

Kairacross Karjala 2025

Savonlinna/Kitee/Parikkala

Bulletin III (20.6.2025)

Date	1.-2.7.2025
Organizers	Kairacross ja Rastipisto www.kairacross.fi, rastipisto.com
Some	Facebook, Instagram #rastipisto #karjalacross #karjalacross2025 #kairacross

Rules

The control points must be visited in numerical order. The correct sequence is verified using GPS tracking. GPS must be carried at all times. The team must stay together throughout the event. At the control points, all team members must be within a maximum distance of 5 meters from each other. Equipment does not need to be brought to the control points. The winning team is the one that completes all control points in the shortest time.

If none of the teams visits all the control points, the winner is the one that got the furthest in numerical order. And then, they will receive a bonus from each collected remaining control point in any order, while reaching the finish line first under their own power within 36 hours.

However, the primary ranking factor is always how far a team advanced in numerical order.

Other placements follow the same principle.

If a team exceeds the 36-hour or 8-hour limit by less than 15 minutes, one control point is deducted from their result, which can also be a bonus control point. If the team exceeds the time limit by more than 15 minutes, their result will not be accepted.

The event organizer is not responsible for any damages. Participants take part at their own risk and must handle their own sports and accident insurance. Any damages to water rights holders, landowners, or traffic are the responsibility of each participant. A team's performance can be disqualified if they commit acts of vandalism or travel through prohibited areas, such as private yards or alongside railway tracks or highways.

Uninhabited shores may be used for landing and launching. Yard areas cannot be used, even if they are not marked as prohibited zones on the map.

Approved yard areas for landing and launching are marked on the map with the crossing/underpass symbol)(. In some locations, this)(symbol also indicates good landing or launching spots on uninhabited shores. However, these are not mandatory landing or launching areas, meaning other possible shores can also be used. These marks do not indicate the optimal route.

In some locations, the symbol indicates that the landowner has given permission to pass through their yard. If a control point is near a yard's shoreline, access to the shore is allowed, even if it is not separately marked.

The Karjala railway and highway 6 must always be passed under at designated locations—not crossed over. When passing under highway 6, caution is advised to avoid damaging packraft.

Competition Area

The race takes place in the Puruvesi and Pyhäjärvi lakes and the surrounding land areas in Savonlinna, Kitee, and Parikkala.

Competition Center

Tourism Farm Naaranlahti
Kesälahdentie 1614, 58520 Hiukkajoki

Distance from Savonlinna: 51 km
Distance from Helsinki 362 km
Distance from Kesälahti railway station 17 km
Distance from Parikkala railway station 38 km
Distance from Savonlinna airport 55 km



On Tuesday morning, there may be a small kiosk run by children, selling coffee and pastries. Cash and Mobilepay.

Competition Categories

Women's 36-hour race – 4 teams

Men's 36-hour race– 19 teams

Mixed teams 36-hour race – 10 teams

Open 36-hour race (allows digital tools such as phones)– 6 teams

Open 8-hour race (allows digital tools such as phones)– 8 teams

Total Participants:

Registered teams 47

Total competitors 96

Minimum age 14 years. Participants under 18 years old who are competing without a guardian must present a guardian's written permission at registration. All competitors must be prepared to present identification.

Schedule

Monday, June 30

- 18:00–21:00: Registration open at the competition center

Tuesday, July 1

- 07:00–08:00: Registration open at the competition center

- 07:00–09:00: GPS device distribution

- 08:00: Map distribution

- 09:00: Opening ceremony

- 09:15–09:45: Team photography

- 09:45: Gathering at the starting area

- 10:00: Mass start for all categories

- 12:00: Finish line opens

- 17:00–20:00: Meals served at the competition center

- 18:00: 8-hour race completion deadline

- 19:00: 8-hour category awards ceremony (latest possible time)

Wednesday, July 2

- 13:00–23:00: Meals served at the competition center

- 22:00: 36-hour race completion deadline

- 22:15: Finish line closes

- 22:30: Awards ceremony (latest possible time)

Registration

Registration closed on May 31, 2025. Team members can be changed until the competition starts. Changes must be reported via email to karjalacross@gmail.com. Teams can switch categories after registration, but If switching to a shorter category, the participation fee

will not be refunded. If switching to a longer category, an additional fee (€80 per person, from €99 to €179) is required.

A team may transfer its participation rights to another team until the start of the event. The transfer must be reported via email with all team details to karjalacross@gmail.com.

Registration at the Competition Center

Teams must register at the competition center on

- Monday, June 30: 18:00–21:00

- Tuesday, July 1: 07:00–08:00

During registration, each team member will receive: a race number, safety pins, and a sticker. A GPS device, which buttons must not be touched. Teams registering on Monday must collect their GPS device on Tuesday morning. Competitive category teams will also receive bags to seal their phones.

Post-Race Services

The participation fee includes a soup meal after the race. Sauna, where competitors may moderately consume their own drinks. The sauna uses lake water and operates as a mixed sauna. A few separate showers are available at the competition center.

Accommodation

Tourism Farm Naaranlahti offers accommodation and meal services before and after the competition.

Contact:

naaranlahti.com

info@naaranlahti.com

+358 50 5440103

Terrain

The competition area consists of traditional, scenic Eastern Finnish lake regions. The terrain allows for various route choices, but teams must be prepared for long paddling sections. Forest roads provide routes for foot travel. Navigation skills can be used to take shortcuts through unmarked wilderness areas.

Every participant must follow everyone's rights and responsibilities! Landing and launching require extra care. Prohibited areas include private yards, gardens, and cultivated lands. Bird nesting season must be respected. Open fires are strictly forbidden.

Maps

Each team will receive two sets of maps:

36-hour category:

Five A3-sized maps, partially double-sided, printed on three waterproof papers. Scale: 1:40,000. Additionally, a full-route map (1:100,000) and control points details printed on a single waterproof A3 paper.

8-hour category:

One waterproof map, including control points enlargements and related questions on the back. Scale: 1:40,000.

Maps are based on open-source data from the Finnish National Land Survey. Contour interval: 5 meters.

Maps are distributed to teams on Tuesday at 08:00.

Control points

Total control points 33. 8-hour category control points 11. Control points may not always have physical markers (such as flags). Each control point includes a question that teams must find and answer. Some control points are also marked with an orienteering flag.

Example questions: "Distance to Enonkoski as shown on the intersection sign (in kilometers)?" or "Which animal appears on the information board? A) Bear B) Mammoth C) Deer"

The questions are clear and straightforward, without any trick elements. Control points descriptions provide additional details on where to find the correct answer. Example control points are available at the competition center.

A model event

	Question	Answer
1	What wooden animal is found at the end of a building?	
2	The tallest tree in the southwest corner of the building is: A) birch, B) spruce, or C) pine?	
3	In the yard, there is: A) a sandbox, B) a swing, or C) a trampoline?	



Equipment

Each team needs a paddling or rowing vessel capable of carrying all team members simultaneously, such as packrafts, along with repair kits. Life jackets must be worn during paddling or rowing. The terrain is dense, so teams in the 36-hour category should prepare for inflating and deflating their vessels as needed.

Provided by the Organizer

- Weatherproof maps and answer sheets.
- Even the maps are printed on waterproof paper, waterproof map case is highly recommended.
- Control points descriptions, including enlarged images of control points locations.
- Safety pins for attaching race numbers.
- All competitors must wear their race number visibly throughout the event.

Mandatory Team Equipment

First-aid supplies (bandages and sports tape for wounds and blisters). Emergency blanket (one per person), compass, whistle, headlamps (with at least six hours of battery life), waterproof fine-tip markers for writing down control points answers, knife, waterproof-packed mobile phone (see Emergency Situations section), windproof clothing.

Teams must carry enough food and water for the race. In the 36-hour category, there are four water stations, which include either a hose with a tap or water containers. Teams may visit nearby grocery stores or restaurants along their route, provided they are open during their passage. Cash or a bank card may be useful. The 8-hour category has one water station.

Teams may bring sleeping gear at their own discretion.

All gear is recommended to be packed waterproof. Participants should take care of their feet and hands to avoid injuries.

Prohibited Equipment

Motor-assisted vehicles are strictly prohibited. Floating devices such as air mattresses cannot replace a proper watercraft. Navigation and location devices (personal GPS units, smartphones, and smartwatches) are forbidden in competitive categories (except open series). Garmin devices may be used only in Adventure Racing mode and must be presented to officials at the start and finish.

Emergency Situations

Each team must carry a waterproof-packed mobile phone, which can be used to call the emergency number (112) or the event center (+358 50 5232248). Competitive teams must seal their mobile phone in a

pouch provided at registration and show the sealed phone at the starting area. The seal will be checked again at the finish line. It is recommended to add an extra waterproof layer around the phone.

All teams are required to assist competitors in emergency situations. If a team withdraws or cannot reach the finish line in time, they may request transport to the finish via the event center. However, transport is only guaranteed in emergencies.

Start Procedure

Teams must gather at the assigned starting area at 09:45. In the 36-hour category, all required equipment must be carried. In the 8-hour category, watercraft may be pre-positioned at the shore.

Upon reaching the starting area, teams must present their sealed phones to organizers. Officials will conduct random equipment checks throughout the morning.

A countdown will be given before the start, and competitors will be informed of the official race time. The starting signal is given by ringing bells. False starts may lead to disqualification. The start is video recorded.

Finish Procedure

A team has officially finished once all members have landed on dry ground near the finish banner. In a close finish, the finish-line judge determines the order.

Upon arrival the team submits their answer sheet, which officials will check. If answers are clear, the team may keep the sheet. Competitive teams must present their sealed phone pouch. Teams must return their GPS device and any rented packrafts with all accessories. Rental packrafts may be left at the finish area.

GPS Tracking

Each team is given a GPS tracking device for the duration of the race. The device must be carried at all times. Spectators can follow the race online via the event website. A GPS device should not be kept close to a compass, as it can interfere with the compass's function.

Weather Conditions

Finnish summers have little snow, but can be cold or warm. Special caution is required on lakes during thunderstorms. During the competition, the sun sets at 22:52 and rises at 03:25.

Photography

Each team is photographed before and after the competition. Start-time photos are scheduled between the opening ceremony and

the gathering at the starting area. Teams are responsible for ensuring they are photographed if they wish.

Photos taken during the competition can be downloaded for personal, non-commercial use (CC BY-NC) after the event. By registering, participants give consent to be photographed. Images may also be used for marketing and communication in future events organized by the same organizers.

Packraft Rental

Two-person packrafts, paddles, and accessories have been rented by the organizer. All renters have gotten a separate email about the packrafts. Packrafts and accessories must be returned at the finish line.

After the competition, packrafts and equipments will be available for sale.

For inquiries, contact karjalacross@gmail.com.

Race Shirts



Ordered race shirts can be collected from the information desk.

Results and Awards

Award ceremonies take place as soon as all teams in each category have finished. Results are announced at the awards ceremony. Final results are published on the competition website within the event week.

Protests and Appeals

Competitors may verbally request result reviews at the competition center from the race director. Formal appeals regarding the route, control points, results, etc., must be submitted in writing to the race director. Appeals are reviewed with a competitor representative chosen before the competition. Appeals must be filed within 30

minutes of finishing. Result-related protests must be submitted within 24 hours of publication.

Organization

Race Director Lauri Vainio
Course Setter Kari Vainio
Terrain Monitoring Kari Lehto
Water Area Monitoring Kimmo Kaario
Competition Center Raija Säteri
Interviews Jouni Junkkaala

Contact Information

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Websites:
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Inquiries

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WELCOME!