

City of Bellaire

PARKS, RECREATION AND FACILITIES

2023 Rules & Event Guidelines

Competitor Rules:

1. **HAVING FUN IS MANDATORY!**
 - a. Crew costumes are highly encouraged.
2. **Safety** – The safety of the participants, spectators, staff, and competitions is the number one priority and should be treated as such for all races. **It is mandatory for all competitors wear a PFD (personal flotation device) while racing.** The City of Bellaire will provide PFD's for the participants.
3. **Competition** - Competitors must be seated while paddling once a race has started until crossing over the finish line.
4. **Boat Design** –
 - a. Boats and paddles must be made **PRIOR TO THE RACE.**
 - b. The boat's hull must be made **ONLY** of cardboard and sealed with duct tape, caulk, glue, latex paint, or varnish. **NO** reinforced cardboard tubes, only broken-down cardboard boxes.
 - c. If any illegal items used in construction are discovered during the pre- or post- race inspection, the boat will be disqualified.
 - d. Boats must be propelled by the use of cardboard paddles.
 - i. Paddles must meet the same construction requirements as the boats.
 - e. Boats must have completely enclosed side walls so that no part of the lower body is outside the boat.
 - f. The boat's passenger area must not be enclosed above the occupant's shoulders so as to interfere with escape should the vessel begin to sink.
 - g. Boat design is left to the builders. Let your imagination take over; make your boat look like a race car, flying saucer, dragon, etc. as long as the decoration does not aid in the floatation.
5. **Conduct** - It is the competitor's responsibility to act in a sportsman like fashion, avoid collisions at all times and obey the rules and safety guidelines.
 - a. Overly aggressive contact and/or un-sportsmen like conduct will not be tolerated and will result in disqualification as the sole discretion of event organizers. Examples include but are not limited to:
 - i. Purposely obstructing or interfering with another competitor
 - ii. Causing damage or bodily harm to another competitor
 - iii. Use of profane language toward any persons or competitor

Event Guidelines:

1. Race Begins at approximately 6:00 p.m.
2. Teams:
 - a. Teams must be a minimum of one person in the boat; and
 - b. Up to two (2) additional people are allowed at the start line to assist with boat launch.
3. Age Requirements:
 - a. No age requirements

4. Race organizers will determine the winners of the following categories:
 - a. Fastest Boats (**must finish race**)
 - b. Most Dramatic Sinking
 - c. Most Creative Design
 - d. Best Costume

5. Entry Fees & Prizes:
 - a. **FREE** - Advance registration is preferred
 - b. Prizes
 - i. First Place- Table rental at BTSFAC with 10 tickets
 - ii. Second Place- 6 Pool Passes
 - iii. Third Place- 4 pool Passes

6. Race Type
 - a. The race will be one length of the pool.