



2009 MORAINE FOR LIFE ADVENTURE RELAY WRAP UP

The 2009 Moraine for Life Adventure Relay lived up to its name as the weather once again played its part to create the excitement and challenge for which the event is becoming known.

The mass-canoe start on Rice Lake, from the MacDonald family's private launch at Gore's Landing, was all the wetter for the rain that started as soon as Relay organizers and racers arrived to kick the day off. But not to be deterred by Mother Nature's first pitch at the racers, the lead canoes made great advances over last year's times arriving at Bewdley in under an hour.

Mud slinging was also major part of the day, but not how you'd expect. Frequent downpours and heavy showers throughout the rest of race day created a slick course just about the entire length of the 160km route. This provided many moments for strong trail techniques as racers on foot and bike made their way from the canoe to bike handoff all the way to the ORTA Gate House's finish line. Many racers showed the 'scar' of the mud-fest, sporting blobs and streaks of Moraine Mud to prove they met the challenge and did their best.

ORTA's volunteer-staffed checkpoints provided welcome rays of sunshine for the racers, a cheery point of arrival and departure at set locations on the course. Checkpoint hospitality was not unnoticed by the racers either.

'I would like to thank all the volunteers for all the effort that went into this event. Although the rain dampened the day it did not affect the spirits of the competitors,' noted the captain of the Trail Blazers from the Durham Mountain Biking Association.

'Thanks to the amazing volunteers who once again put in an Ironman-worthy effort to help the athletes through the day, they were all smiles and happy positive faces despite the muck, rain and overcast skies,' was the report from My Next Race.com's captain.

ORTA was once again well represented with The Ridge Racers and The Sand Spinners in the fray, while other ORTA members organized their own family and friends to show we're more than just hikers! Other notable Friends of ORTA sent teams from TRCA, Central Lake Ontario Conservation, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation, the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation, York Region Natural History and Forestry Services and Seneca College.

Thanks from the 2009 Moraine for Life Adventure Relay Steering Committee to all the volunteers for your commitment and spirit, and to the racers for your unwavering strength in the face of not only the Moraine's natural challenges but those the day brought to test you further!

See you in 2010, mark your calendar for June 19/20!

And so, who came out on top when the mud dried, and the skies cleared? Check out the final results below! Look for more details and links to online photo albums at www.moraineadventure.com.

Placement	Team	Course Time
1	#21 DMBA Trail Blazers	10 hrs. 2 min.
2	#26 mynexttrace.com	11 hrs. 0 min.
3	#5Team King	11 hrs. 58 min.
4	#23 Team Cadbury	12 hrs. 10 min.
5	#16 My Name's Not Sweetheart	12 hrs. 22 min.
6	#10 CLOCA'Nuts	12 hrs. 50 min.
7	#2 Ridge Racers	13 hrs. 19 min.
8	#11 Moraine Adventurers	13 hrs. 35 min.
9	#1 Only 1 Mike	13 hrs. 42 min.
10	#22 ORMF The Erratic Flashes	13 hrs. 49 min.
11	#13 ORM'd & Dangerous	13 hrs. 50 min.
12	#8 The Morainiacs	14 hrs. 0 min.
13	#17 We Think We Can!	14 hrs. 1 min.
14	#15 We Do It Outdoors - RED	14 hrs. 5 min.
15	#14 We Do It Outdoors - BLUE	14 hrs. 10 min.
16	#25 Breathe Magazine	14 hrs. 16 min.
17	#4 The Fab 5	14 hrs. 21 min.
18	#12 Moraine Marauders	14 hrs. 28 min.
19	#9 York Region Green Team	14 hrs. 50 min.
20	#20 The Vultures	15 hrs. 45 min.
21	#3 Sand Spinners	15 hrs. 48 min.
22	#7 Team TOFU	16 hrs. 3 min.
23	#18 Awesome Squad	16 hrs. 16 min.
DNF	#19Team EVLC	14 hrs. 33 min.
DNF	#24 Ontario Heritage Trust	14 hrs. 42 min.

[DNF = Did Not Finish. Stage(s) not attempted or racer dis-qualified]