

FAQ FRIDAY #8



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

IMPORTANT UPDATES:

- **Pro Deal Update:** New pro deals have been added. The most recent pro deal document can be found on the competitor login.
- **Uniform Update:** The number patch located on the back of the uniform will no longer be required. An updated uniform guideline has been uploaded to the competitor login page.
- **PR Announcement Update:** The PR announcement of teams will be happening at the end of July. Please do not post until you hear from us. We will be sending out social media guidelines around that time too. If you have any questions about this prior to the announcement, please send all questions to the PR team.

Q: Would the Black Diamond [Vaporlock Magnetron carabiner](#) be considered a double-action or triple-action carabiner?

A: *BD does not label it either way. Users call it both.*

Q: A couple of my teammates bought some climbing lanyards that are too short and long for them. They are going to stick to the longer ones. Since they are too long, can they tie a knot in them to shorten them?

A: *YES.*

Q: Does the instructor that signs our Certificate of Ability need to be certified by a guide's association or is working as a paid rock-climbing instructor sufficient?

A: *A rock climbing instructor without certification must document their experience and qualifications.*

Q: Will the TAC ever have to transport the bike boxes or mountain bikes in their rental vehicle?

A: *NO. TACs will not have to transport bikes or bike boxes. This transportation will be handled by Eco-Challenge.*

Q: Since the uniform deadline was July 19, if we haven't heard from you does that mean it's automatically approved.

A: *NO. The uniforms aren't approved until you hear from me directly.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Can the TAC bring a bike just to have while he/she is at the camp? It wouldn't be a mountain bike...

A: *Yes, a TAC can bring a personal bike for his/her use at the Camps. The transportation of the TAC bike is the sole responsibility of the TAC.*

Q: Is EltaMD Pure and EltaMD Physical (no oxybenzone or octinoxate) on your list of reef safe sunscreen?

A: *EltaMD Pure is safe. Due to EltaMD Physical's high amount of titanium dioxide, we do not recommend Physical as a reef safe sunscreen option.*

Q: Does the [MTI Vibe](#) meet the requirements for the expedition?

A: *YES.*

Q: The [NRS Voss](#) is both a water knife and a folding/locking knife. Does this knife satisfy the gear requirements for both?

A: *NO. Folding knives are not acceptable as river knives.*

Q: Are the tents, light sleeping bags or sheets and sleeping pads mandatory?

A: *YES. They are on the Mandatory Gear List!*

Q: If the team withdraws or finishes the race, how does the team get back to Nadi?

A: *There will be more information on this in the next newsletter.*

Q: Can we bring an extra paddle for the stand up paddle sections? We would still take the race paddles but we would bring an extra paddle for each of us as part of our strategy. Can our extra paddle be a kayak paddle?

A: *Any extra paddles would have to be carried from Camp to Camp by the team. Count on having to carry the paddle for long distances possibly on fixed ropes, mountain bikes and jungle trekking. If we haven't talked you out of it by now, we don't have a rule against carrying a kayak paddle along the course.*

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Q: Can we use our outrigger canoe paddles on the stand up paddle sections?

A: NO. You must drop off your mandatory outrigger paddles at the end of the first ocean paddling section.

Q: Can you confirm that the [Vaikobi Ocean Racing V3 PFD](#) is acceptable for the expedition?

A: NO. From what we can tell from the website, it appears that shoulder straps are very narrow and it is unclear if there is a secondary closure. More importantly, the actual buoyancy of the PFD is not stated.

Q: A PFD with a buoyancy rating of 69N is mandatory for whitewater rafting, could we use a 50N lifejacket for others activities?

A: NO.

Q: Is the [petzl e+LITE](#) acceptable for the expedition?

A: YES.

Q: Does the mandatory survival blanket have to be the SOL version? Or can it be another brand?

A: You can use another brand. The SOL version is an example.

Q: Does the [Montane Allez Micro Hoodie](#) qualify for the mandatory fleece top?

A: NO, 100g/m² weight fleece or wool is required.

Q: We are wanting to get the [Casio Altimeter](#) watch for the entire team. Will you have them on site to purchase? Or do we have to resource these ourselves?

A: We will not have these on site to purchase. You will have to purchase them on your own. Please make sure they match this exact [model](#). As we have stated before, teams are prohibited from using any watch other than the model of Casio altimeter watch provided by Eco-Challenge.

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Q: Are the [Hiko Endurance PFD's](#) suitable for the expedition?

A: Only in some sizes. This PFD meets the requirements in sizes L / XL and XXL. The S/M does not have enough buoyancy and therefore, does not qualify.

Q: We have headlamps with a white blink mode. The last gear update said that we required a red light setting on our headlamps. Can we use the white blink mode instead?

A: NO. Both editions of the Mandatory Gear List have stated that your headlamps must have a red-light setting. This has not changed. As has been stated multiple times, competitors will be required to wear their headlamps on the red-light setting while stand up paddleboarding at night. The red light should be steady. It should not be a strobe (flashing).

Q: If a member of the team gets injured and we are disqualified. Is it possible for the rest of the team to continue on the course?

A: Technically no. If a one team member is out of the race then the rest of the team is disqualified.

Q: Could we find a lightweight machete in Fiji? Do you have an example of a suggested machete?

A: Machetes are available in Fiji however, we don't recommend waiting till you get there to source one. This [model](#) by Gerber meets the standard.