



# LYG Kayak Slalom 2026

## Entry Information & Rules

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### Event Overview

**Date:** Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

**Venue:** Fairlop Outdoor Activity Centre, Forest Road, Barkingside IG6 3HN

**Contact:** [sharon@londonyouthgames.org](mailto:sharon@londonyouthgames.org)

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### Entry Information

**Squad Entry Deadline:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

**Squad Size:** Each borough is permitted to have 1 competitor per race, per gender. This provides each borough with a maximum of 4 competitors.

**Competitions:** Senior Male, Senior Female, Junior Male, Junior Female

**Eligibility Criteria:** All competitors must have independent experience on water or equivalent to the '[New Discover Award](#)'.

### Age Categories

Event	Age Category	Oldest DOB*
Senior Male	U17	01/09/2008
Senior Female	U17	01/09/2008
Junior Male	U14	01/09/2011
Junior Female	U14	01/09/2011

*\*Competitors are permitted to race up an age group they wish, so long as they meet the eligibility criteria outlined, and are of the appropriate ability and experience to do so.*

**Replacements:** You are permitted two replacements per team. Replacements are where you can bring an undeclared competitor to replace a registered competitor not attending on the day. All replacement details must be provided at registration on the day. No additions will be allowed even if a borough does not have the maximum squad number. All replacements must be in line with the eligibility criteria].

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### Full Rules & Regulations

**KYK 1** The London Youth Games Kayak Slalom competition will run in according to the rules listed below.



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**KYK 1.1** It will be at the discretion of the event referee and LYG personnel as to the application of these rules, and any subsequent decision made as a result will be final.

**KYK 1.2** The tournament organisers reserve the rights to alter or amend the running schedule if necessary and make decisions on any matters arising during the tournament, including any matters not covered by the tournament regulations.

**KYK 1.3** The London Youth Games Kayak Slalom competition will follow the transgender guidance outlined here: **Current Paddle UK guidance is that “following the recent Supreme Court ruling, Paddle UK has withdrawn and suspended its Transgender Competitions Policy. The Policy will be reviewed and revised in line with the ruling, to ensure that the female category is restricted to individuals whose biological sex is female at birth, where regulatory and statutory interpretation are binding.”**

### KYK 2 Age Category

**KYK 2.1** The following age groups and respective maximum date of births will apply to the London Youth Games Kayak Slalom Competitions:

Event	Age Category	Oldest DOB*
Senior Male	U17	01/09/2008
Senior Female	U17	01/09/2008
Junior Male	U14	01/09/2011
Junior Female	U14	01/09/2011

*\*Competitors are permitted to race up an age group they wish, so long as they meet the eligibility criteria outlined, and are of the appropriate ability and experience to do so.*

**KYK 2.2** Competitors are not permitted to enter this competition if they are ineligible. No exceptions will be made.

**KYK 2.3** It is the responsibility of competitors/parents/team managers/local authority staff to ensure all competitors details are entered correctly at the time of submission, and that they are eligible to compete for their borough under the [London Youth Games Games Rules](#), and in accordance with the age groups outlined for the competition.

**KYK 2.3.1** In the instance a competitor is found to be ineligible, they will be disqualified from the competition entirely, and the borough will receive a points penalty as per the Games Rules.

**KYK 2.3.2** Competitors are only permitted to enter one age category within the Slalom competition e.g. an U14 may enter the U17 category but not both the U14 and U17

**KYK 3 Squad Size** Boroughs are permitted to enter a minimum of 1 competitor and a maximum of 4 competitors.

**KYK 3.1** Boroughs are permitted to bring all 4 competitors on the day of the event.

### KYK 4 Kit & Equipment

**KYK 4.1** The following kayaks will be provided by the competition organisers;



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- For paddlers up to 85kg: Fox Slalom kayaks. Dimensions: 358cm (length) by 61cm (width), 79x43cm (cockpit), 210 litres (volume).
- For paddlers over 85kg: Pyranha Karnali kayaks. Dimensions: 257cm (length), 66.5cm (width), ~90cm (cockpit), 280 litres (volume).

**KYK 4.2** Buoyancy aids and safety helmets must always be worn by all competitors whilst on or adjacent to the water, failure to do so could lead to disqualification.

**KYK 4.2.1** There will be a small selection of buoyancy aids, helmets and paddles available, however, we encourage competitors to bring their own.

**KYK 4.3** Spray decks may be brought by competitors, none will be provided by the competition organisers. It is the Team Managers responsibility to ensure they fit the cockpit and all paddlers are proficient in the case of a capsized.

## KYK 5 Competition Format

**KYK 5.1** There will be two courses laid out, a junior and senior course.

**KYK 5.2** Each competitor will take two runs.

**KYK 5.3** The aim is to navigate the course through the suspended gates in the correct order without touching the gates, in the quickest time possible.

**KYK 5.4** Juniors can race up to the senior event.

**KYK 5.4.1** Boroughs/Team managers should ensure any participant possesses the required skill level to compete in the older age group. LYG will not accept responsibility for any participant of a younger age group being injured if racing up.

**KYK 5.4.2** Competitors will only be eligible for final positions and medals in the event for which they have entered.

## KYK 6 Competition Rules

**KYK 6.1** The course will have 7 suspended gates. A standard slalom course has been designed by Paddle UK – a copy of the slalom course will be published online prior to the event.

**KYK 6.2** Gates are to be completed in the correct order and direction as shown on the course layout.

**KYK 6.3** The time starts when the whole head passes through the start line and stops when it passes through the finish line.

**KYK 6.4** A 50 second penalty will be given for the following;

**KYK 6.4.1** Should a competitor miss a gate (by attempting a future gate), attempt a gate in the wrong direction, or negotiate a gate upside-down a 50 second penalty will be added to the time.

**KYK 6.4.2** A gate is deemed to be missed if the kayaker's whole head and at least a portion of their boat does not pass on the correct side of the gate or if the hanging

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gates are displaced by the kayaker or their equipment to allow them to pass through the gate.

**KYK 6.4.3** Should a competitor attempt a gate out of order, a 50 second penalty will be added per gate missed to the final time.

**KYK 6.4.4** Attempting a gate is: going through a future gate upside-down, crossing through a future gate perimeter in the wrong direction, touching a future gate with any part of the kayaker or their equipment, or at least a portion of the kayaker's head passing through the perimeter of a gate. Successfully negotiating a gate is: the kayaker's whole head and at least a portion of their boat passing through the perimeter of a gate in the correct direction.

**KYK 6.5** A 2 second penalty will be given for the following;

**KYK 6.5.1** Should a competitor touch either or both poles of the active gate, a 2 second penalty will be added to the run time.

**KYK 6.5.2** Once gate has been successfully completed or touched, the gate is no longer eligible for a further 2 second penalty.

**KYK 6.5.3** Each gate can be completed with no penalty, a 2 second penalty or a 50 second penalty.

**KYK 6.6** Each Team Manager is responsible for getting competitors ready at the designated muster area, so that competitors can be shown to the next available boat after each run.

**KYK 6.7** In the event of a dispute it will be referred to the Competition Jury, made up of three neutral officials.

**KYK 6.8** Once released by the finisher, the competitor must return promptly to the boat marshalling area. Please be aware other events finish in the same areas.

**KYK 6.9** Practice runs will not be available, however there will be a demonstration of the course before the competition starts.

**KYK 6.10** In the event of insufficient time available for all competitors to have a second run, only the fastest 50% of canoeists will perform a second run.

**KYK 7 Scoring** Run times will be recorded to two decimal places (e.g. 61.34 seconds). The best time (including penalties) will determine the competitor's position.

**KYK 7.1** In the event of a tie in individual results, the fastest 2<sup>nd</sup> run will determine the placing.

**KYK 7.2** Team results are calculated from the combined times of the fastest 3 competitors.

**KYK 7.3 Incomplete competition:** if the competition is cancelled or suspended, the following steps will be used to calculate a final result.

- Results from all completed events are combined and used to identify the overall winner.



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- Event types: male junior, female junior, male senior and female senior.
- Minimum requirements: to determine a completed event, 1 run is required. To determine a result for the competition, 1 event must be completed.
- Tied teams will not be separated once scores from events are combined, except if the top 3 teams have the same number of points, then the highest number of 1<sup>st</sup> place finishers will be the deciding factor, then 2<sup>nd</sup> place event finishers and so on.

**KYK 8 Medals & Trophies** Medals and trophies will be awarded as follows:

**KYK 8.1** Overall Borough medals will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placed teams.

**KYK 8.2** Medals awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placed competitor in each event.

**KYK 8.3** Borough trophy awarded to the overall winner.