

FAQ FRIDAY #4



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Can you send a mandatory vaccinations list? It's not clear whether malaria is a concern or not.

A: *Everyone should be up to date with routine vaccinations such as measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, tetanus, chickenpox and polio.*

These are part of the standard childhood vaccination schedule in UK and US but may not be in other countries. In addition, hepatitis A and typhoid are strongly recommended. More info can be found on the [CDC website](#).

There is no malaria in Fiji, so no antimalarial required

Q: Can we send food to the Eco-Challenge warehouse in California and have you forward it to Fiji for us?

A: *NO. Eco-Challenge will NOT ship any food items to Fiji due to the strict Customs requirements of Fiji Biosecurity for shipments containing food items coming from the USA.*

Q: Can you tell us the ETA/estimated cost of shipping if we get our Rubbermaid containers shipped to the EC HQ?

A: *This is something that will change for every team. There isn't a standard cost, there are a lot of variables. Costs will vary so we can't give you a set price.*

Q: As stated in FAQ #2, teams cannot give a "shout out" to companies that support our team. Are we really not able to thank anyone or list our supporters through personal social media outlets?

A: *NO. Unfortunately not. Like FAQ #2 stated, you cannot give any mentions or "shout outs" to companies regardless of the platform.*

Q: Are we still required to carry an additional 10x12' tarp, if we are planning on carrying a [Dutchware 11' Xenon Hex](#) tarp that goes over our hammock?

A: *YES, you would still be required to bring a tarp that meets the requirements. As stated in the Mandatory Gear List, it is required to have a tarp that is at minimum 3m x 4m (10' x 12') in size. A tarp with a maximum dimension of 11' would not comply.*

Q: Is the [Black Diamond Vision](#) harness acceptable for the expedition?

A: *YES, the Vision harness is designed for "technical alpine routes" and is a "fully functional harness". Is is not only designed for ski mountaineering. For these reasons, it is acceptable.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: You are providing our team with 2 Casio altimeter watches – thank you! If we wanted to have a watch for every competitor on our team would we be able to purchase two more altimeter watches (of the exact same model) and use them during the expedition.

A: YES. *This will be allowed. The rule will state that teams are prohibited from using any watch other than the model of Casio altimeter watch provided by Eco-Challenge. We will be providing teams with this model of [Casio](#) altimeter watch.*

Q: Can the TAC rent a van or delivery van? Would they be able to handle the gravel roads?

A: YES, *your team can rent any type of vehicle that best fits your team's needs. 98% of all the roads in Fiji are hard-pack gravel or paved. We have always recommended an SUV-type vehicle due to possible rainy conditions, but vans will suffice. Keep in mind, most parking areas will be grass fields, so getting in and out efficiently is key to a successful TAC!*

Q: So, to be clear, teams cannot bring their own paddles for the stand up paddleboard section but we are required to bring our own paddles for the outrigger canoe sections. Is this correct?

A: As is clearly stated on the Mandatory Gear List, Eco-Challenge is providing one Length Adjustable Stand Up Paddleboard Paddle per competitor for the paddleboarding sections. Each team **MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN CANOE PADDLES for the outrigger canoe sections. To be more specific, it is mandatory for each team to bring one (1) Outrigger Steering Paddle and three (3) Outrigger Canoe Paddles (for those not steering). Teams are allowed to bring up to one (1) spare outrigger canoe paddle however it is not mandatory to bring a spare.**

Q: For ascending could we use 1 Petzl Croll and 1 Jumar? Instead of the two ascenders that you showed in the last newsletter?

A: NO. *The Petzl Croll is designed to be used with a chest harness for long, steep ascents. As is stated in Newsletter #2, the fixed rope ascents in Fiji will consist of a variety of inclines, from slabs to steep walls. Two ascenders with handles are essential to allow competitors the ability to lean back on low angled terrain and to be efficient when passing by the dozens of anchors and knots that be present on the fixed rope sections.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is the size of the map?

A: *We are not disclosing the actual size of the map sheets. As is clearly stated in Newsletter #3, you will receive a series of 1:50 000 scale topographic maps. Points on the course will be described by six-digit grid references. You will also be given nautical charts for some portions of the course. At Competitor Registration your team will have the opportunity to examine maps from the same series as the race maps and practice locating grid references.*

Q: Will our TAC be involved in the assembly of the Camakau?

A: *NO.*

Q: Are we allowed to wear standard branded apparel (arm sleeves, hat, etc) or is it a requirement that no brands appear anywhere on our outerwear?

A: *Additional information will be coming on this very soon. Branded gear should be kept to a minimum. If the gear is purchased, not sponsored then it is allowed. But please note: there is always a chance that we could decide to cover these logos before the race.*

Q: In one of the newsletters it was mentioned that you were testing a product from Life Straw? What were the results and what is recommended?

A: *No Life Straw products were tested. As stated in Newsletter #2, we tested solutions from Pristine, Steripen and Aquatabs. Each had their advantages but all seemed to do the job as claimed. The advantage of the [Steripen Ultra](#) is that it claims to purify one liter of water in only 90 seconds. It is meant to be used with clear water only however and is a bulkier option than tablets or chemical options.*

Q: Is there any wiggle room with the June 24th storage container deadline? Or is that the exact cutoff date?

A: *Unfortunately no wiggle room. That is the exact cut-off dates in order for the container to leave port and arrive in time to Fiji.*

Q: Is the [Petzl Sitta](#) an acceptable harness for the expedition?

A: *YES, the Sitta harness is designed for “climbing and mountaineering” therefore it is acceptable.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Can we send out gear boxes directly to Fiji or is it recommended to send them to your warehouse in the United States?

A: Please send your gear boxes directly to Fiji. Please ensure that you do not send anything that would arrive in Fiji BEFORE July 15 however.

The Fiji warehouse address is:

Thirteen Enterprises LLC

c/o Williams & Gosling Ltd

Bradfield Drive

Nadi Airport

Contact: Mike Terry +679 9999746

