



Version 1.1 dated 10/11/23

EXPEDITION ALASKA MANDATORY EQUIPMENT LIST

The crew members using this list have collectively agreed on standard mandatory equipments, and definitions of this equipment, that individuals and teams must carry while participating in the Expedition Alaska adventure race. They have also agreed on the rational and logic for the inclusion of items on this list.

Additional items may be added by race organizers where they are specific to their location, conditions or laws of the host country.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ASSUMPTIONS - You and your team together are responsible entirely for carrying suitable and appropriate equipment, clothing and sustenance for the climate, conditions and activities in the event. This Mandatory Equipment List is NOT a list of the only items you should take. It contains the mandatory items that you and your team must carry with you, at specified times, to meet minimum safety requirements by law, prevent and/or treat SOME potential injuries, and short term survival purposes (for example a seriously injured team member, in a stationary position, overnight in bad weather). It assumes your team members will NOT separate during the race and that you may share between members the mandatory equipment that must be carried. You will certainly need additional equipment, clothing, food and drink for your participation in the event.

RECOMMENDED AND INFERRED ITEMS

The following items, categories of equipment or related items, are either strongly recommended by organisers, or assumed to be an inferred requirement as competitors must have an understanding of adventure racing, the activities they will be participating in, and general outdoor adventure knowledge and experience.

- ▶ Backpacks and water carrying containers/ bladders/ bottles.
- ▶ Foods and sustenance, sufficient until the next re-supply point, including emergency quantities.
- ▶ Personal race clothing and footwear suitable for extreme conditions (including accessories such as hats/ gloves, eye protection, watch/altimeter as required and clothing for water activities such as wetsuits).
- ▶ Waterproofing/ dry bags to keep personal and team equipment as dry as necessary.
- ▶ Water purification device or chemicals - to avoid illness from drinking contaminated water.
- ▶ Personal medications (for example EpiPen/epinephrine, bronchodilator/Ventolin) permitted analgesics, therapeutic medicines, medical insurance certificates, allergy or illness identification tags, sun protection.
- ▶ Money/ Credit card, personal identification card/ Passport, immigration or visa certificates.
- ▶ Cycle repair kit (including pump, tubes, tools and spare parts).
- ▶ Additional and back up Mandatory/ Recommended and Inferred items in re-supply boxes as permitted.
- ▶ Satellite phone – We will allow and recommend Sat phones!
- ▶ Jet Boil or other small stove
- ▶ Gaiters
- ▶ Bushwhacking pants
- ▶ Trekking poles











RULES - As a competitor in this event using this list, you and your team are required to carry the mandatory equipment items with you at the specified times. Checks of mandatory equipment may occur during the race and missing equipment may result in penalties or disqualification as per the race rules. If any items are used/ consumed/lost during a leg, they must be replaced at the next transition point.



The mandatory equipment is divided into two categories, equipment you and your team must carry at ALL times, and equipment you and your team must carry during a specific DISCIPLINE.










ALL TIMES - ALL DISCIPLINES - WARRIOR EVENTS


(Tropical Zone + Temperate Zone)


Yes/No	Name	Image	Quantity	Description
✓	Official Race Bib (Vest/ Jersey/ Bib)		1 x per competitor (no share)	The official race bib must be worn by each competitor at all times as the outermost garment. Vest/packs that cover the front of the bib are not permitted. Race bibs are provided by the race organisers.
✓	Whistle		1 x per competitor (no share)	Each competitor must carry at all times a whistle that is pea-less and functional in wet conditions. It must be easily accessible at all times to sound an alert if required.
✓	Light Source (Headlamp)		1 x per competitor	Light source (such as headlamp), waterproof with the required batteries for the section of the race. Different light sources may be used in different disciplines e.g. headlamp, cycle lights.
✓	Shell Layer Top (Jacket)		1 x per competitor	The shell/ outer layer jacket must be waterproof, windproof, breathable as specified by the manufacturer. Jacket must have hood, seams tape sealed and be suitable for potentially extreme conditions in an adventure race.
✓	Baselayer Top		1 x per competitor	Long sleeve, close fitting top of synthetic or wool fabric. Lightweight, moisture wicking/ quick drying, and worn next to your skin. Top may either be carried or worn.
✓	Baselayer Legs (Leggings/ Tights)		1 x per competitor	Long leg, close fitting bottom of synthetic or wool fabric. Lightweight, moisture wicking/ quick drying, and worn next to your skin. Bottom may either be carried or worn.
✓	Baselayer Head (Beanie)		1 x per competitor	Beanie (or Buff) must be close fitting and of synthetic or wool fabric. Lightweight, moisture wicking/ quick drying, and worn over your hair/skin. Beanie may either be carried or worn.
✓	Survival Blanket (Space Blanket)		1 x per competitor	Sheet or bag of material coated in a metallic reflective agent. Used in emergencies to reflect heat. Can be used to counter hypothermia, but also provide shade or aid in visibility. (note bags can deteriorate over time).
✓	Magnetic Compass		2 x per team	Quality compasses for accurate navigation. Compass must have a needle balanced to the magnetic zone of the race (e.g. zone 1,2,3,4,5 or Multi zone compass). Watch compasses do not meet these requirements.
✓	Gloves		1 x per competitor	Required for hand protection and warmth.








	Cell Phone		1 x per team	Cell phone with fully charged battery, turned off and in waterproof bag/container for emergency use only. Race organisers will provide advice on specific cell network (if required) and seal phones in security bags before the race.
	Fire Starting Device		1 x per team	Waterproof matches, gas cigarette lighter, flint and steel are all acceptable fire starting devices.
	Knife		1 x per team	Minimum blade length 50mm and sharp enough to cut rope or webbing in an emergency. Folding blade for safety. Must be easily accessible while kayaking.
	Course Information and Maps		1 x per team	Course maps, course notes and passport/ control card, provided by organisers, appropriate for section of the race teams are completing. Adequate waterproofing e.g. laminated or waterproof paper, clear adhesive(Contact) or waterproof map bag.
	First Aid Kit		1 x per team	Adventure Medical Kit .7 or larger or First Aid contents specified below separately. Must be contained in waterproof bag.
	Strobe Light		1 x per team	Must be white light, high intensity (e.g. Xenon strobe lamp), 360 degree visibility, waterproof to 10m or greater, visible beyond 1nm (1.9km) and with charged batteries. Normal flash rate 60 per minute. It can be used in an emergency situation (on both land and sea) to alert others to your location. Headlamps or cycle lamps that flash are not acceptable.
	GPS Tracker/ Emergency Communications		1 x per team	Specific device provided by race organisers. Must be carried and used in accordance with direction of race organisers.


	ALL TIMES - MOUNTAIN BIKE DISCIPLINE - WARRIOR EVENTS
	(Tropical Zone + Temperate Zone)


Yes/No	Name	Image	Quantity	Description
	Mountain Bike		1 x per competitor	Mountain Bike appropriate for adventure racing. No road or cyclocross bikes.
	Helmet		1 x per competitor	Cycle helmet with an approved safety standard certification. (e.g. CE, UIAA or country equivalent)
	Front Light		1 x per competitor	Front facing white light. May be head or handlebar mounted.




✓	Rear Light		2 x per competitor	Rear facing red light. Must be mounted on the bicycle and on the back of helmet. Recommended spare rear light is carried amongst team.
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	ALL TIMES - PACKRAFT DISCIPLINE - WARRIOR EVENTS
	(Tropical Zone + Temperate Zone)




Yes/No	Name	Image	Quantity	Description
✓	Personal Flotation Device (PFD/ Lifejacket)		1 x per competitor (no share)	Correctly sized for the competitor and must meet safety standards of the country of the race. Worn at all times while kayaking. Inflatable type vests not acceptable. Foam deteriorates over time and loses buoyancy. Organisers may have specific tests in place to ensure buoyancy meets required standards and laws.
✓	Whistle		1 x per competitor	Must be attached to the PFD/ Lifejacket.
✓	Paddle(s)		1 x per competitor	** You may wish to take a separate 4 piece paddle for your packraft legs since you will have to carry this for some distance. Your kayak paddles will be at each TA for you.
✓	Helmet		1 x per competitor	Organiser to specify if river helmet is mandatory, or if cycle helmet is acceptable. Worn as directed by race organisers.
✓	Packraft		1 x per competitor	Single or Tandem Packrafts with skirts and repair kit.
✓	Throw Bag Rope		1 x per boat	Rescue device with length of rope stuffed loosely into a bag so it can pay out through the top when thrown to a person. Minimum rope length 10m/ 30ft.
✓	Illumination (Glow Stick/ Chemical light)		1 x per competitor 1 x per boat	One glow stick (100mm) attached to PFD in a highly visible position at all times (i.e. shoulder position). One glow stick attached to kayak (bring cable tie). Glow sticks must be glowing when dark. Multiple sticks may be required, bring spares.







	FIRST AID KIT - ALL TIMES - ALL DISCIPLINES - WARRIOR EVENTS
	(Tropical Zone + Temperate Zone)

Yes/No	Name	Image	Quantity	Description & Required Discipline
✓	Bandage (Elastic/ Crepe)		2m long x 7.5cm wide	Total length of bandage is minimum of 2 metres and minimum width is 7.5cm un-stretched. Multiple bandages are permitted. Used to create localised pressure to site of injury or wound.

	Triangular Bandage		1 x	This bandage in shape of right angle triangle can be used to make a sling, as normal bandage and other applications.
	Wound Dressing (Sterile)		2 x	Dressing minimum dimensions 7.5cm x 7.5cm each. Applied to wound to prevent further harm and promote healing. Self adhesive or used in conjunction with a bandage. Gauze dressing with nonstick film recommended.
	Strapping Tape (Adhesive/ surgical tape)		1 x	One roll of strapping tape. Can be used to secure bandages or dressings and in improvised splints.
	Antihistamine (strong)		4 x adult doses minimum	Antihistamine tablets inhibits the action of histamines and can be taken in event of allergic reaction.












Recommended Items - Additional first aid items that are highly recommended include analgesics (pain reliever e.g. Paracetamol), anti-inflammatory tablets (e.g. ibuprofen), electrolyte replacement, anti diarrheic, disinfectant and antiseptic solutions/creams, blister treatment, CPR face shield, medical gloves.

  	ALL TIMES - ALL DISCIPLINES - WARRIOR EVENTS
	(Temperate Zone Additional)


Yes/No	Name	Image	Quantity	Description
	Mid Layer Top (Fleece)		1 x per competitor	The mid layer top is used between the baselayer and shell layer to provide additional insulation in cold environments. Long sleeve top of synthetic or wool fabric. Mid weight (greater than baselayer), moisture wicking/ quick drying. Top may either be carried or worn. When tested on scales the total weight of the top must be 200 grams or greater.
	Shell Layer Bottom (Pants)		1 x per competitor	The shell/ outer layer pants must be waterproof and windproof as specified by the manufacturer. Pants must be suitable for potentially extreme conditions in an adventure race.
	Sleeping Bag		1 x per competitor	Must be proper full length sleeping bag (not bivy bag), covering the head, and made of insulating material (synthetic or waterproof down recommended). When tested on scales the total weight of the bag must be 400 grams or greater.
	Emergency Shelter (Tent)		1 x per team	A must have sewn in floor and minimum floor area of 2.5m ² or 27ft ² . Tent design must include poles. All the required poles, pegs, ropes etc must be carried with the tent. Must be suitable for potential conditions of the race.

RACE SPECIFIC ITEMS

(These items added by the specific Race Director)

Yes/No	Name	Image	Quantity	Description & Required Discipline
✓	Can of Bear Spray		2 per team	These must be carried by teams at all times. The odds are there will be bears...
✓	Small shovel OR blue bags (1/person/day)		1 per team	These must be used to bury human waste. Leaving waste and TP along the trail is not acceptable, and will be penalized heavily. (Plus, it's just gross!)
✓	Sufficient line or rope to hang food & food carrying packs if stopping outside TA			There are bears. This is a requirement of our USFS permit.
✓	Dry suit for all paddling legs		1 per person	These are required for the ocean legs, and recommended for inland legs as well – this is COLD water! ** A wetsuit can be worn for inland legs, but is not acceptable for the ocean.
✓	Jacket		1 seat per person	Alaska is cold . A puffy or lightweight jacket.
✓	Reflective Triangle		1 per person	Hang from the back of your packs at all times.
✓	Approved climbing harness		1 per person	These will be used for glacier crossings and climbing sections. A harness with detachable leg loops is recommended (such as BD Climbing Bod)
✓	Webbing for chest harness		1 per person	Required for all glacier crossing legs
✓	Minimum of 1 ascender		Min. 1 per person	Required for all glacier crossing legs
✓	Locking carabiners		Min. 3 per person	Pear or D shape recommended
✓	Additional 'biner		Min. 1 per person	Can be locking or not

✓	ATC-type rappelling/belay device		1 per person	Figure 8 devices are not allowed
✓	5-7mm Prusik or Kleinheist backup		1 per person	These are to facilitate self-rescue from crevasses
✓	1 x 50 or 60 meter "glacier floss" rope		1 per person	These will be required on all glacier crossings
✓	Clearly labelled gear bins.		Max. 1 per person	These must be 27 gallons or less. Race staff cannot guarantee condition of fragile or soft sided boxes or bags!
✓	Paddle gear drop bag		1 per team	These can be "hockey style" gear bags
✓	Bike box		1 per racer	Standard bike boxes recommended
✓	Bug Spray		1 can min. per person	100% DEET is recommended! There are sizeable mosquitos in Alaska in the summer – you may actually wish to bring an optional tennis racquet for swatting... (JUST kidding... sort of...)
✓	Ice pickets		Min. 2 per team	These are used to establish anchors in snow or ice if needed.
✓	Crampons		1 set per person	These will be required on all glacier crossings
✓	Ice axe		1 per person	These will be required on all glacier crossings

	PROHIBITED ITEMS/ EQUIPMENT
	All Times - All disciplines - Warrior Events

- ▶ GPS devices. Includes devices that show your position, display maps, distance travelled etc (excludes GPS trackers provided by the organisers).
- ▶ Distance measuring devices such as foot pod accelerometers and pedometers. (cycle computers exempt)
- ▶ Mobile phones, radios, other communications or internet access devices etc (excluding the compulsory emergency phone sealed prior to the race).
- ▶ Maps other than those provided by the organisers (specifically from race start to crossing the finish line).
- ▶ Firearms, night/ nocturnal vision devices.



GEAR RENTALS

Places to rent Paddle gear in Anchorage:

1. <https://www.rei.com/stores/anchorage>
2. <https://alaskaraftandkayak.com>
3. <https://www.alaskaoutdoorgearrental.com/summer-equipment>

Places to rent Bikes in Anchorage: Book early because of limited inventory.

1. <https://www.chainreactionalaska.com>
2. <https://www.powderhoundak.com>
3. <https://www.trekstorealaska.com/rentals/bike-rentals>

Tips about the gear List from (RD) Jeff Leininger

1. Get a very good lightweight packraft. Strong and light because your team will be carrying this many times and for long distances. There will be pack raft opportunities during this race than any other event before.
2. Good gloves to be worn during any bushwhacking in Alaska. The best is leather because of the Devil's Cub everywhere.
3. I love single-track MTB trails, and you will be doing many miles of this, so make sure your bikes are in perfect condition before the trip out. Backup spare parts. If your bike fails during a long section it will be the longest "push a bike" you'll ever complete.
4. When renting or purchasing a drysuit, also think about wearing other than just paddling. Many racers hiked with it because they were cold and wet. Keep it lightweight.
5. Packweight will be the "kicker" during this race. Buy lightweight items and keep your pack weight down.



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