

RIVERBOAT JAMBOREE ON THE THAMES OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

Race Dates and Locations:

Community Division.....Saturday, June 21, 2008 at Mill Pond, Mitchell

Race Format:

A one-day recreational Hong Kong-style dragon boat race for gold, silver and bronze prizes.

Each team will qualify for seeding in the respective division based on your first race time. All community teams are guaranteed two races.

Race Courses:

Length – 300 metres.

Number of lanes – 2

Number of boats – 2

Race Categories:

All boats will have a minimum of 2-18 year olds or older

All teams must have a minimum of 8 female paddlers per race.

Minimum age for paddlers is 14 years old by December 31, 2007 unless paddlers are members of an experienced competitive team. . Must have parental consent.

All community teams must have a minimum of 16 paddlers.

Safety:

Each crew member should be able to swim 100 metres while wearing light clothing.

Each crew member is solely responsible for his/her own safety at all times while engaging in activities relating to practicing and racing in the Dragon Boats.

Life jackets must be worn for all practices and on race day.

Absolutely no pets will be allowed in the boats or on river flats at any time.

Waivers:

All team members must sign and accept a waiver stating that they have read the conditions of the waiver and are aware of the risks associated with the event, and thus waive any right that they may

have to any course of action against any or all of the sponsors and organizers for injury to the person(s) or loss/damage to personal property.

All team members must sign and return the waiver prior to participating in any practice sessions or by Monday, June 16, 2008.

Team managers are responsible for submitting signed waivers from all members of his/her team to the Clerk's Office, 169 St. David St., Mitchell, ON.

Dragon Boat Races and Equipment:

All boats, paddles and drums will be provided.

All equipment used during the practice sessions and races will be returned intact. The replacement cost or repair of such equipment will be charged to the team should negligence be determined.

Teams:

A registered team member is any person who is at least fourteen (14) years of age or will be fourteen (14) in the year of competition. Two team members must be 18 years of age or older. No team member under the age of eighteen (18) will be allowed to practice or race without written consent and waiver signed by a parent or guardian.

Team roster for practice and races will be composed of a crew of twenty-seven (27) crew members: one (1) team manager; twenty (20) crew members; one (1) steersperson; one (1) drummer/caller, and; four (4) spares. All members are eligible to be part of the paddling crew. (A steersperson will be supplied, if required.)

A Registered Team member is any person who is listed on the practice or team roster that has completed a waiver.

The Race/Boat Coordinator reserves the right to check the crew members in the boat and the names recorded on the team roster prior to all races.

Team lists do not have to be declared until race day when you register. (Recommend 27 on list.)

The Team Manager will be responsible for:

- Team conduct
- Communicating and distributing information to the team
- Gathering and submitting all necessary forms and waivers for the team by June 16, 2007
- Being the liaison with the Race/Boat Co-ordinator.

Team Sponsorship:

The /Riverboat Jamboree on the Thames Committee retails all rights to advertising, sponsorship and commercial representation for the event. The Event Organizer is under no obligation to individual Team sponsors, and may refuse any commercial representation on the Riverboat Jamboree on the

Thames site and on the water venue. Representation of the organization responsible for the Team and its Sponsor(s) shall be limited to:

- a) Clothing, such as team uniforms (T-shirts, sweat suits, hats, head bands, athletic bags).
- b) One team flag not exceeding six feet in any direction.
- c) Other items deemed appropriate by the Riverboat Jamboree on the Thames Committee.

Practices:

Practices will be provided on Mill Pond in Mitchell on Sunday, June 15 and Friday evening June 20.

Practice time will be scheduled for participating teams on a fair basis as determined by the Riverboat Jamboree Committee at the Team Managers' Meeting on May 26, 2008.

Arrangements may be made with Bert Clifford of the Stratford Rotary Club for practices in Stratford (271-3499 or www.rotarystratford.com). Waiver forms for Stratford must be completed and submitted prior to practice.

All local team managers or their representative must attend a manager's meeting on Monday, May 26, 2008. All practices will be limited to 60 minutes. Practices can be confirmed at 348-8429 ext 227 or 228.

Steering will be supplied, if required. Teams are welcome to steer their own boats but the Riverboat Jamboree on the Thames Committee reserves the right to substitute an experienced steersperson on race day if a proficient level of control is not demonstrated.

It is recommended that teams participate in practices with no less than ten (10) paddlers.

Starting Procedures:

Rules regarding starting and racing conduct will be announced to Team Captains or Managers on the morning of the event.

Loading:

Races will run every 12-15 minutes and it is important that your team reports to the docking area 30 minutes before your race or face disqualification. Be prepared if we get a little behind or ahead of schedule. You should have someone responsible to keep on top of this.

Judging/Disqualifications:

Judging and disqualifications shall be the sole discretion of the Referees and Race Officials. Prizes (to be announced).

Protests:

Must be made to the boat master at the dock on or before race or before teams are off boats. Teams using ineligible paddlers (not on their team lists) will be disqualified.

Teams using less than required number of women will be disqualified.

Teams may paddle with as few as 16 but at least 8 must be women.