

## **CKS PADDLEFEST 2021 - Press Release**

**WE ARE STILL PADDLING!!**

We are stoked to announce a fun and scaled back version of our annual kick off to summer celebration!

CKS Paddlefest 2021 is happening this Memorial Day weekend May 28th - 31st.

It's time to celebrate another fantastic season of paddling, wave smashing, rock boppin', and soul surfing on the Arkansas River.

CKS Paddlefest promotes getting together as friends and family to salute the return of a season chock full of outdoor recreation and adventuring in the gorgeous Arkansas River Valley.

Whether you paddle and surf the Arkansas River, fish it, or simply enjoy sitting and strolling alongside its moving waters, this fiesta is an opportunity for folks of all ages to honor the shift of season towards another fun filled summer of waves, as well as commemorate all the paddling seasons of the past here on the Arkansas River in sunny Buena Vista, CO.

This year's festival will feature a few classic on-water competitions including a Kayak Race down the famed Number's stretch of the Arkansas River, a River Surf SUP Comp at the BV River Park waves, as well as the giggle-fueled Race to the River Runners Grill.

Live music will be performed by the quick witted local band RapidGrass at the BV Town Party on Friday evening in South Main to shake things loose and get your spirits ready for a weekend of activity.

CKS Main Street will also be hosting a Store Wide Sale and Gear Swap throughout the weekend! If you're looking to buy or sell new and used river gear, this is a great opportunity to update your quiver or swap sports entirely.

The Annual Disc Golf Tournament and the Spirit Trail Run 5K, Half, and Full Marathon, as well as other separately organized events, will be taking place this weekend in Buena Vista in addition to CKS Paddlefest. You can find additional information about these events @ [www.ckspaddlefest.com](http://www.ckspaddlefest.com)

This will be a little yet mighty, fun packed weekend on the Arkansas River.

Come celebrate, participate, or just hang around smiling with some of the coolest river enthusiasts this side of the Mississippi as we kick off yet another sensational summer of whitewater!

*"This scaled back version of Paddlefest is an awesome opportunity for us to enjoy a simpler weekend of whitewater celebration, focused more on the people we are with rather than how many things we are doing. Looking forward to seeing smiling faces and making it go downstream!"*

-Cat Tobin, Event Organizer

*"After a year off we are very excited to be able to put on the Fourth Annual Numbers Race. It's a great event that both locals and pros participate in and allows for everyone to have an awesome time."*

-Fred Morrison, Event Organizer

*"We are so thankful to all of our event participants, volunteers, and sponsors who have supported CKS Main Street in organizing this event throughout the years. It'll be fun to be back on the scene with a new version of our traditional kickoff to summer event. This year it really feels like the kickoff to group celebrations and community that we've been longing for over the past year."*

-Megan Kingman, Owner CKS Main Street

*"Come join your friends and surf mates at the Buena Vista River Park on Saturday, May 29th for a fun surf competition and to see who will be crowned the King and Queen of the Wave in 2021. Contestants will be split up by age and gender and given an opportunity to show the crowd their surf skills in a fun and friendly environment. Competitors will be judged on style, technical ability, and flow. Hope to see you all there for this most popular event that kicks off the new season each year."*

-Earl Richmond, Town of Buena Vista Recreation Coordinator and Event Organizer

## Event Schedule:

### FRIDAY

May 28th

**Gear Drop off and Storewide Sale @ CKS Main Street**

\*\*Gear drop off will begin @ 10a

### SATURDAY

May 29th

**Storewide Sale and Gear Swap @ CKS Main Street**

\*\*Sale and Swap begin @ 9am

**Annual Disc Golf Tournament**

\*\*Details and registration for this

event: [https://www.discgolfscene.com/tournaments/SoCo\\_Championship\\_Series\\_Qualifier\\_11th\\_Annual\\_Yucca\\_Classic\\_2021](https://www.discgolfscene.com/tournaments/SoCo_Championship_Series_Qualifier_11th_Annual_Yucca_Classic_2021)

**River Surf Competition @ The Staircase Wave**

### SUNDAY

May 30th

**Spirit Trail Run: 8K, Half and Full Marathon**

Event Details and Registration Information: [www.spirittrailrace.com](http://www.spirittrailrace.com)

**Storewide Sale and Gear Swap @ CKS Main Street**

\*\*Store hours 9a-7p

**Numbers Kayak Race on the Arkansas River**

### MONDAY

May 31st

**Storewide Sale and Gear Swap @ CKS Main Street**

\*\*Store hours 9a-7p

**Race to the Grill @ River Runners**

Registration is live and more event details can be found  
@ [www.ckspaddlefest.com](http://www.ckspaddlefest.com)