



# 2022 ICF CANOE FREESTYLE WORLD CUP

COLUMBUS, GA | PHENIX CITY, AL

October 3 – 9, 2022



## Bulletin #1b

Updated July 20, 2022





## Welcome!

On behalf of the Host Organizing Committee, it is my distinct pleasure to welcome athletes, competitors, supporters, and friends old and new alike to RushSouth Whitewater Park for the International Canoe Federation 2022 Freestyle World Cups. Columbus, Georgia, and Phenix City, Alabama, have an amazing story to tell about our venue and communities. The 325,000+ residents of the metro area are especially eager to show-off our famous southern charm and hospitality.

The mighty Chattahoochee River will be the site for the competition. In 2023, our world-class venue will be celebrating its ten-year anniversary since the removal of two industrial dams and the opening of the whitewater course.

This audacious effort has transformed Uptown Columbus into an outdoor recreation center with ziplining, biking, rafting, disc golf, along with a Riverwalk, splash pad and playground for all to enjoy. These combined attractions form the heart of RushSouth Whitewater Park.

Best yet, these facilities are literally steps away from a thriving, 24-hour center city district hotels, pubs, restaurants, shops, homes, and family entertainment. This mash-up of urban and whitewater is unlike any venue on the planet!

We look forward to welcoming the world's best paddlers to the Chattahoochee Valley. Please come and enjoy!

Sincerely,

*Edwin J. Wolverton*

Edwin J. Wolverton  
Uptown Columbus Inc.

## GENERAL INFORMATION: 2022 IFC Canoe Freestyle World Cup

### Organizers

International Canoe Federation  
American Canoe Association  
Uptown Columbus, Inc.  
RushSouth Whitewater Park

### Key Contacts

Uptown Columbus Inc. (Host Organization)  
Ed Wolverton, President  
25 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 4  
Columbus, GA 31901 United States  
706.596.0111

Whitewater Express  
Dan Gilbert  
1000 Bay Avenue  
Columbus, GA 31901 United States

### **ON-LINE FOOTPRINT:**

#### Event Website:

<https://rushsouth.com/icf-main>

#### Competition Facebook Page:

Search: ICF World Cup Columbus GA

### **SCHEDULE OUTLINE:**

Please note the schedule is provisional and subject to change.

Saturday, October 1, 2022	Official Training – Ambush Rapids
Sunday, October 2, 2022	Official Training; Athlete Dinner and Social
Monday, October 3, 2022	Competition Day 1
Tuesday, October 4, 2022	Competition Day 2
Wednesday, October 5, 2022	Competition Day 3 – Finals; Athlete Dinner and Social
Thursday, October 6, 2022	Official Training Day – Good Wave Rapids Squirt Competition – Love Triangle Rapids
Friday, October 7, 2022	Competition Day 1
Saturday, October 8, 2022	Competition Day 2
Sunday, October 9, 2022	Competition Day 3 – Finals; Athlete Dinner and Social





## The Chattahoochee Valley

The famous Chattahoochee River is a magnificent waterway with headwaters located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. The river flows 430 miles (690 km), eventually emptying into the Gulf of Mexico. While many communities about the tributary, two cities with a unique bond forge a dynamic setting with rich histories.

## Columbus, Georgia

As the second largest city in the State of Georgia, the community boasts a fantastic quality of life along with a rich history of leadership and innovation. Columbus was founded in 1828 and the soft drink Coca Cola was first mixed here. Credit card processing was pioneered in Columbus in the 1950's and AFLAC insurance company started and is headquartered here. The city is home to Fort Benning, an army base with more than 120,000 active-duty military, family members, retirees, and civilian employees. Columbus hosted the 1996 Olympic Softball tournament and is located 75 miles south of Atlanta, Georgia.

## Phenix City, Alabama

Located near the easternmost point of Alabama, Phenix City is a blossoming community with a shoreline along the Chattahoochee River. Phenix City has a Riverwalk, a unique amphitheater nestled along the riverbank and an emerging Downtown. The population of Phenix City is around 38,000 and the community has been one of the fastest growing counties in Alabama over the last 10 years.



## RushSouth Whitewater Park

Set within a 2.5 mile stretch of the Chattahoochee River, RushSouth Whitewater Park in Columbus, Georgia, offers a host of water sports along with a wide range of outdoor activities. From the Riverwalk, people can see whitewater rafters enjoying the big waves, kayakers playing in the many holes and ledges, and others enjoying SUP's. Downstream of the rapids, many enjoy a leisurely paddle in recreational kayaks on flat water.



Directly adjacent to and above the competition venue, people can take multi-state ziplines across the river and through the treetop canopy tour. While some enjoy the challenge of our riverside disc golf course, others ride, walk, and jog the 26-mile (42km) trail network along the Riverwalk and the Dragon Fly trail that flows inland.

RushSouth Whitewater Park is an attraction for Columbus residents and draws thousands regionally each year as their preferred destination for outdoor recreation. The venue is also family-friendly and includes a playground and splash pad for children of all ages along with lawn space for community festivals and events.

RushSouth Whitewater Park is managed by Uptown Columbus LLC. The outfitter for this venue is Whitewater Express who provides options for kayaking, rafting, stand-up paddle, disc golf, zipline recreation, and fly fishing.



Area Population	240,000
Avg High Temp Range for October	75-78 F (23.8 C to 25.5 C)
Record High for October	92 F (33.3 C)
Chance of rain in October	+22%

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Columbus has a regional airport that currently offers three Delta flights each day to Atlanta. American Airlines also flies into Columbus with connections to both Charlotte and Dallas. Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport is in Atlanta, 75 miles north of Columbus. Highway access is from Interstate 85 and then via I-185.

If you are bringing a kayak on a flight, note that each airline may categorize them differently. You may want to call the kayak a “surfboard” as that is a similar size, and more airlines are familiar with the term.

### **Airport**

Columbus, Georgia airport code: CSG

Hartsfield International airport code: ATL

### **Airport to Hotel Transportation**

Many local hotels offer shuttle service to the Columbus airport. Please check with your hotel directly for details.

Groome Transportation offers a direct commute from ATL to Columbus. As Groome serves other cities, be sure to confirm Columbus GA as the destination. The Local Host Committee strongly advises you to book the ride in advance to ensure availability.

The company also connects the Columbus/Phenix City metro area to the Columbus Airport. Again, if you are travelling with a canoe/kayak, be sure to notify the service provider so they have enough space to store the watercraft. Also, book the ride a day or two in advance.

Whitewater Express can also provide transportation for competitors using the Columbus airport. Please call them in advance to make sure they are lined up. 706.321.4720.

### **Taxi Service**

Taxi services are always available at the east end of the terminal past baggage claim. Average fare to Uptown Columbus from CSG airport is \$15.

### **Shuttle Service**

Groome Transportation offers a direct commute from ATL to Columbus. Fares range from \$40-\$80 per person and offers hourly trips for pickup and drop-off for both Domestic and International flights through Atlanta, GA.

<https://groometransportation.com/columbus>

### **Rental Car**

Columbus Airport on-site rental car companies offer convenient services at the terminal. Rental car counters are located on the ground level at the end of the West terminal due to construction. Rental car return is located outside of the terminal on the west side. For a complete list of rental services through the Columbus, GA airport, visit <https://www.flycolumbusga.com/ground-transportation/>

For a complete list of rental services through Hartfield-Jackson International Atlanta, GA airport, visit <https://www.atl.com/ground-transportation>

### **Ride Share**

Columbus and Phenix City have ridesharing options via Uber and Lyft. Apps for both services can be downloaded.

### **Public Buses**

The city operates a bus system that is very affordable but only 1 route comes into the Uptown core district.

### **Public Parking**

The city offers free public parking in its three decks. See the attached map.

## **LODGING AND ACCOMMODATIONS**

### **Hotels**

The river venue is walkable to over 800 hotel rooms. Other hotels are available outside of the center city and will require personal transportation to reach the river venue.

Uptown Columbus and Downtown Phenix City are served by various hotel brands. Options range from upscale accommodations to budget-friendly properties. Use these links for options:

<https://www.alwaysuptown.com/stay>

<https://rushsouth.com/find-a-hotel-in-alabama>

### **Short-term Rentals**

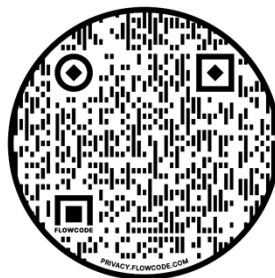
A few properties in Uptown are available for short term rental through websites such as VRBO and Air BnB. Consult their websites for additional information. Any property within the map footprint is walkable to the main venues. A property outside of the map area will require a vehicle to reach the venues.

### **Camping**

Whitewater Express manages a small and limited camping area adjacent to the river. The site is best suited for people using campers, RV's, buses, or sleeping trailers. Contact Whitewater Express at 706.321.4720. The City of Phenix City is currently studying the feasibility of constructing primitive camping sites along the river. The Host Committee will provide periodic updates on the Facebook page at: ICF World Cup Columbus GA

## **NEARBY SHOPPING, FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT OPTIONS**

As a vibrant, mixed-use urban district, dozens of shops, restaurants, hotels, and attractions are within an easy walk for Uptown visitors. For an overview of nearby shopping, dining, entertainment, or lodging options, use the QR code below or follow this link: <https://www.alwaysuptown.com/explore>

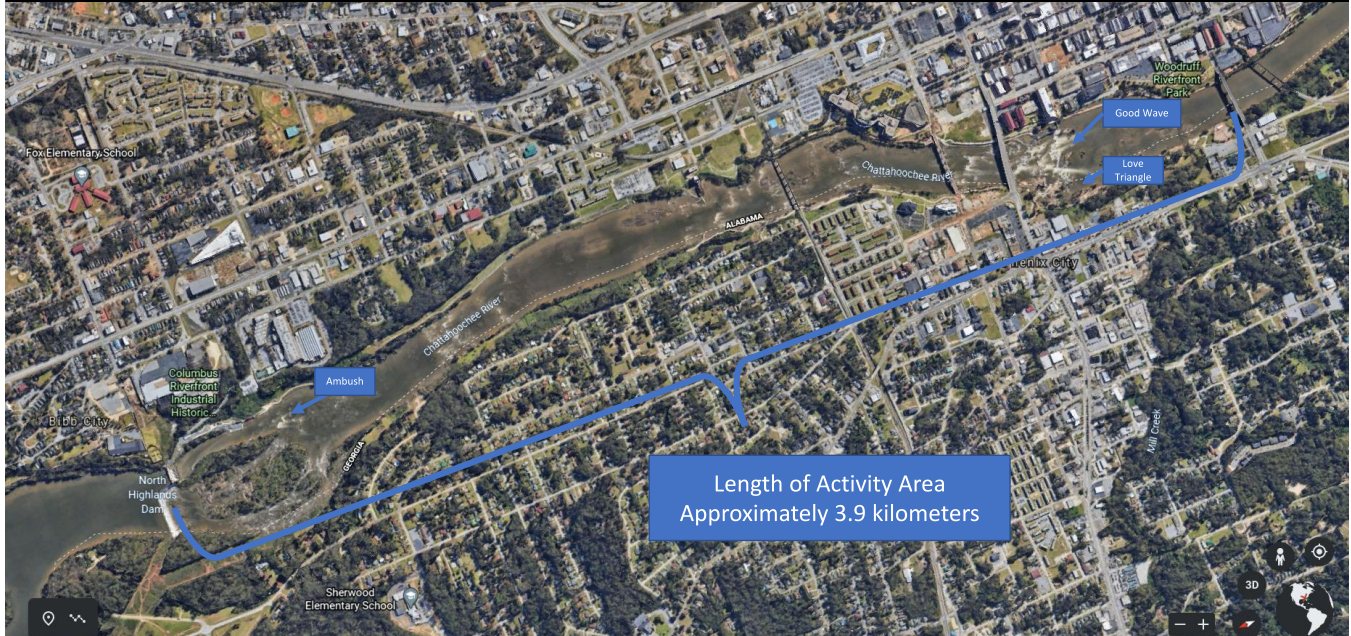


Downtown Phenix City also offers a variety of delicious restaurants that are convenient to your stay. <https://business.ealcc.com/list/category/restaurant-5005168>



## COMPETITION VENUE

# ICF Bid: Columbus, GA & Phenix City, AL USA



### **COMPETITION #1 VENUE – Ambush Rapids (GPS coordinates 32.495215, -84.994688)**

Minimum river release of 800 cfs from North Highlands Dam. Typically, water releases are between 800cfs and 13,000cfs. Rapids range between Class II to Class V on the river. Gradient drop from put-in to take-out is 33 feet (10m) with a 10-foot (3m) gradient drop at WaveShaper Island. A vehicle is needed to reach the put-in for this rapid from a sloped, concrete ramp. The rapid is on the other (west) side of the water from the Riverwalk.

There is a public access road/driveway that connects to the river launch ramp at Ambush. The road address is 3331 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Columbus, GA 31904. The area has a limited amount of public parking.





**COMPETITION #2 VENUE – Good Wave (GPS coordinates 32.468947, -84.996550)**

Minimum river release of 800 cfs from North Highlands Dam. Typically, water releases are between 800cfs and 13,000cfs. Rapids range between Class II to Class V on the river. Gradient drop from put-in to take-out is 33 feet (10m) with a 10-foot (3m) gradient drop across the main featured wave, *Good Wave*.

Kayakers can launch from WaveShaper Island, but it is not accessible by car. The island is along the riverwalk but about 25 feet lower than the closest road (Bay Avenue). The nearest free public parking garage is located at 4 12<sup>th</sup> W. Street. GPS with Apple and Google both pull up an address near Broadway that is incorrect.



**Competition #3 Squirt Boat -**

The Squirt Competition will take place at our world-class seam, The Love Triangle! This high-powered seam will provide competitors the opportunity for long mysteries as well as ample time for surface moves. The large, deep recirculating eddy feeds back into the seam and allows for easy re-entry on 2nd and 3rd mystery moves!

**TRAINING**

The official training period is October 1 – October 2, 2022, for the ICF Canoe Freestyle World Cups. However, athletes will be welcome to visit and train at any time prior to the event.

Training will be organized in groups according to schedule. The official training schedule will be published under: <https://rushsouth.com/athlete-information>

**COMPETITION RULES**

2022 ICF Canoe Freestyle will be run in accordance with ICF Canoe Freestyle competition rules. <https://www.canoeicf.com/rules#freestyle>

## **ACCREDITATION & PARTICIPATION FEE**

Accreditation passes (credentials) will be required to access the venue and will be available at the sign-in for registered athletes and coaches. Registration and competition information will be headquartered in the Powerhouse building at RushSouth Whitewater Park.

### **Participation fee**

The participation fee is \$100 USD per Athlete (Aa), Team Leader (AC), Technical Staff (Ao), Medical Staff (Am) and includes a commemorative T-shirt and dinners and social events when competition days are completed.

### **Payment**

Invoices will be emailed to the Federations at the close of nominal entries. Payment must be received to obtain accreditations.

### **NIE Waivers for Foreign Athletes and Staff**

The previous US waiver process ended on November 8, 2021, when a requirement of full vaccination against COVID-19 came into effect for all foreign nationals entering the US. COVID-19 restrictions will come out in a later publication if needed.

At this time all foreign nationals entering the US are required to present the following:

- Passport.
- Visa or ESTA.
- If you have any questions regarding entry into the U.S., please reach out as soon as possible to [tadelberg@americancanoe.org](mailto:tadelberg@americancanoe.org)
- Negative COVID test taken within 1 day of travel (as of January 27, 2022).
- Proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 – Or proof of exception from the requirement.
- Acceptable vaccinations can be found on the U.S. CED website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/proof-of-vaccination.html#covid-vaccines>

## **ICF ONLINE ENTRIES & ACCREDITATION SYSTEM – SDP**

### **Principles**

Entries and accreditation requests must be made by the National Federation using the ICF's online entries system (SDP): <https://icf.msl.es/icf/icf.jsp>

For detailed instructions on how to submit entries, please read the SDP user guide. Any questions or issues relating to entries or accreditation should be sent to [sdp@canoeicf.com](mailto:sdp@canoeicf.com) prior to the respective deadline.

SDP user guide [https://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/nf\\_userguide\\_v2.2.pdf](https://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/nf_userguide_v2.2.pdf)

### **Nominal entries**

Nominal entries close: September 23, 2022

Each athlete competing must be entered by name.

Team personnel must also be submitted for accreditation at this time. These entries will be used to produce the accreditation cards for all teams.

### **Reminder**

Entries or accreditation requests sent directly to the committee, or the competition organizer will NOT be accepted.



## **MINORS, JUNIORS, AND NON-ADULTS**

Almost all ICF events feature competitions for juniors or minors. The Host Committee will welcome one chaperon to accompany a minor competing in the events for all competitions and social activities. If a minor is unaccompanied, please notify to Local Organizing Committee to make accommodations.

## **HEALTH AND SANITARY MEASURES**

RushSouth and the ACA will be following local health and sanitary measures designed to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19. This will include hand sanitizer stations, voluntary masks, and social distancing.

## **MEDICAL SERVICES**

During the event period (10/3/2022-10/9/2022) we will provide a first aid service. Please note that this medical service will cover only emergency cases and that all participants are responsible to arrange, at their cost, their own medical insurance policy.

## **SPECTATORS**

Admission to the competitions will be free. Parking in City-owned decks will be free.

## **PRESS AND MEDIA INFORMATION**

To apply for a media accreditation, please contact Tracey Green, [tracey@uptowncolumbusga.com](mailto:tracey@uptowncolumbusga.com) and include your full name, telephone number, the name of your media outlet, and your arrival and departure dates. You will receive a confirmation email once your information has been received.

All media will be required to follow Covid-19 requirements as published here. The event hosts and the ICF have the right to remove the accreditation of any media refusing to follow these guidelines.

All applicants requesting accreditation will be added to the ICF's media mailing list to receive ICF media releases. The Media Area on-site is situated near to the finish line and island.

### **ICF Media and Communication Manager**

Ross Solly  
email: [ross.solly@canoeicf.com](mailto:ross.solly@canoeicf.com)

### **ICF Digital Media Manager**

Adam Collins  
email: [adam.collins@canoeicf.com](mailto:adam.collins@canoeicf.com)

### **Local Media Officer**

Tracey Green  
email: [tracey@uptowncolumbusga.com](mailto:tracey@uptowncolumbusga.com)

### **ACA Media Officer**

Tamara Adelberg  
email: [tadelberg@americancanoe.org](mailto:tadelberg@americancanoe.org)

## FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Throughout the training and competition schedule, the Local Organizing Committee will be staging community-oriented festivals and special events. Many of these activities will be free to the public but some may have a nominal charge for entry. All events will be free for credentialed competitors. The festival and event schedule are being finalized and organizers will be announcing more details soon.



### Preliminary Festival and Entertainment Dates to Note:

October 1, 2022	Free Concert, Community Events during the day
October 2, 2022	Welcoming Event and Social for Athletes, Coaches and VIP's at Powerhouse
October 5, 2022	Award Ceremony and Social for Athletes, Coaches and VIP's
October 7, 2022	Free Concert
October 8, 2022	Music, Food, and Children's activities in the afternoon and early evening
October 9, 2022	Award Ceremony and Social for Athletes, Coaches and VIP's





# RushSouth Whitewater Park Core Area – Columbus GA and Phenix City AL

