



# WENGER PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACE®

## 2009

The adventure at the end of the world

# RULES AND REGULATIONS

## WENGER PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACE®

### EDITION 2009

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## I - Rules and Regulations

### Article 01 Rights and Obligations

The obligations and rights of the participants and the organizers of the **WENGER PATAGONIA EXPEDITON RACE<sup>®</sup> 2009** will be run according to these rules and regulations and their modifications. The organization reserves the right to modify these regulations at their discretion at any given time and all participants will be informed of such changes before the commencement of the race. The universally valid regulations will be those, signed by the organization and each team member before the race start. Upon registering, competitors accept that any photos taken or filming done during the race may be used for commercial, promotional or advertising purposes in various media outlets.

### Article 02 Race Director

The highest authority of the **WENGER PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACE<sup>®</sup>** is the Race Director. It will be his sole responsibility to make final decisions on any controversial situation or difficulties of any kind which may arise during the race.

### Article 03 Official Language

The official language of **WENGER PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACE<sup>®</sup>** is Spanish, which is the official language in Chile – the host country. However, being an international sporting event, English has been established as the second language, therefore all documents generated for the competitors and press representatives will be available in both languages, Spanish and English. According to this, all ceremonies or official meetings will be realized in both languages. If there are any discrepancies between the Spanish and English translations, Spanish will be the official accepted version.

## II - Teams

### Article 04 Ineligible Participants

Any person related to or working for the race organizers including spouses, partners and such like will not be eligible to enter into this race.

### Article 05 Minimum Age Requirement

Minimum age is 18 years.

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### Article 06 Team Composition Requirements

The teams must be mixed and composed of four members, i.e. at least one male and one female team member. The names of the four team members must be provided to the organization at least 60 days before the official race start, without prejudice to article 09 regarding the replacements of one or more members of the team.

### Article 07 Captains

A captain must be appointed by each team.

### Article 08 Nationality

Teams may include members of one or more nationalities. It is understood that a team represents the country, or group of countries, which correspond to the nationality of its members. In the case of representing a group of countries, the country that corresponds to the team captain will be indicated first. The countries corresponding to the nationalities of other team members will be indicated in alphabetical order, except for in the case of teams with members of three different nationalities, in which case preference will be given to the country that has two members in the team.

### Article 09 Team Name

The official team name must be provided to the organization at least 30 days before the official race start. The team name is subject to approval by the organizers and it and should comply with the following points:

- It may include the name of the sponsors
- It **must not** be longer than four words
- The word "team" **must not** form part of the name

### Article 10 Replacements

One or more members of a team may be replaced up to 48 hours before the start of the race. The substitute(s) must comply with the same requirements as the original member(s) and must have passed all medical and technical tests and all race requirements. The teams must remain mixed according to Article 06. No replacements will be accepted after the start of the race.

### Article 11 Assistance

Third party assistance during the race is forbidden. The organizers will provide the necessary assistance for competing teams throughout the race, particularly the transport of equipment and materials to the Checkpoints (PC) for the next stage of the race or transitional areas. Each team is responsible for the transport of their provisions and mandatory equipment.

## III - Registration Requirements and Equipment

### Article 12 Registration Procedure:

Teams interested in participating in the **WENGER PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACE<sup>®</sup>** must comply fully with the registration procedure below:

- Send the registration form available on the official race web site, following the instructions indicated
- Wait for acceptance
- Comply with the payment terms and entry fees that are indicated in the section costs and prizes on the same site
- Present all required personal certificates and documents, at the appropriate time.





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### Article 13 Requirements, Certificates and Practical Evaluations

All competitors must have the physical and mental health conditions which correspond to the demands of this race. A medical certificate signed by a licensed physician must be submitted before the start of the race.

All competitors must be able to swim. Registration in this race implies that the competitor can do so. All competitors must have knowledge and experience in sea kayaking, and at least one of the team members must present a certificate by a qualified instructor, school or institution.

All competitors must have certified knowledge and experience with handling ropes, including crossing rivers, abseiling and rappel, fixed rope descending and ascending with mechanical ascenders.

At least one members of each team must have knowledge and experience in orienteering, reading maps of any scale, UTM grid system, compass use (including declination) and expertise in triangulation techniques. At least one member of each team must possess first-aid knowledge for which a certificate from a recognized institution must be submitted.

All team members must pass the practical evaluation of techniques during the days before the race starts (example: rescue techniques for sea kayaks and rope work)

### Article 14 Insurance

All competitors must have insurance with full medical and hospital coverage in the event of an accident. Each competitor must provide the organization with a copy of these documents before the race start.

### Article 15 Withdrawals from the Race

Any money paid toward the registration fee will not be reimbursed if a team should decide not to compete or withdraws from the race once the registration procedure has begun. However, there will be no obligation to pay the rest of the outstanding registration fee.

### Article 16 Mandatory Equipment

Teams must have the mandatory equipment which is listed in detail in the corresponding section of the official website of the **WENGER PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACE<sup>®</sup>**. Additions to the list can be made until January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The route book given to each team will contain the list of mandatory equipment that must be carried by the competitors throughout the race and can be checked at any given time. The race jersey and the SPOT satellite tracking system provided by the organization is included in the mandatory equipment.

### Article 17 Forbidden Equipment

Use of the following is prohibited:

- The use of GPS (Global Positioning System)
- The use of any maps other than those provided by the organization
- The possession of any weapon with the exception of the mandatory knife
- The use of night vision devices
- Any means of transportation not authorized by the organization for the corresponding section
- The use of any communication equipment not authorized by the organization
- The use of sails or any other form of propulsion other than paddles is strictly prohibited
- The use of trash bags as equipment or food bags is prohibited

### Article 18 Disqualification Prior to Race

Reasons for disqualification before the start of the race:

- The team does not have all the mandatory equipment listed





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- The team has not provided all the listed certifications demonstrating their technical expertise and the level of health required by the physical demands of this type of race
- That one or more of the team members fails to present the practical evaluation of specific disciplines, such as sea kayaking and ropes
- That one or more members of the team do not present the insurance required in article 14 of present regulations

### IV - In Race Conduct

#### Article 19 Identification of the Competitors

The competitors must have with them at all times the official document bearing photo and name verifying their identity that is provided by race organizers. This can be checked at any time.

#### Article 20 Clothing

Each team must wear a uniform, the official race jersey and the race badges, including their corresponding race number which must be permanently and visibly displayed in the positions as indicated by the organization. If a competitor is seen without his official race jersey during the race, his team will be penalized or disqualified.

#### Article 21 Separation of Team Members

Members of each team must stay together during the race. The first and last member cannot be separated by more than one hundred (100) meters.

#### Article 22 Dragging or Pulling a Team Member

Members of a team are permitted to pull or drag each other.

#### Article 23 Checkpoints (PC)

Throughout the race there will be checkpoints (PC). The teams must go through these checkpoints in the mandatory sequence. If a team misses a checkpoint, they cannot check in at the following and must return to the missed checkpoints following the mandatory sequence. All team members must pass through each PC together. A team's race passport will be officially signed at each PC. The race passport will be given to the team captain before the start of the race and in it will be registered with the corresponding dates and hours of arrival/departure.

#### Article 24 Dark Zones

Dark zones (DZ) are described as the section of the race-course, designated by the organizers, where the teams cannot advance during the night. The teams will keep the same time differences that they had when entering the DZ. The organizers can extend a dark zone to include daylight hours if the climatic conditions are potentially dangerous for the competitors.

#### Article 25 Withdrawal of a Competitor

If, for any reason, a member of a team cannot continue competing the rest of the members must abandon the race.

#### Article 26 Race Time

Organizers will start a chronometer at the start of the race that will stop at the time and date established for the official ending of the race. Time will be recorded in hours, minutes and seconds. The team's final time will be that of the slowest member plus any extra time added for penalties.





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### Article 27 Penalties

In the event that a team receives a time penalty, according to the rules, this time will be added on at the end of the race unless the Race Director decides that the penalty time should be carried out at a PC, which will be specified at the time.

### Article 28 Classification and Ranking

The team which crosses the finish line in the least amount of time will win the race, taking into consideration the additional time for penalties, and as long as they have passed through all the PCs in the mandatory sequence. Teams will be ranked according to the time taken to finish the race. If a team doesn't finish the race before the official ending time, the last PC time will be used instead, taking into consideration any additional time for penalties.

## V - Safety Rules

### Article 29 Communication equipment

Each team must carry at all times the satellite telephone and the SPOT satellite tracking system provided by the organization. In the maritime sections additionally an emergency VHF radio must be carried at all times. The equipment is to be used to contact the organizers if there is any danger to a team member's health or life, or if any team member requires assistance of any kind.

### Article 30 Assisting Other Teams

At any time teams must assist any other team which is in need of help. Time bonuses can be requested by the assisting team according to the delay suffered.

### Article 31 Safety Equipment

The competitors must use the safety elements indicated for each discipline on the official list of mandatory equipment. For example, in mountain biking helmets must be worn and bikes must be equipped with a white light in front and a red light in the back; in kayaking, neoprene wet suits and life jackets must be worn; for ropes, a helmet must be worn. All the safety equipment must comply with the technical specifications stated on the official list of mandatory equipment.

### Article 32 Changes in the Race-course

The organizers have the right to suspend race sections or modify the race course at any given moment for safety reasons.

### Article 33 Competitor's Health

A competitor's participation in the race is related to his/her physical fitness and health. Each competitor is responsible for his/her own safety and health which requires him/her to evaluate whether or not he/she is in good enough physical condition to continue the race. On the other hand, if the Race Director or official race doctor decides that a competitor is unfit to continue, the team will be excluded from the race. This decision cannot be appealed.

## VI - Environmental Rules

### Article 34 Campfires

Campfires are forbidden.





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### Article 35 Refuse (Garbage)

It is forbidden to litter or leave equipment on the race course. All inorganic and, if possible, organic waste must be carried by the teams and left at the PCs.

### Article 36 Flora and Fauna

Any action which causes harm to the flora and fauna is strictly forbidden.

## VII - Penalties and Complaints

### Article 37 Disqualification

Teams may be disqualified if:

- A member of the team abandons the race for any reason whatsoever; there is a separation at any time during the race of more than 100 meters between the first and the last team member;
- The team uses or is in possession of any forbidden element;
- A member of the team is aggressive or verbally abusive towards members of their own team, other teams,
- The organizers or third parties;
- The team makes a fire;
- The team leaves any materials, garbage or inorganic waste along the course;
- The team harms the flora or fauna;
- The team requires assistance from the organizers or any third party for one or more of its members;
- One or more members of the team cannot produce his identification when checked by an organizer;
- The team does not have the mandatory equipment unless the Race Director deems that the missing element is not indispensable for the team's safety, in which case the team will receive a time penalty;
- The team does not assist another team in distress.
- The team uses sails or any other form of propulsion other than paddles for the kayak section
- The team does not follow the instructions indicated with "HAVE TO" in the route book
- The team acts against the spirit of the event

### Article 38 Doping

The organizers can implement a doping control system. If required, all competitors shall submit to doping control by the organizer's medical team. If one or more members of a team refuse to be tested, the team will be disqualified. If drugs or prohibited substances are detected, the team will be disqualified and the competitor will not be able to participate in future **WENGER PATAGONIAN EXPEDITION RACES<sup>®</sup>**.

### Article 39 Penalties

Other violations not contained in the previous articles can be penalized with additional time.

### Article 40 Complaints

Only the team captain can make complaints about any decisions made or procedures followed by organizers and collaborators of the race. Complaints must be written and can be presented up to one hour after the official finish time of the race. They will be resolved by the Race Director.

