

# *IT'S HANMER TIME*

## **WILLARD HANMER MEMORIAL RACE**



SARANAC LAKE, NEW YORK

**JULY 5, 2026**

Rules and Regulations

*Perfect for beginners and veterans alike!*



**ALL YOUTH CLASSES ARE FREE  
COURTESY OF THE  
SARANAC LAKE KIWANIS CLUB**



# **Willard Hanmer Memorial**

## **Sunday, July 5, 2026**

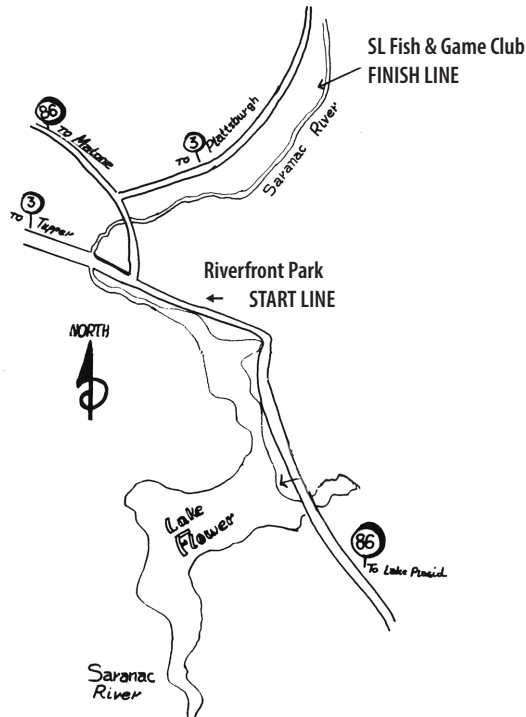
<b>8:30 to 10:00 am</b>	<b>On Lake – Flat Water Events, 2 Person Guideboat, SUP and Junior Class Registration and check in, complete waiver and receive boat number</b>
<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Flatwater races on Lake Flower – We will have a quick entrant meeting before the start.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Two Person Guideboat</b></li><li>• <b>SUP</b></li><li>• <b>Junior classes*</b></li></ul>
<b>10:00 to 11:30 am</b>	<b>Down River Event, Solo Guideboat, Canoe and Kayak Registration and check in, complete waiver and receive boat number</b>
<b>Noon</b>	<b>Downriver races to the Fish and Game Club– We will have a quick entrant meeting before the start.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Solo Guideboat</b></li><li>• <b>Solo &amp; Two person Canoe</b></li><li>• <b>Solo &amp; Two person Kayak</b></li><li>• <b>C-4 Racing</b></li><li>• <b>Rub-a-Dub</b></li></ul>
<b>1:30 pm approx.</b>	<b>Awards, family friendly festivities, food and beverage vendors, music at the Saranac Lake Fish &amp; Game Club finish line</b>

All classes will have a mass start EXCEPT one person Guideboat which will have a Le Mans style start at fixed intervals. Canoe and Kayak will be in waves depending on number of entrants.

NOTE: The downriver races will be switched to a Lake Flower flat water course of approximately the same overall distance, only if the river water level is too low for safe passage. We will post an update online a day or two in advance if this is the case. Also, we reserve the right to combine categories for classes with fewer than three boats.

\*Junior classes, (age 16 and under) may also be allowed to race down river depending on age, experience and with written parental permission.

## RACE COURSE MAP



**START LINE & RACE COURSE:** The Hanmer Memorial starts at the Riverfront Park in Saranac Lake, NY. The flatwater classes head up the lake to the south end circling around the turn buoys, and head back to the North end of the lake and back to the Start/Finish. The downriver classes head up the lake to the south, around the downriver race turn buoy and then head to the north end of the lake where the carry is located. After a short carry of approximately 200 yards, put in to the Saranac River, continuing to the Saranac Lake Fish and Game club finish line.

**REGISTRATION:** Online registration can be found at <https://www.saranaclake.com/events/register-for-willard-hanmer-races>. You may also register the old fashioned way by contacting us at [greensideny@gmail.com](mailto:greensideny@gmail.com) and mailing in or dropping off a registration form and waiver to:

61 River Street, Saranac Lake, NY  
(next door to St Bernards school – Park out back).

All pre-registrations are due by no later than July 3, 2026.

**RACE DAY REGISTRATION:** 8:30 to 11:30 at Riverside Park

**ENTRY FEE:** \$20.00 per person. \$21.00 Online by credit/debit card  
\$25.00 per person on Event Day. Cash or check

# **GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION AND RULES**

1. Please pre-register. This will help us be more organized and efficient on event day. Online pre-registration will not be available after July 3rd. Boat numbers must be picked up and waivers submitted between 8:30 and 10:00 for the On Lake – Flatwater events, and between 8:30 and 11:30 for the Down River events.
2. Same day registration will be accepted no later than 10:00am for the On Lake – Flat Water events and no later than 11:30am for Down River events.
3. Boat numbers must be placed on both sides of each boat at the bow (right side up please). Entrants in both the On Lake – Flat Water and Down River events in the same boat will have two numbers assigned.
4. A US Coast Guard approved lifesaving device must be worn by all participants.
5. Anyone missing his or her heat will be placed with another class at the discretion of the judges.
6. Any person may enter more than one event; however, events will not be delayed to facilitate double entries.
7. Protests of any race must be lodged within one hour of the completion of the event. Please note, this is a community, family celebration, we expect everyone to have fun and be on their best behavior.
8. All classes other than One Person Guideboats, will start from an offshore position and will leave the starting line in groups, a mass starts or waves, depending on the total number in each class.
9. Slower boats must give way and allow the faster boats to pass when requested.
10. Junior class definition is 16 and under, multiple age groups may be setup if there are enough junior entrants.
11. Each entrant must sign our waiver in order to compete; Junior participants must also have a parent sign.
12. Junior class entrants will be allowed to race down river with parental permission. If there are sufficient entrants a separate class will be established.
13. To enter the Family category, each contestant must be related, with one contestant 16 years of age or younger.
14. For classes with fewer than three boats, we reserve the right to combine classes at the Judge's discretion. Entrants will be notified of any class changes subject to this on race day as final counts are known. This includes Men's, Women's and Mixed categories within a class.
15. For the carry we realize that some entrants cannot carry their boats unassisted. Wheels are allowed or you may request one helper. Since we have monitors at the carry you must let the race organizers know that you require assistance. We ask that your helper identify themselves to the carry officials.
16. All of our officials and organizers are volunteers, please be respectful and thankful to those individuals that make this event possible.
17. All decisions of the race officials, including the decision of the boat Judges, as to all entrants, will be FINAL.

## **GUIDEBOAT SPECIFIC**

- Modern Guideboats with or without ribs, Kevlar or composite construction may be entered. While this is a traditional Guideboat historical event, we recognize that newer Guideboats with different construction materials are becoming more prevalent. What is not allowed is a boat constructed solely for racing such as light weight carbon fiber. If in doubt please contact the race organizers in advance.
- 16' boats must have a minimum weight of 65 pounds, 14' boats minimum weight 50 pounds. Traditional oars 8' max length, not cupped or spooned and Guideboat paddles required (no Canoe racing paddles, no bent)
- Seats must be fixed, not rolling.
- Oar locks must be traditional, not outrigger, no roller, ball or needle bearings in hardware.

## **TWO PERSON GUIDEBOAT CLASSES**

- Two person racers follow the course laid out in the map and on the water marked by buoys. Event officials will point out the buoys on the map and on the water that are in sight before the start. Two person racers are expected to switch oarsmen, at one of the two switch points. Racers may switch at both switch points if desired. This is a required part of the event and is considered a part of the traditional technique. Entrants that are unable to switch must let the race organizers know in advance.
- A Granddaddy award is given to the pair based on a combined age over 100 years. Our timing officials deduct 5 seconds for each year over 100 and the pair with the best elapsed time wins this award.

## **SOLO GUIDEBOAT CLASSES**

- Solo entrants will have a Le Man's type start at fixed intervals from the shore. Each person will go in the order assigned, starting from a shoreline countdown, then entering their boat. This event starts for each person at the end of your countdown and includes the shore portion and boat entry. You may have an assistant or a race official hold your boat at the shoreline. Racers then proceed up the lake to and around the turn buoy, then head to the carry. Officials will point out the buoys and carry point before the start.

## **SUP'S**

- SUP's will follow the same course as the two person Guideboats, looping around Lake Flower.

## **JUNIOR CLASSES**

- The Junior course(s) will be designated on the day of the event depending on the age and number of the registered entrants.

## **CANOES AND KAYAKS**

- All canoes and kayaks will be grouped together regardless of type of boat. Waves will be assigned based on the number of entrants for each class. We are assuming that having a separate Racing and Recreation grouping is unnecessary and that the recreation participants are entering for the fun of the day. If we have sufficient entries this is subject to change.

## **RUB-A-DUB CLASS**

- Four people in any recreational Canoe generally 16' in length maximum.
- A special award is given for best costumes.

## **AWARDS**

All classes with three or more entrants will be awarded First, Second and Third place, excluding the Guideboat Granddaddy and Craftsmanship awards.

### **PERPETUAL TROPHIES**

The perpetual trophies remain on public display with the names of each winner engraved. They can be seen at the Hotel Saranac annual Guideboat and Art show the week of the Hanmer Memorial Race.

### **SOLO KAYAK**

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### **GRANDDADDY GUIDEBOAT**

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### **GUIDEBOAT CRAFTSMANSHIP AWARD**

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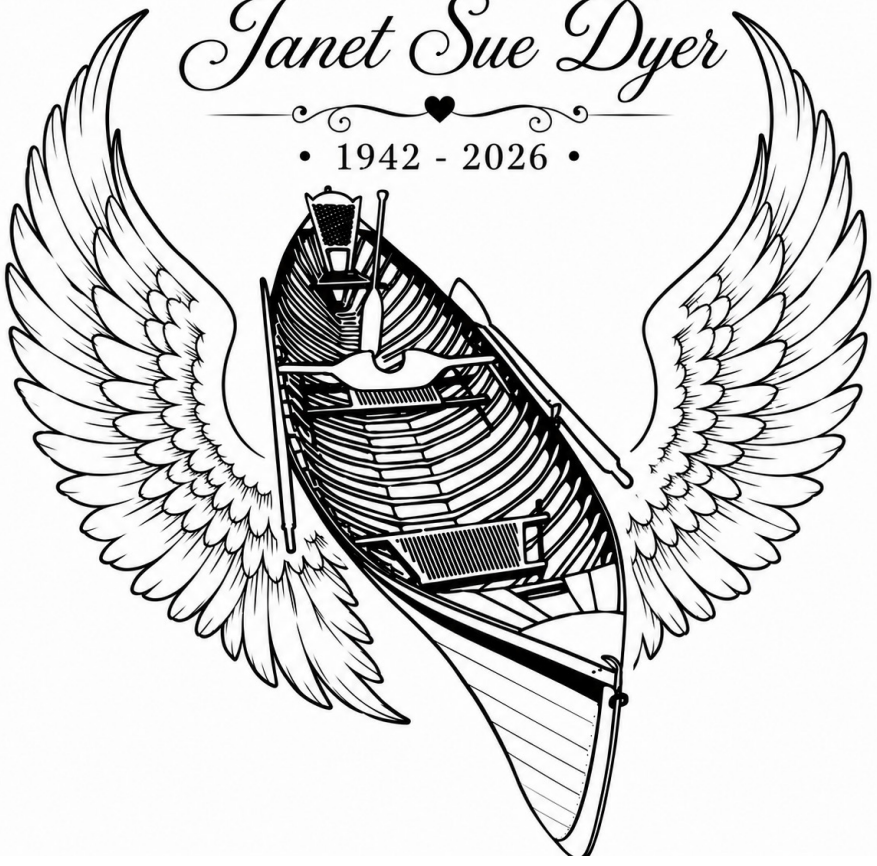
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**For more information and entry forms contact:  
[greensideny@gmail.com](mailto:greensideny@gmail.com)  
or call or text Chris Dyer 440-666-3802  
or Anne Dyer 440-666-3831**

Additional information can be found online



Willard Hanmer Guideboat Races

[www.saranaclake/events/hanmer](http://www.saranaclake/events/hanmer)

[www.greensideofthebigapple.com](http://www.greensideofthebigapple.com)