

2009 Long Beach Dragon Boat Festival

Dragon Boat Racing Rules & Instructions

International Cultural Exchange Association

I – Captains’ Meeting

1. Captains’ Meeting is Saturday at 8:15 AM at the registration tent.
2. Be sure to turn in all waivers. No waivers, no racing!

II - General Notes

1. **DO NOT use Paoli Way for vehicle or pedestrian entrance. Do not use Paoli Way to drop off. Paoli Way is not a through-traffic street.**
2. **DO NOT sit on the low wall along Paoli Way. The wall is located closer to the residents and is along the west side of the beach walkway.**
3. **DO NOT step on or touch plants on/near Paoli Way.**
4. **DO NOT play football or volleyball on the roadway adjacent to the tent areas.**
5. Each team will be given 3 trash bags (black) and 1 recycle bag (blue). Please keep your tent and beach area clean. Additional trash bags and toilet paper will be available at the registration tent. Please take your full trash bags to the dumpsters. Please take your full recycle bags and place next to the dumpsters. Dumpsters are located at the north and south parking lots of Marine Stadium.
6. Recycle bins will be set up near the trash dumpster. Please separate trash and recyclables.
7. No sales of food or team products allowed in the tent area without permits from the City of Long Beach and the race committee.
8. Each team will be assigned parking in specific parking lots. Please comply with the parking plan as posted and emailed to each team.
9. Please keep the noise level down at all times, especially when setting up early in the morning.
10. Swimming is prohibited in the Long Beach Marine Stadium 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 not leaving bottles, equipment, or other personal belongings.

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13. Open fire grill/cook tops and alcohol are strictly prohibited.
14. Teams that have caterers delivering food, please have your food caterers enter Marine Stadium from the North Entrance around noon.

III - Racing Rules

1. If any of your team members have special medical conditions, 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.
3. Paddlers can only paddle in the Mixed Divisions for one team only. No crossing with any other mixed team during division heats. Penalty in the form of Team Disqualification (Team DQ) upon protest with valid proof will be applied.
4. Minimum of 14 paddlers and maximum of 18 are allowed per boat.
5. All divisions except for Open, Women, and Breast Cancer Survivors are mixed divisions, that need to have a minimum of 6 female paddlers.
6. Team Captains and Coaches must read and follow the race grid in order to be on time for races.
7. 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 **40 minutes before your scheduled race**. It is your responsibility to check the posted schedule.
8. In case of time conflicts for your races (e.g., back to back races, concurrent races), please notify the officials at the marshalling area. Teams may be disqualified if they are not at marshalling on time.
9. A minimum of 2 team members from each boat need to help push their boat from the dock for their race.
10. During the marshalling process, teams should line up in two straight lines from back to front on the boat facing the launching area with the steersperson in front reporting to judges and the caller behind the paddlers. All persons on the boat must wear a PFD buckled at all times.
11. Teams at the loading area **MUST** follow the officials' directions. Teams that do not load properly (e.g., waiting for missing paddlers, full team is not ready to load) will be disqualified immediately.

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12. After the boat leaves the dock, it cannot stop for any personnel changes unless approved by the racing committee. 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.
13. When heading to the starting dock, stay close to the shore as other teams may be racing. Boats in lanes 0-3 will turn around behind dock while lanes 4-7 in front of dock. Please pay attention to officials for instructions. Going far behind the dock or ignoring official's call will be penalized by 6 seconds or will be disqualified.
14. To minimize noise, drumming is prohibited from the loading area to the starting dock.
15. 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.
16. All ICEA life jackets and paddles must be returned and must not leave the marshalling area after each race (penalty: 6 seconds).
17. 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.
18. Additional racing details are available online at: www.lbdragonboat.com under Race Rules
19. Disregarding starter's or umpires' instructions may result in disqualification.
20. All other penalties are decided by the race jury.