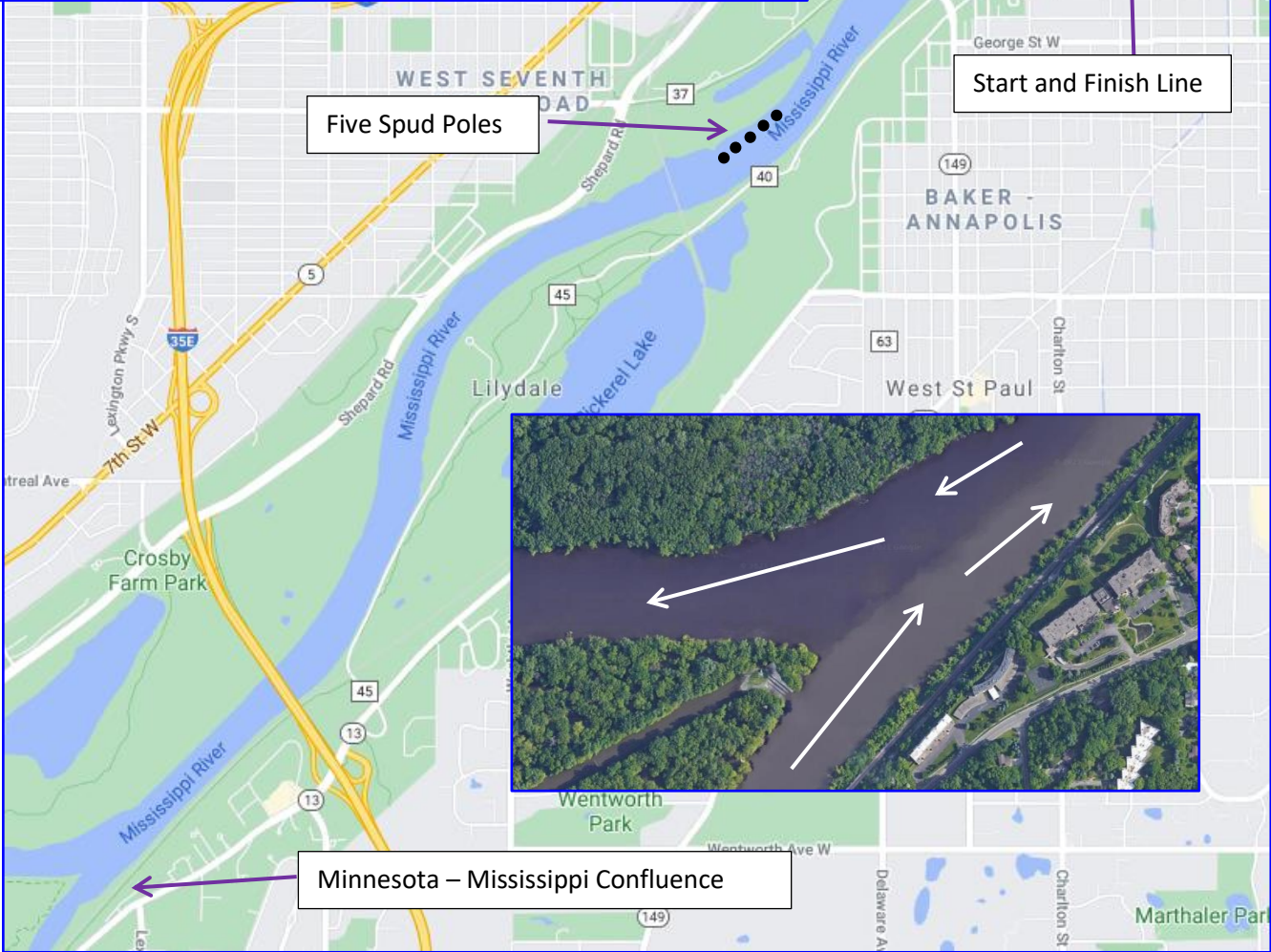
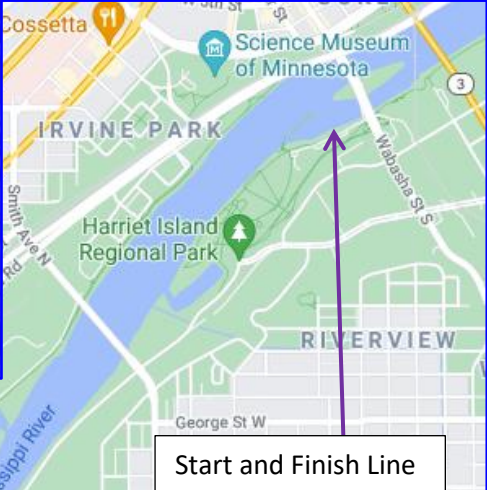
Pike Island Challenge is 13 miles long and it starts from where the steel wall ends on city side of the river below Shepard Road. Rowers are to traverse upstream on the city side of the river to the Minnesota – Mississippi confluence and continue traveling upstream on the Mississippi river until they reach the channel that goes around Pike Island. Coming out of the channel, rowers are to go downstream on the Minnesota River, going by the Pike Island peak and continue on far side of the Mississippi river to the finish line at the end of the public dock (See aerial photo and map next page).

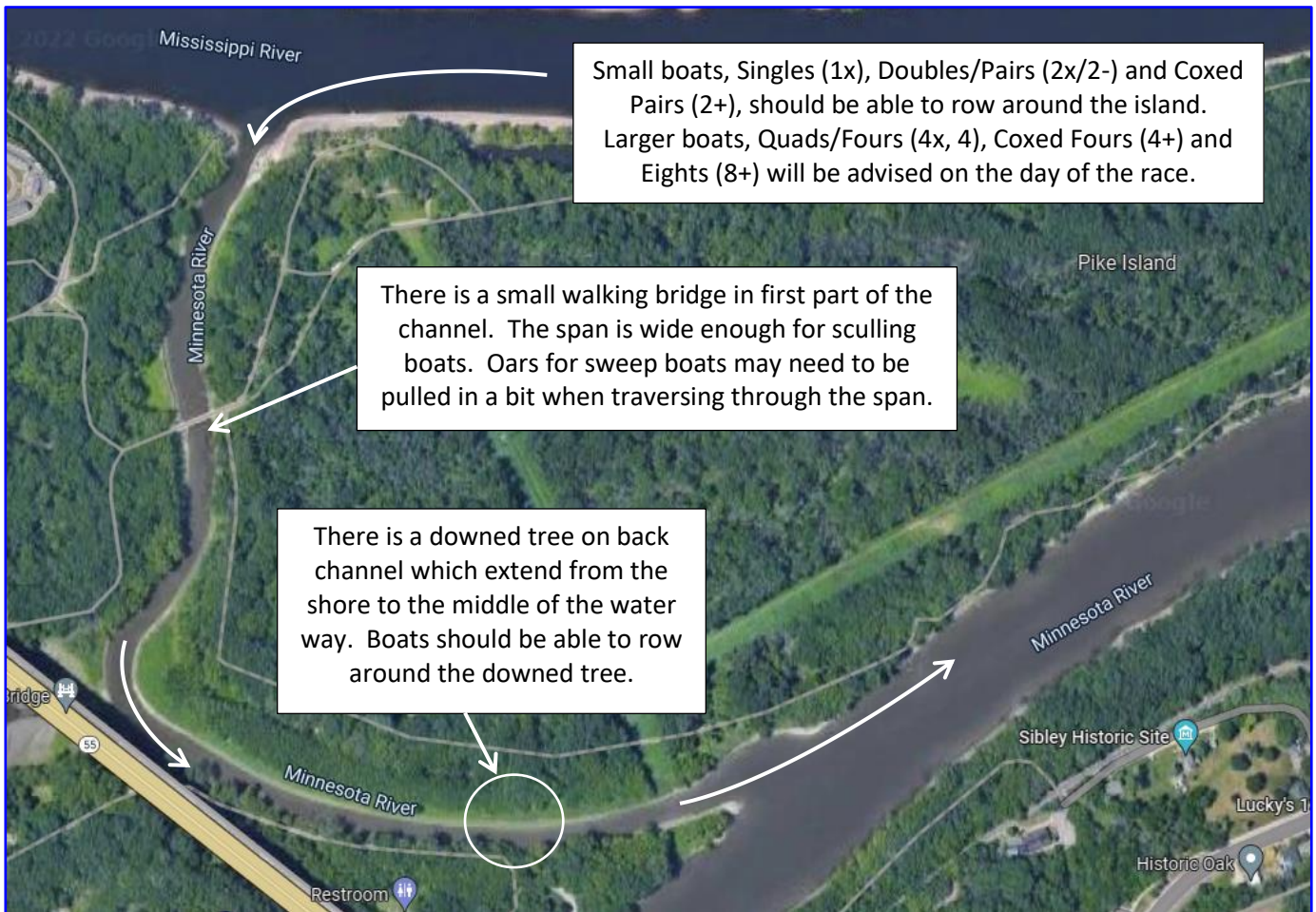
There are four bridges to go through on the race course:

- (1) Smith Avenue High Bridge
- (2) I-35E Bridge
- (3) Railroad bridge
- (4) Walking bridge in the Pike Island channel

In addition to the bridges, there are several large obstacles along the course. Going upstream, five spud poles between the high bridge and railroad and parked barges. Parked barges are usually located between the starting line and a few hundred meters beyond the railroad bridge upstream. There will be safety boats stationed along the course to ensure all boats returns to the finish line.

PIKE ISLAND CHALLENGE RACE COURSE





RACES

- All boats, regardless of boat types, genders, and rower's age, will be ranked based on time. There are no rower classifications and age-adjustments in this regatta.
- First boat will start at 7:15 a.m. and all other boats will follow in intervals of 15 to 25 seconds.
- Singles and Doubles/Pairs/Coxed Pairs go first, next Quads/Fours/Coxed Fours, and then the Eights.

SHOES HANDLING

All rowers and coxswains are to carry their shoes in their boat.

SCRATCHES

If you are scratching an entry either before Saturday, September 10, 2022, or on the day of the races, please inform Susan Tietjen in person or by email: tietjen@minnesotaboatclub.org.

SAFETY MEETING

There will be a safety meeting in front of the Minnesota Boat Club at 6:45 AM

BOW NUMBERS

Bow numbers for the Pike Island Challenge will be distributed at 6:30 AM on the boat club's parking lot. Entry fees must be paid in order to pick up your bow numbers on the day of the regatta.

PROTESTS

There is no formal protest procedure for the challenge race. Rowers and/or coaches may speak to Susan Tietjen to report an incident.

AWARDS:

MBC will announce order of finish and finishing time after the race. Awards will be given out. Results will be posted on the MBC website.

RESTROOMS

Ground level public restrooms on the downstream side of the boathouse will be open for use.

FOOD SERVICE

Breakfast will be served in the grassy area on upstream side of the boathouse. Non-rowers can purchase breakfast ticket for \$5.

WEATHER CONTINGENCY PLAN

To ensure the safety of all participants and volunteers, MBC staff and other key individuals may shorten, reschedule, or cancel races due to deteriorating weather conditions or other unforeseen events. Such announcements will be made on-site through a portable public address system.

WAIVERS

All rowers and coxswains participating in the event are required to complete and sign [USRA Waiver](#) and turned in the completed paper form when they pick up their bow numbers.

LAUNCHING

All Singles, Doubles, Pairs, Coxed Pairs, Quads, Fours, Coxed Fours, and Eights are to launch on the front side of the MBC boathouse. There will be a traffic coordinator calling out boats and crews to get ready to launch.

Launching of boats from the dock begins at 7:00 AM. Once on the water, individual boats will be directed to the starting line to begin their race. The first boat will start at 7:15 AM and all other boats will follow in intervals of 15 to 25 seconds.

Boats should return to the same dock that they launched from.

RASPBERRY ISLAND STAGING AREA

Raspberry Island is the staging area for the Pike Island Challenge. A vehicle traffic coordinator at the bridge leading to the island will direct traffic.

Vehicles with boat trailer or cartop rowing shell rack may park in the public parking lot on the island. If it full, vehicles with boat trailers or rowing shells on cartop will be allow to drive in to unload rowing shells and equipment and drive out to park the trailer in one of the parking lots along Harriet Island Road. Passenger vehicles will be direct to parking lots along the Harriet Island Road as well.

