

2016 Los Angeles Dragonboat Festival
Dragon Boat Racing Rules & Instructions
International Culture Exchange Association

I. Captains' Meeting

1. Captains' meeting is on **Saturday at 8:30am** at the registration tent. Be on time, as **race loading starts at 8:50am**.
2. Be sure to turn in all waivers ahead of time. No waivers, no racing!

II. General Notes

1. You can set up tents for your team on team tent area on Friday after 5pm until dark or on Saturday after 7am. Please refer to site map on where the team tent area is.
2. **DO NOT play Frisbee, football or volleyball on the walkways.**
3. Trash bags (black) and recycle bags (blue) can be picked up from the Registration Tent. Please keep the tent and grass area clean. The ground crew will have additional trash bags and toilet paper available. Please take your full trash bags and place them next to the park trashcans.
4. Please separate trash and recyclables.
5. No sales of food or team products allowed in the tent area without City permits and the race committee.
6. There will be no food vendors available at this event. Teams are responsible for pre-arranging their lunch. Please refer to Food Map at <http://www.ladragonboat.com> for nearby fast food restaurants. Teams can also barbeque at the race site.
7. Each team will be given 3 VIP parking passes. All other cars can be parked in parking lots around the race area. Please refer to parking map posted in the website.
8. Dogs are not allowed.
9. Drones are not allowed.
10. Swimming is prohibited in the lake and the loading area.
11. Wearing water shoes or sandals is highly recommended to protect from rocks and other hard/sharp objects. Sandals/shoes may get wet during loading.
12. Please keep the loading area clean by **leaving bottles**, equipment, or other personal belongings by the exit.
13. Open fire grill/cook tops are allowed. Alcohol is strictly prohibited.
14. Those who are parking at VIP parking lot with VIP passes, please drive south bound on Santa Anita Blvd then turn right on Durfee to avoid the traffic. **Making a left turn from Durfee into the parking lot is prohibited.**

III. Racing Rules

1. If any of your team members have any special medical condition, they must carry their medication with them at all times.
2. Lane assignments for the first race of each division are drawn by lottery by officials. Lane 4 is the lane closest to the spectators.
3. Minimum of 8 paddlers and maximum of 10 are allowed per boat.
4. All divisions needs to have a minimum of 4 female paddlers
5. Team Captains and Coaches must read and follow the race grid in order to be on time for races. Your scheduled heat time is the actual race time at the starting dock.
6. In order to keep the races on schedule, the dock crew will not wait for any teams upon launching for a race. Make sure your entire crew is ready to marshal and checks in at the loading **area 30 minutes before your scheduled race to allow for counting, lining up and equipment check**. It is your responsibility to check the posted schedule. Remember that your crew will likely be loaded 30 minutes before your scheduled race.
7. Teams will be disqualified if they are not prepared to marshal as a full team from back to front **on time**.
8. During the marshaling process, teams line up in two straight lines from back to front on the boat facing the launching are with the steersperson in front reporting to judges and the caller behind the paddlers. All persons on the boat must wear an approved PFD buckled at all times. Inflatables are not allowed.
9. Teams at the loading area **MUST** follow the officials' directions. Teams that do not load properly (e.g., no show until 20 mins before race, waiting for missing paddlers, full team is not read to load or preparing line-up) will be disqualified immediately. **This rule will be strictly enforced.**

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10. After the boat leaves the dock, it cannot stop for any personnel changes. All launched boats are required to head to the starting dock immediately. Stops and detours are not permitted. Boats that delay the starting of a race will be penalized or disqualified.
11. When heading to the starting area, stay close to the shore as other teams may be racing. Your team **must stop paddling 50 Meters before being approached** by a racing boat. Teams ignoring official's call will be penalized by 6 seconds or will be disqualified.
12. Upon finishing a race, each team must return promptly back to the launching dock without causing delay for the next heat. A penalty of 6 seconds may be imposed to the boat causing the delay. Follow loading official's commands to return the boat to a specific location. **When returning, WAIT for boats leaving the loading area** as they have the right of way. Not following the official's commands will also result in penalties.
13. All ICEA life jackets and paddles must be returned and must not leave the marshaling area after each race (penalty: 6 seconds).
14. Penalty for ICEA equipment damages (e.g., paddles, life jackets, drums, steering oars, and boats) will be applied to offending parties in the form of added seconds to their race time.
15. Additional racing details are available online at: www.ladragonboat.com under Race Rules regulations.
16. Disregard of start's or umpires' instructions may result in disqualification.
17. All other penalties are decided by the race jury. Teams ignoring official's call will be penalized by 6 seconds or will be disqualified.
18. There will be no changing of drummers, steerspersons or paddlers between continuing heats (back to back races). We will not wait. Please prepare and coordinate for sufficient drummers and steerspersons for all your heats.
19. Local steers must be certified. They must wear their number on the back of their PFD in visible sight.