

## **Des Plaines Park District Cardboard Boat Regatta**

### **General Rules**

1. Only corrugated cardboard may be used. It can be of any thickness but must not be bonded to any other material such as vinyl. Non-corrugated material may not be used, especially the kind of resin or wax-type coating found in packing cases. No solid cardboard and no carpet roll tubes may be used.
2. Wood, metal, Styrofoam, or other materials that would aid in flotation or make the hull rigid are prohibited. This restriction applies to the keel, transom, ribs, hull, etc.
3. No material such as Styrofoam or rubber inflation devices may be used to provide “buoyancy” or maintain flotation. No sandbags or similar materials may be used for ballast.
4. Hulls may be painted with any “one-part” paint. No epoxy glues, fiberglass resins or “multi-part” varnishes or paints may be used. Hulls may not be “wrapped” in plastic, duct tape or anything else. Tar based substances like roof coatings are not permitted.
5. Joints and seams may be glued and/or taped. Duct tape, contact cement, rubber cement, or construction adhesive may be used. No nails or metal or wood fasteners or staples may be used in the construction of the boat (small amounts may be used for removable decoration only).
6. Design is builder’s choice. A minimum of 50% of the boat’s volume must remain as part of the boat when raced. Failure to meet this rule will result in a 20 second penalty in each race entered.
7. Decorations can be made from any material but may not be used to reinforce the actual structure of the boat.
8. Boats from previous years are welcome back, with the following stipulations:
  - A. If the boat won prizes in any judged category in prior years, they are not eligible to be judged again. This does not apply to the races, which are timed events.
  - B. If you change the paint scheme and theme of the boat, it is judged as a new boat.
9. No boat will be allowed to leave the starting gate unless all persons on board are wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) and shoes. (Participants will provide their own PFDs and paddles.)
10. Boats are subject to inspection and disqualification for each violation of the above General Rules, (with the exception of rule # 6 which results in a 20 second time penalty).
11. All entrants must ensure that their portion of the pit area has been cleaned prior to departure on Regatta day. All boats must be removed from the park or cut apart and placed in trash containers.
12. Prior to the races, boats will be judged in the following categories: Best Original Design, Best Construction or Construction Technique, Best Decorated, Best Team Effort.
13. During the races, each event will be timed with the fastest time moving on.
14. Note: Rules are subject to change. All participants and sponsors will be notified in writing if changes are made.