



# Open Class Construction Race Rules and Information

\*\*\*All crew members MUST sign a Participant Waiver/Hold Harmless Agreement.\*\*\*

## **BOAT CONSTRUCTION**

The ENTIRE boat must be built of cardboard, duct tape, and one-part polyurethane. Any part of your boat that touches the water must be cardboard. This includes the hull, decking, keel, cowling, superstructure, oar locks, seating, and rudder. Nuts, bolts, washers, and staples are NOT allowed in the hull construction. The cardboard may be as thick as you want, but may NOT be glued or attached to wood, plastic, fiberglass, etc.

There are no modifications allowed after judging and pre-race inspection occurs. The only exception is in between heats to allow for safety issues. Judges must be present for any modifications.

Only exception are the paddles & decorations. You may use manufactured paddles. Use cardboard boxes, "blocks", carpet tubes.

NO pre-treated cardboard allowed.

NO Sona-Tubes, waxed or treated cardboard.

NO wood, plastic, Styrofoam, or fiberglass.

NO caulking compounds or two-part/mixed adhesives.

NO wrapping in duct tape, plastic or fiberglass or similar product.

Duct tape may be used to reinforce seams.

Duct tape, masking tape, or adhesives such as 'liquid nails' CAN be used to connect cardboard and CAN be used to reinforce all seams and stress points. It CANNOT be used to waterproof boats.

Waterproof the boat with varnish, paint, or polyurethane (one-part, paint-like substance). If you don't want your boat to sink, waterproof the entire boat with any paint-able, one-part substance like varnish or polyurethane inside and out.

Decorations are encouraged if they don't affect structural strength or buoyancy.

The crew compartment CANNOT be enclosed to not interfere with escape.

## **BOAT SIZE AND STYLE**

Boats should weigh less than 200 lbs.

Boats should be less than 5 feet wide and less than 18 feet long.

Surfboard-style designs are not allowed.

Raft-style designs ARE allowed. The distinguishing feature of a raft design, as opposed to a surfboard style, is the use of cardboard "logs" and other such as one would expect to find in/on a raft. Think "Huck Finn".



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## **CREW REQUIREMENTS**

Every crewmember must wear a Personal Floatation Device (PFD) & proper footwear. Please bring your own PFD's. Inflatable PFD's are permitted but must be self-deploying and go over the head while wearing. No waistband inflatables are allowed.

Minimum of TWO crewmembers and a maximum of six. Must be 12 years of age to participate.

All boats are human powered (oars and paddles you provide are acceptable as propulsion tools).

## **SAFETY**

Boats CANNOT tow anything behind them for the safety of the other boats.

Care should be taken that construction does not include pointed or sharp objects or sharp edges that could injure anyone.

If you are told to return to shore by the lake official, you MUST immediately comply.

If your boat sinks, do not climb into the safety boat unless told to do so. There will be a tow line that you will hold onto. Stay well clear of the motor in the back of the safety boat.

## **RACE DAY**

The entire crew must check in at the registration table at the Maclay Gardens State Park boat ramp no later than 9 am.

Upon check-in, unload your boat in the display area. After unloading, please move your vehicle to the parking lot. Set up your boat display. After the safety inspection is complete, boats will race other boats around the course buoy. After the race, the boat crew must remove all cardboard, decorations, and other materials from the water and the grounds. Volunteers will be on hand to help.

YOU must put your boat in the authorized dumpster or take the boat out of the park.

## **JUDGING**

If there is any doubt about the materials used, the judges reserve the right to use a probe, such as an awl or ice pick, to test and verify that only cardboard has been used. Failure to abide by any design, race rule, or the direction of a race official shall be cause for disqualification.

There is no splashing water into another racer's boat except for incidental splashes from normal paddling. If the judges determine there was an attempt to sink another boat, your team will be disqualified.

The Judges' decision shall be final in all cases.

Winners will be announced 10 minutes after the last race but no later than 4:30 pm.