



WPK2

**BREEDE RIVER**  
MARATHON 2021

**4 - 5 SEPTEMBER**

presented by  
MILNERTON CANOE CLUB

# GENERAL INFORMATION

The annual K2 (doubles) Breede River Canoe Marathon will be held on 71 km of the Breede River between the towns of Robertson and Swellendam, Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th September, 2021 and the weather and water forecasts indicate quality water levels. K1's and K3's are also welcome.

The event is in its 53rd year and is the biggest river marathon in the Western Cape. There are some TOP crews on the starting line UP and this year the event doubles up as WPK2 Championships

Day 1	4 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
Start	McGregor Bridge, Robertson
Sign in	Covid Screen, collect paddler safety wrist bands, seconds wrist bands and sign in with WCCU officials
Batch check in and briefing	No wrist band, no entry. Briefing 10 min before batch start
Race batch 1st start	10h00
Distance	37km
Finish	Riggton Farm, Bonnievale
Day 2	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
Start	Riggton Farm, Bonnievale
Sign in	Covid Screen, collect paddler safety wrist bands, seconds wrist bands and sign in with WCCU officials
Elapse time race briefing	08h15
Elapsed time start	08h30
Batch starts	NOT before 08h45, sms will confirm time slots
Distance	33.5km
Finish	Kam'bati River Resort, Swellendam

Camping is available. Camping fees are payable directly to Riggton. Booking must be done in advance. Check out Riggton River Farm website

**PLEASE NOTE: While swift water rescue will be on standby on race day, it is the paddler's responsibility to know the dangers on the river and have sufficient skills to manage these dangers safely.**

# RACE DAY INFORMATION

Race Convener Milnerton Canoe Club

Race Day Manager Richard Allen  
River Safety Nico van Niekerk  
Covid Officer Chris Beyers

**RIVER EMERGENCY - number on wristband 084 867 4706**

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Chief Time Keeper	Janine Metelerkamp	072 416 2660
Time Keepers	Ilsa Marais	Fannie le Roux
A & B Batch starter	Gordon Laing	
C-... Batch starter	Fannie Roux	

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Race Officials  
Janine Metelerkamp Ilsa Marais

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Race Committee  
Lisa Scott Chris Anderson Richard Allen

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Appeals Committee  
Riaan Fourie Rob Mclean Rob Hart

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## ALL EMERGENCY SERVICES

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From mobile phone	112
Robertson Emergency	086 088 1111

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## POLICE

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Robertson	023 626 8340
McGregor	023 625 1600
Police - Flying Squad	10111

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## AMBULANCE [contracted for the event]

Minor ailments such as bruises and scratches treated, no medicines supplied, transport to hospital for patient's own account

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Trevor Galant	0824827442
Control Room	0233466000

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## HOSPITALS

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Worcester Mediclinic	023 348 1500
State Hospital Robertson	023 626 8040

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## DOCTORS

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Robertson & Bonnievale	
Drs Perold & Fourie	
Sat: 8:00 - 12:00	023 626 3175
After hours:	083 227 6976

# DAY ONE on the RIVER

## ROBERTSON TO BONNIEVALE – 37km

- The start is at McGregor Bridge and is in batches (20min intervals) starting from 10H00 – sms will confirm your race start time. There will be a race briefing for each batch once you're checked in.
- After the start, paddle carefully under the bridge and do not get squeezed on the bridge pillars
- At the left-right option after the bridge stay right
- At the 10km mark you come to Kekkle en Kraai weir. Shot in the middle to left and head right after the drop
- At 16km you arrive at Sliding Weir on a gentle right bend. Shot generally on the left hand side  
If you are aiming for a top finish it is best to scout this weir on the morning before the race taking the Goudmyn turn off from the Robertson-Bonnievale road. [listen to safety briefing on race day]
- 100m below the weir is the causeway which may be shootable depending on the water level. [listen to safety briefing on race day]  
If you portage, the right hand side is better. Make sure that you put your splashies on when you get back in.
- Another 400m below the causeway after a left turn and a rapid, you get to Bollard Bridge. This may be a compulsory portage depending on the water level. [listen to safety briefing on race day]
- After 18.5km you come to the RED IRON BRIDGE which is the half-way mark.
- The Secunda Weir is at the 19.5km mark and is shot down the centre of the concrete shoot. Be warned, at lower levels it can be a BIG drop. Best shot at Med - High Speed.
- About 3km below Secunda Weir the river goes hard left and there is a sneak left that only works on a high water level. As you enter the main stream from the sneak there is a dangerous rock in the middle that has wrapped many boats. Keep far left or far right.
- At the 30.5km mark, you will come to the Jonkeer Bridge. On a low-med level you will paddle under the bridge on the left. On higher levels, you may be able to paddle over the bridge but it may be a compulsory portage due to new steel girders on the downstream side of the bridge [listen carefully to the safety briefing on race day]
- The last bridge is just two kilometers from the finish and can be shot down the middle or portaged left side on low level.
- The finish at 37km Riggton Farm on the left bank on a gentle RH bend.



[www.riggtonfarm.co.za](http://www.riggtonfarm.co.za)

# DAY TWO on the RIVER

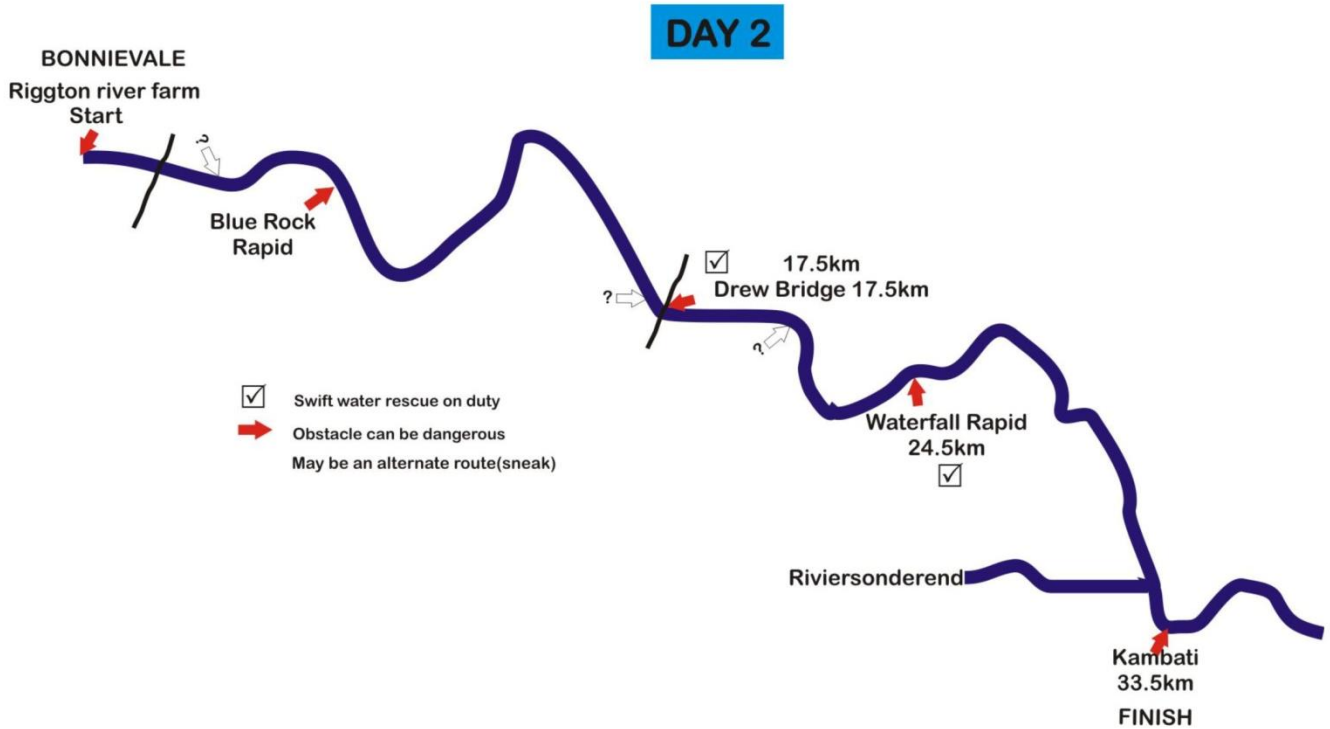
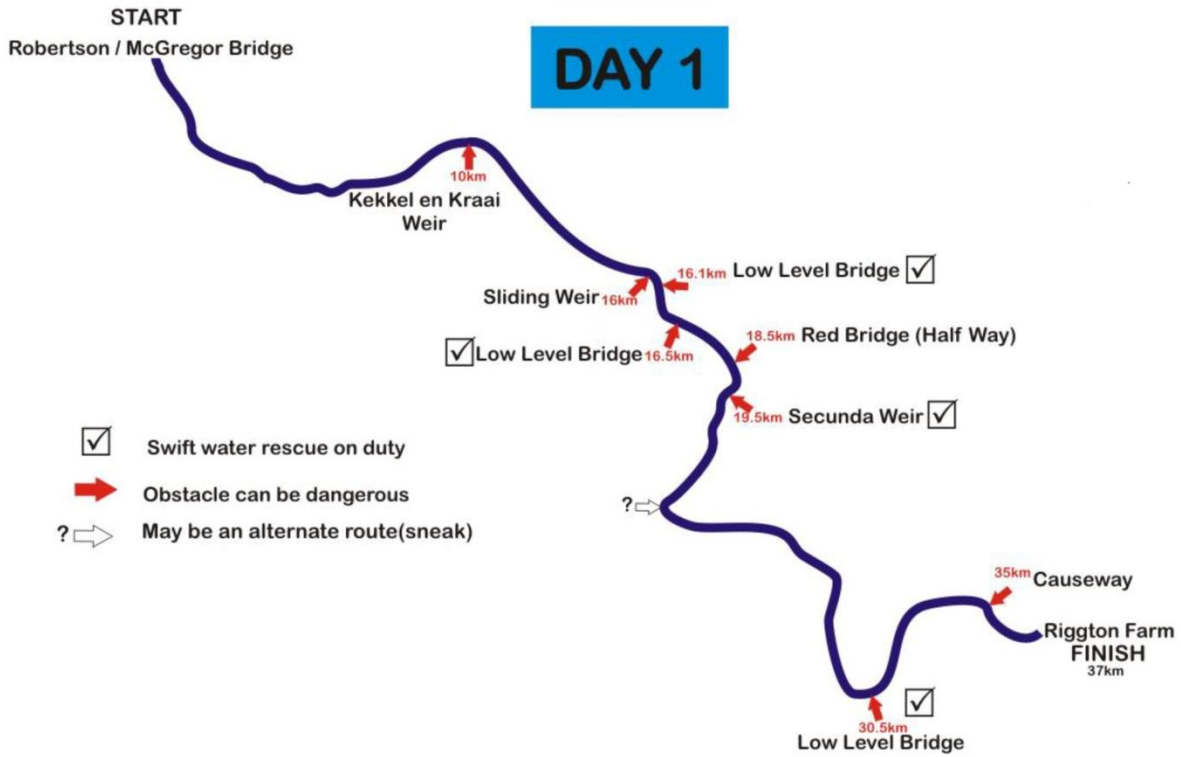
## BONNIEVALE TO SWELLENDAM – 34km

- The race starts in the pool at Riggton Farm.
- 3km into race you approach Blue Rock. It is made up of rocky ledges, the first on the left and the second on the right. Carefully pick your way through. Nice wave train on Med - High level. Sweeps will be there guiding you if necessary.
- Sweeping corners and long pools make up the balance of the river before Drew Bridge, which is the half way marker.
- On a low river you can go under Drew Bridge or portage on the right. If the bridge is a compulsory portage you may only portage on the side as advised at safety briefing. It is critical that you are prepared for the portage and move away from the portage area quickly.
- Please also note that Drew Bridge is a public road. Watch out for cars before crossing.
- About 2km below Drew Bridge there is a S-bend, just after be aware of a tree that has fallen across the river. There is ample space on the right to get through.
- The river sweeps gently left and then slightly right before you get to the Waterfall Rapid at 7.1km. Look for the palmiet islands in the river. Go initially right and then left. Chicken run is open otherwise keep going left and line up with waterfall by brushing the palmiet island with your left shoulder before straightening up for the drop. Go in with speed and do not brace too early. Sharp right turn straight afterwards.
- After the Waterfall look for more palmiet islands – go between the biggest of the two and then go hard right. Straight looks tempting but it is slower than right.
- When you come out of the right hand channel there is a 3km flat before you take a LH channel. There are 3 LH channels before the end.
- The finish is not far after the last LH channel, look out for the confluence of the Riviersonderend and the Breede Rivers. The race finishes in the pool below, be careful not to spin out as you enter this final pool. Swimming to the finish is not an option!
- If you make it here, well done on completing the Breede River Canoe Marathon. Time to kick back relax and be thankful for the privilege of been able to paddle on this pristine river!



[www.kambati.co.za](http://www.kambati.co.za)

# BY RIVER



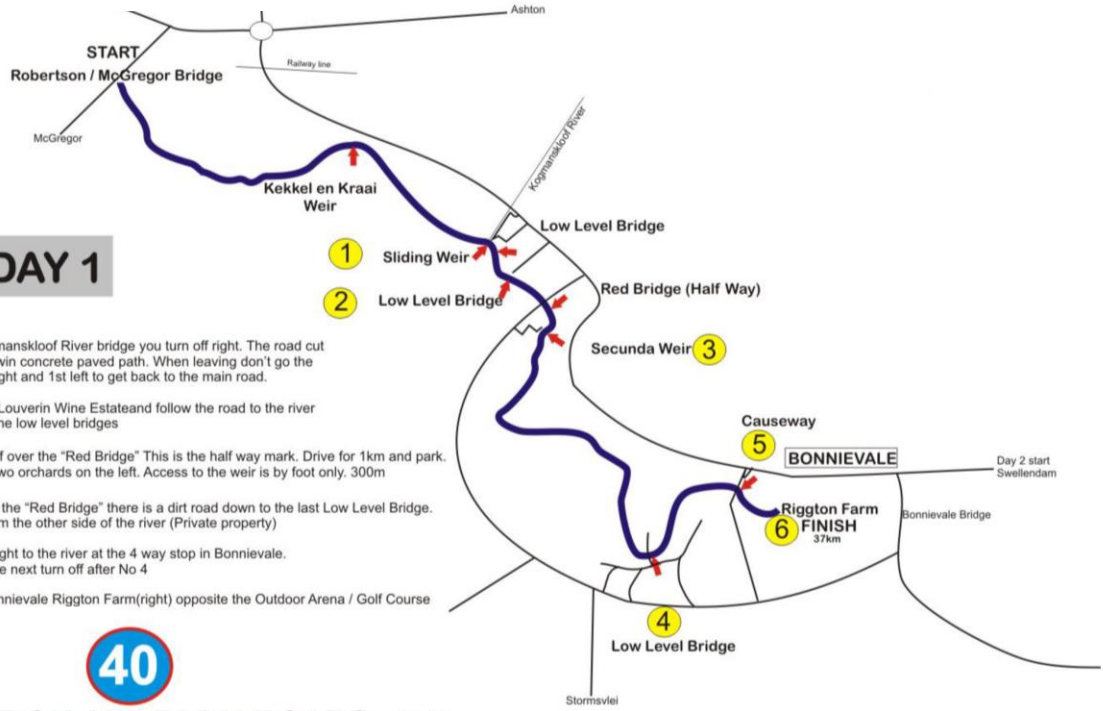
# BY ROAD

## DAY 1

- 1 Immediately after the Kogmanskloof River bridge you turn off right. The road cut back on itself. Follow the twin concrete paved path. When leaving don't go the same way back but turn right and 1st left to get back to the main road.
- 2 Take the 1st turn into Van Louverin Wine Estate and follow the road to the river. Here you can get to both the low level bridges
- 3 Take the Stormsvlei turn off over the "Red Bridge" This is the half way mark. Drive for 1km and park. There is a path between two orchards on the left. Access to the weir is by foot only. 300m
- 4 13.2km after turning off at the "Red Bridge" there is a dirt road down to the last Low Level Bridge. Do not use the access from the other side of the river (Private property)
- 5 From the main road turn right to the river at the 4 way stop in Bonnievale. From the other side it is the next turn off after No 4
- 6 After the 4 way stop in Bonnievale Riggton Farm (right) opposite the Outdoor Arena / Golf Course

**40**

**SPEED LIMIT ON ALL FARM ROADS pls!!**



## DAY 2

**SPEED LIMIT ON ALL FARM ROADS pls!!**

**40**



# BREEDER RIVER MARATHON 2021- Covid-19 Plan

Following the requirements set out by Canoe South Africa and the Langeberg local authorities, the Breede committee is committed to ensure the safety of all participants, support crew, organizers and local residents from the spread of the Covid-19 virus.

The Breede Canoe Marathon is renowned for being a fun, family orientated weekend away in the Breede Valley. Whilst we would love to continue the spirit of the race, we will need to be completely aware of the possible spread of the Covid-19 virus and prevent contamination at all costs.

## PLAN OF ACTION - General:

- If you have any Covid symptoms, do not attend the race. For your own health and the safety of others, stay away, recover and live to race another day.
- You will be sanitized and if you are not wearing a mask whilst off the water, one will be provided for you. Please also be aware of your social distancing.
- Two emergency wrist bands will be provided for each participant. One per paddler and one per support person (Second). People without a wrist band will not be allowed to enter the start and finish venues of each day.

## The Start Day 1:

- Once the batches and start times are published, please arrive at a time that allows you to get dressed and get your kit in order, Covid screen with BSS Security, sign in with WCCU officials and be ready for your batch check in call in that order). Please do not hang around the start area. Rather stay near your vehicle until your batch is called.
- There will be a 20-minute delay between batches to prevent congestion.
- There will be 1 batch holding area. Once all of the specific batch entrants are past the check point (you will not be able to enter the batch area without a wristband and mask), you will have a safety briefing and then get straight onto the water and wait for the starting orders.

## The Finish Day 1:

- Once off the water, collect your refreshments and mask at the takeout station.
- Make your way to your vehicle to get changed etc, please don't hang around the finish area.
- Collect your race shirt and Goodie/Lucky bag at the venue building. Please adhere to social distancing rules of 1,5m between people. We will try our best to make this process as smooth as possible. Please work with us to make this happen safely.
- No refreshments or meals will be on sale at the finish as stipulated by regulations.
- No results will be displayed at the finish as stipulated by regulations (to prevent congestion).
- Make your way to your various accommodations and Be Safe!

## The Start Day 2:

- Your start time will be sent to you by sms.
- Please follow the same procedure as day

## The finish Day 2:

- Once off the water, collect your refreshments, race medals and masks at the takeout station.
- Make your way to your vehicle to get changed etc, please don't hang around the finish area.
- There will be a podium acknowledgement and medal handover for the following categories:
  - Senior Men
  - Senior Women
  - Nurture a Novice
- There will be no prize giving as stipulated by regulations.
- No refreshments or meals will be on sale at the finish as stipulated by regulations.
- No results will be displayed at the finish as stipulated by regulations (to prevent congestion).
- Make your way home safely.



# BREEDER RIVER MARATHON - Safety Plan

The Breede River Marathon course is known to be one of the safer stretches of water in the Western Cape. Whilst the CSA entry platform only allows for competent paddlers with the correct river rating to enter the race, we are still committed to provide all the necessary safety precautions on the river and at the various hotspots along the course.

## PLAN OF ACTION:

**Paddler Wrist Band - call the number on the band in the event of an emergency – 084 867 4706**

## Race briefing:

- Once the river has been scouted on Friday and race day morning, a safety briefing will be drawn up and held 10 minutes before the start of each batch. Please listen carefully as there may be compulsory portages along the course.
- Should there be any other issues arising, our safety personnel posted at the various obstacles will let us know and we will communicate this before race start.

## On the river:

- 6 Sweeps will be paddling down the river at various intervals to ensure safety on the river and to assist with any basic repairs, withdrawals or safety issues.
- All paddlers have the responsibility to assist anyone that is in serious trouble.
- The 2021 Berg marathon was a perfect example of paddlers assisting paddlers and heroes saving lives.
- The water will be cold after the recent snow fall, please carry a foil "Space" blanket or rescue blanket with you.
- The more buoyancy you have in your boat, the easier it is to manage in the event of a swim in fast flowing water.
- A basic repair kit in your boat is advisable.
- A phone in a waterproof pouch is recommended for all paddlers.
- Should you need to withdraw during the race, river left would be the easiest escape route.
- Please contact the WCCU officials and notify them of your withdrawal ASAP - 072 416 2660

## On the river side:

- 7 police divers will be stationed at the various hotspots along the way to assist with any safety issues.
- Seasoned WCCU paddler marshals will also be stationed at these spots to assist with correct lines or portage options.
- A dedicated race ambulance will be on standby for the race duration in the event of an emergency.

Have a safe paddle and enjoy the pristine Breede valley.



# WITH HUGE GRATITUDE TO OUR RACE PARTNERS



**SPOT THE CROC COMPETITION**  
YOUR CRAFT OF CHOICE FOR A QUICK GETAWAY



DAY 1 Prize  
R2500.00 KR Voucher

DAY 2 Prize  
R2500.00 KR Voucher

Correct entries will go into a draw.  
One entry for each day  
per participating paddler.



## KNYSNA RACING SPOT THE CROC COMPETITION

When the dust has settled after Breede Canoe Marathon 2021, Click on the link and state where you sighted the croc on Day1 and Day2. Thanks to Knysna Racing for the awesome prizes!

<https://forms.gle/huwS2XVBukXt5Qxw8>

A year supply of toilet paper for the person that spots a real one 😊.

Winners will be drawn on the 8th September.

ButtaNutt



supplement . success . system  
instagram @S3.fit



Bonnievale

