

REGATTA DAY FAQ's AT SANDY RUN REGIONAL PARK

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1. Is there a fee to come to the regattas?

There is a \$10 parking fee per vehicle. Please car pool and save money.

2. Can I park anywhere when I come to a regatta?

Please follow the parking crew directions. There is no parking along the road in the neighborhood. PLEASE RESPECT THE NEIGHBOR ALONG VAN THOMPSON ROAD!

3. How much time should I allow to get to the grandstands?

You should give yourself an hour before your rowers race to be safe. You will have to wait for the money collectors and wait to be parked. After you park you will have to find you way to C lot to walk the trail or take the shuttle to the grandstands. Later in the day it may even take longer if you are parked in the outer lots that require you to take a shuttle or walk to the main park.

4. How is the parking money used?

Half of the money goes to the Park Authority that helps cover services and staff throughout the year. The other half goes to the regatta sponsor to cover their expenses.

5. Why should I have to pay if my tax dollars pay for the park?

The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority owns and operates Sandy Run. The Park Authority is made up of six jurisdictions that contribute 18% of tax dollars to our operating cost. The other 82% is generated through user fees throughout our whole system.

6. Do rowers have to pay to park?

Everyone has to pay, unless you are Sandy Run staff, regatta staff, officials or coaches. We encourage car pooling as much as possible.

7. Do I have to pay the fee to drop a rower off?

Inform the money collector that you are dropping a rower off. They will collect the fee from you and give you a drop off ticket. You will have 30 minutes to drop off your rower. Stop at the money collectors on your way out and give them the ticket back to receive your money back.

8. Where do I drop my rower off if I'm not staying?

After the money collectors, you will follow Van Thompson Road into the park. Inform the parking crew that you are dropping off a rower and they will direct you into C lot where you will drop off your rower and then exit the lot. It is too busy below that point with pedestrians, rowers and boats for you to go any further.

9. If I need to leave the regatta and come back, do I have to pay again?

Please let the money collectors know that you are leaving and coming back. They will issue you a ticket to re-enter.

10. Can I get my same parking space if I leave then return?

Once a vehicle leaves a parking space we fill it with another one. You will have to park in another location as directed by the parking crew.

11. Is there a discount for car pooling?

Team buses and team vans with seating for 12 or more do not have to pay the parking fee.

12. Can we bring an RV to the regatta?

There are limited parking spaces at the park and there is no room for RV's.

13. Are there shuttles from the parking lots?

Shuttles are provided by the regatta sponsors. If the regatta is large, we will be parking cars at the Van Thompson lot just past the money collectors. Shuttles are provided from that lot at no cost. On Championship regattas, vehicles will be parked at the satellite parking lot and bused in for a fee, but will not have to pay the \$10 parking fee.

14. Is there a shuttle from the Loisvale lot?

That lot is close to the park and there are trails to get to the main park. Please use the trails and stay off of the roads. Vehicles will be going in and out of that lot and it is not safe to walk the road.

15. How do I get to the grandstands?

There is a trail that can be walked from the C lot. The trail follows the contour of the land and has hills. When you come to a "T" in the path you will go left to the grandstands (about .6 miles) and if you go right that will take you to the lower boathouses (about .4 miles). **DO NOT WALK ON THE ROAD TO THE GRANDSTANDS!**

There is also a shuttle van that runs to the grandstand from C lot, provided by the regatta sponsor. There is a fee each way (usually \$2). The money collected helps off set the rental and gas of the vans.

16. What time will the shuttle to the grandstands start?

The shuttles start running 45 minutes before the start of the first race.

17. Is there a fee for the grandstand shuttle?

There is a fee each way (usually \$2). The money collected helps off set the rental and gas of the vans.

18. How far of a walk is it to the grandstands if I don't take the shuttle?

When you come to a "T" in the path you will go left to the grandstands (about .6 miles) and if you go right that will take you to the lower boathouses (about .4 miles). **DO NOT WALK ON THE ROAD TO THE GRANDSTANDS! THE ROAD IS SOLELY FOR THE SHUTTLE VANS AND IS UNSAFE TO HAVE PEDESTRIANS ON IT AS WELL!**

19. Why can't we drive to the grandstands?

There is no parking there. The one lane road to the grandstands is just for the two vans that go back and forth and is unsafe for any other vehicles to be on. **DO NOT WALK ON THE ROAD TO THE GRANDSTANDS! THE ROAD IS SOLELY FOR THE SHUTTLE VANS AND IS UNSAFE TO HAVE PEDESTRIANS ON IT AS WELL!**

20. Do you have handicap parking accommodations?

We have handicap parking spaces in C lot (closer to the trail and shuttle) and in D lot (across from trailer parking).

21. I'm in a wheelchair, how do I get to the grandstands?

A regatta staff member can drive you over to the grandstands. If you have a special wheelchair vehicle, you will need a "special permit". To get a "special permit", PLEASE CONTACT THE REGATTA SPONSOR TO OBTAIN A **"SPECIAL ACCOMODATION FORM"** PRIOR TO EACH REGATTA. Follow the instructions of the parking staff to follow the shuttle van over to the grandstands.

22. How do I get my elderly parent, who can't walk well, to the grandstand?

A regatta staff member can drive your elderly parent over to the grandstands if they can't walk from the drop-off point to the grandstands. For planning purposes, PLEASE CONTACT THE REGATTA SPONSOR TO OBTAIN A **"SPECIAL ACCOMODATION FORM"** PRIOR TO EACH REGATTA.

23. Why are pets banned from the park on regatta days?

Pets have been banned because of dog fights, bites, dog defecation and tripping rowers as they carry expensive shells.

24. Can I bring a bicycle?

Bicycles are permitted only on the road. **BIKES ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR THE ROAD TO THE GRANDSTAND THAT THE SHUTTLE VANS USE.**

25. Where can we set-up team tents?

Team tents can be set-up in the wooded area behind trailer parking. Tents can also be placed on the two outside grass edges on the hill where teams rig boats. Please ask park staff to direct you if you need help.

26. Can we drive our food supplies to the team tents?

In most cases you will have to carry the items from your vehicle to your team tent. If you have a car load of items (several coolers, cases drinks and supplies) for your team tent, please show the parking director at C & D lot and they will direct you.

27. Can we cook food for the kids?

Any types of open flame (grill, sterno, charcoal....etc.) are not permitted at Sandy Run.

28. Is food sold at regattas?

The regatta sponsors typically provide grilled foods, snacks and drinks as a fundraiser.