



4th Annual Dragons Abreast Festival 2011

Rules and Regulations

1. RACE REGISTRATION

1.1 REGISTERING YOUR TEAM FOR THE FESTIVAL

As this festival is a charity fundraiser the first step is to pre-register your team online at the Dragons Abreast Festival (the Festival) website. To register, each team must submit a completed pre-registration form and set up a team fundraising page.

1.2 YOUR TEAM'S REGISTRATION DONATION TALLY

Following pre-registration, a team donation tally account will be set up on the website to tally the donation total for your team. This account will be updated as donations are received.

1.3 TAX DEDUCTIBILITY

Dragons Abreast Australia is a registered charity so all donations \$2 and over are tax deductible and tax deductible receipts will be issued.

1.4 CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION

Entry of a team can only be confirmed once the team's full registration donation has been received by Dragons Abreast Australia.

1.5 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

All participants must agree to abide by the regulations stipulated by the Festival and Dragon Boats New South Wales (DBNSW) as a condition of their participation in the Festival. Individuals and teams must conform to all criteria and be able to satisfy and comply with all requirements, as set forth in the Official Regulations. The Festival, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to accept or refuse entry of a team or any registration of an individual to the Festival.

- 1.5.1 Waivers:** All team members must sign a waiver release stating that they have read the conditions of the waiver and are aware of the risks associated with the races, and accept the risk and thus waive any right they may have to any course of action against any or all of the sponsors, organisers, officials, DBNSW and the Dragons Abreast Festival for injury to person(s) and loss/damage to personal property.
- All team members must return a duly signed waiver to their team manager, who is responsible for submitting them from all members of their team to the race registrar at the team managers' meeting on race day.
- 1.5.2 Mandatory Coordination and Safety Meetings:** Every team manager or their alternate must attend the team managers' meeting on race day at the Officials' Tent. The meeting time and location will be advised..
- 1.5.3** Any infraction of the Race Regulations on the part of an individual team member(s), or by the crew of the team itself may result in the disqualification of the entire team from further participation in the Festival. Each team is entirely responsible for its own conduct and compliance with the Official Regulations

2. TEAM AND TEAM MEMBER DEFINITIONS

2.1 A DRAGON BOAT TEAM CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING:

- One team manager (may be one of the 24 crew members)
- Twenty four (24) paddlers maximum, i.e. Twenty (20) paddlers drawn from the Official Team List, with up to four (4) reserves (or spares, substitutes or alternates).
- One member of the team must be designated as Team Captain (must be listed as one of the 24 paddlers).
- A drummer and an accredited sweep will be provided for each team. Teams may only provide their own drummer or sweep if prior arrangements have been made, and written confirmation of those arrangements has been provided by the organisers, no later than one week prior to the Festival.
- There must be a minimum of sixteen (16) paddlers per team. Teams with fewer than 16 paddlers on race day will not be permitted to race.

2.1.1 Team List: The names of all team members must be registered on the Official Team List. Only those paddlers listed on their respective team's List can race for that team. Any team which allows a non-registered person to participate as a crew member on that team may be subject to penalties and/or disqualification from further participation in the Festival. A paddler may only appear on one team List (except for the Dragons Abreast Challenge).

2.1.2 The final team list will contain a maximum of 24 names for the actual race. The final team list must be submitted to the Race Registrar at the team managers' meeting at the Officials' Tent on race day. The time and location of the meeting will be advised.

2.1.3 Variations to the foregoing team list and its submission are permitted only with the prior written approval of the Race Registrar

2.2 TEAM COMPOSITION

2.2.1 Age Restrictions: Competitors must be 12 years of age or older to be allowed in the boat. All paddlers below the age of 18 require the written consent of their parent or guardian in order to participate and compete.

2.2.2 Gender Composition

- Mixed Crews: Mixed teams may race with a maximum of 10 male paddlers (the drummer and sweep do not count toward the gender composition of Social, Corporate, Junior or Hospital Crews). For example, a mixed crew may race with 18 female paddlers and 2 male paddlers but may not race with 11 male paddlers and 9 female paddlers.
- Women's Crews: Women's Crews MUST consist of all female paddlers

4th Annual Dragons Abreast Festival 2011 – Rules and Regulations

2.2.3 Category Composition

- a. Social, Corporate and Hospital Crews may have no more than four (4) sports paddlers (ie paddlers who are current members of any dragon boat club). Sweeps and drummers will be provided.
- b. Dragons Abreast Team members must show their DAA paddle IDs. All paddlers, the sweep and the drummer must be breast cancer survivors and be current members of a Dragons Abreast club. Dragons Abreast sweeps and drummers will be provided if requested no later than one month prior to race day. Invited guest survivor teams should collect temporary IDs at the DAA tent prior to the commencement of racing on race day.

2.2.4 Sweeps and Drummers

All Teams will be provided with an Accredited Sweep and a Drummer for racing. Teams may only provide their own Sweep and/or Drummer if they have prior written approval of the Paddle Registrar.

2.3 RACING CATEGORIES

2.3.1 Racing categories will be:

- a. Social
- b. Corporate
- c. Hospital
- d. Dragons Abreast.

2.4 INDIVIDUAL TEAM PADDLER ELIGIBILITY AND FITNESS FOR DRAGON BOAT RACING

2.4.1 A registered team member is defined as any person who is:

- a. Listed on the final team list of a team that is duly registered and in good standing with the Dragons Abreast Festival; and
- b. Of the age, category and gender prescribed for their team.

2.4.2 Every Team member is required to read a set of the Official Rules and Regulations, be knowledgeable of its content, and abide by the same. Every team manager and team captain is also required to be knowledgeable of the Official Rules and Regulations in order that their respective team can act accordingly.

2.4.3 Swimming Ability:

Each paddler is required to be able to swim 50 metres lightly clothed; it is the responsibility of the team manager and the team captain to ensure that all members of their team are able to comply with this regulation. Paddlers who cannot swim 50 metres lightly clothed must wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD). PFDs will be available for loan at the training sessions and on race day.

2.4.4 Paddlers with physical restrictions (disabilities) are permitted to race on the same team with more able-bodied paddlers and to compete alongside other teams in their category as part of an integrated crew, subject to prior consultation with the race registrar and a review by the race committee to ensure that the nature of the disability and any adaptive procedures, appliances or supporting devices can be accommodated within the facility, safety and operational standards of the Festival.

2.5 SAFETY CONDITIONS

2.5.1 Each team member is solely responsible for their own safety at all times while engaging in activities relating to training in and racing dragon boats.

2.5.2 Any injuries sustained as a result of participating in the training or races must be reported immediately to the trainer or race registrar and the team manager must submit an injury/incident report to the Dragons Abreast Festival immediately following the injury. Injury/incident report forms are available from trainers or on race day at the Officials Tent.

2.5 TEAM SPONSORSHIP AND IDENTITY

2.5.1 The Festival retains all rights to advertising, sponsorship and commercial representation for the Festival.

2.5.2 Festival Sponsors are sponsors who are directly supportive of the Festival, such as Trophy and Boat sponsors, contributors etc. They will be acknowledged and represented as sponsors of the Dragons Abreast Festival.

2.5.3 Team Sponsors are sponsors who are directly supportive of individual teams and may not be considered a sponsor of the Festival. The Festival is not obligated to individual Team Sponsors and may refuse any commercial representation on the festival site and on the water venue.

2.5.4 It is not a requirement for any team to be supported by a Team Sponsor.

2.5.5 Where the involvement of an individual Team Sponsor is determined not to be in the best interest of the Festival or the Festival Sponsors, the Festival may refuse entry of the supported team to the Festival unless an alternative Team Sponsor is available.

2.5.6 Commercial or promotional activities such as distribution or sales of materials or goods for the benefit of any Team Sponsor, teams or individuals will not be permitted to actively solicit sales eg raffle tickets, T-shirts etc.

2.5.7 Team Sponsorship – representation and promotion of Team sponsor(s) will only be permitted subject to prior agreement with the Festival.

2.5.8 Representation of the organisation responsible for the team and its sponsor(s) shall be limited to:

- a. Clothing such as team uniform, hats, head bands, pins etc.
- b. One freestanding team flag/banner not exceeding 1m x 0.5m in area to be fixed on their team tent IF that team has taken a team tent at the Festival.

2.6 DETAILED TEAM MEMBER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Team Managers are responsible for:

- a. Team conduct under the Official Rules and Regulations
- b. Communicating and distributing to all team members race and festival information, Festival Welcome Mixer tickets etc.
- c. Processing and submitting all required team forms, waivers, registration donation, team name and bio.
- d. Liaison with the Race Registrar and race and Festival officials
- e. Attending all specified meetings and training sessions

4th Annual Dragons Abreast Festival 2011 – Rules and Regulations

Team Captains are responsible for:

- a. Ensuring their paddlers get to Marshalling in good time. Races will not be held up for late arrivals. Any crew arriving too late for marshalling for their race will forfeit that race.
- b. Team conduct whenever the Team is on the water or dockside
- c. Liaison and communication with Race officials while team is on the water or dockside.
- d. Ensuring that any changes of crew seating positions or rotations with team members from shore take place only while dockside unless directed otherwise by the Sweep

3. RACE PROGRAM

3.1 MANAGEMENT OF RACE DAY

Responsibility for the technical management of racing on Race Day rests with Dragon Boats New South Wales (DBNSW) which sets and administers the policies, rules and regulations governing the racing. It is responsible for race day registration of teams, marine operations and support, safety, operation of the races and all matters pertaining to the running of the racing program. The interpretation of policies, rules and regulations rests with DBNSW, which holds the final authority over their application and whose decisions are final.

3.2 COMPETITION PROGRAM STRUCTURE

3.2.1 The racing program is organised into a number of different categories, as determined by Dragons Abreast Festival, with the maximum number of teams entered into the race and number of teams participating within each category similarly set. The Festival reserves the right to reclassify teams to ensure a balanced program. The contest structure, race schedule and competition program take into account such factors as the number and type of teams entered, minimum number of teams needed to form a separate category, and other practical considerations.

3.3 SCORING AND DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

3.3.1 Crew placements in the initial heats and lane assignments shall be randomized or based on a seeding method; subsequently the standing of the crew will be determined either by points derived from finish order or by elapsed time; each team will advance or be eliminated in accordance with the structure of the scheduled competitive rounds.

3.3.2 If a team incurs a penalty and a time penalty is applied to its actual finish time, then the adjusted time will be used to alter the order of finish placement and the resulting standing of that team.

4. RACE RULES AND REGULATIONS

4.1 RACING EQUIPMENT

4.1.1 Boats and necessary equipment for use in racing by teams (ie paddles, drum, life jackets/PFDs etc.) are provided by DBNSW. No additional equipment will be authorized for use other than paddles meeting IDBF specifications, and other Australian Standards approved PFDs. Adaptive devices required to facilitate participation by disabled paddlers may be used provided such participation and adaptive devices have received the written approval of DBNSW at least one week prior to race day.

4.1.2 Signalling devices including radio communications or other electronic items and any noisemaking devices shall not be used by any team during the races.

4.1.3 Only the drum and drumsticks provided shall be used to signal the stroke rate. Whistles, rattles, horns or any other noise making devices are prohibited from use.

4.2 DAILY PROGRAM OF COMPETITION AND LAST MINUTE CHANGES

4.2.1 The time of the first race of the day and the Race Schedule will be advised no later than one week prior to race day, but are subject to change.

4.2.2 The Race Officials reserve the right to call meetings of Team Officials to emphasise procedures, go over any program adjustments or resolve any last minute concerns.

4.2.3 Teams should plan to be on site one hour before their scheduled time to race; there are a number of stages Teams must pass through in order to be properly prepared for a successful race and they are spelled out below.

4.2.4 Should it be necessary to alter the schedule, a notification procedure will be established. It is the responsibility of the Team Manager/Captain to be alert for any last minute changes to the Race Schedule and to know when his or her Team is next scheduled to report to Marshalling and expected to race.

4.3 GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

4.3.1 If in the opinion of the Race Officials, a boat is deliberately swamped or capsized, the Race Officials reserve the right to disqualify the crew from any further standing and may disqualify the offending Team from further participation in the Festival; and if a boat or its equipment is deliberately damaged by the crew DBNSW reserves the right to impose a financial penalty.

4.3.2 Participants are at all times to practice the principles of good sportsmanship. Any crew or competitor who attempts to win a race by other than honourable means, or who deliberately breaks the rules, or who disregards the honourable nature of the rules shall face disqualification from the competition.

4.3.3 There is a strict no alcohol policy at Training Sessions and on Race Day until the crew is off the water for the last time that day. Race Officials reserve the right to prohibit any Team from entering the boat if any team member is deemed to be adversely affected by alcohol, drugs or other substances that adversely affect and impair their judgement.

4.4 THE CHIEF OFFICIAL

4.4.1 The Chief Official shall observe and supervise the races and ensure that the race schedule is followed and runs to time. The Chief Official shall fully brief all Race Officials before the start of the competition, regarding their duties and shall decide on all matters arising from the actual event which are not dealt with in the Racing Rules.

4th Annual Dragons Abreast Festival 2011 – Rules and Regulations

5. DISQUALIFICATION

- 5.1 Any crew can be automatically disqualified if it fails to observe the Rules of Racing.

6. TEAM PROCEDURES ON RACE DAY

- 6.1 The venue is a busy, public place and it is unsafe to leave personal possessions unattended. Paddlers are advised to bring a friend to mind their valuables while they are on the water. The Festival and its Volunteers and Officials cannot mind personal possessions or take responsibility for any lost or stolen articles.

6.2 MARSHALLING AND LINE-UP

- 6.2.1 On the Race Schedule each race has an associated Event Number. Many variables, such as the weather, can affect race starting times so races may run ahead or behind schedule. Therefore teams must watch and listen for their EVENT NUMBER so they can be warmed up, fully prepared and positioned near Marshalling two events before their Event Number so that Race Marshals can easily locate them and direct them to line-up in Marshalling.
- 6.2.2 Failure of a team to be at Marshalling on time can result in time penalties or forfeiture of that race.
- 6.2.3 In Marshalling the crew will form up in reverse order of their preplanned order of seating in the boat (ie lining up with those seated in the rear of the boat first). When instructed crews will proceed to the pontoons, where they will be directed to the appropriate boat.
- 6.2.4 On the pontoons at dockside barrels of paddles will be available and also loan PFDs. There will also be a team basket where paddlers may leave their water bottles for collection after the race. Paddlers will each take a paddle and if appropriate put on a PFD then board the boat. Paddles and PFDs are to be returned to the barrels upon disembarkation from the boat (they may not be retained for use in subsequent heats).
- 6.2.5 Once the crew has boarded the boat the Sweep will assume command of the crew and will issue all appropriate instructions until the race is over and the crew has disembarked at the pontoon.

7. FINALS

- 7.1 All Social, Corporate and Dragons Abreast Teams will race in two heats and either a Major or a Minor Final.
- 7.2 Hospital Challenge Teams will race near the middle of the day and the Hospital Challenge Final will take place several events later. The Hospital teams qualifying for the Hospital Challenge Final will be the six teams with the fastest times.

8. PRESENTATIONS

- 8.1 The Highest Fundraiser Trophy and the Best Dressed Award will be presented to the winning teams at midday in Palm Grove.
- 8.2 The Hospital Challenge Trophies and medals will be presented in Palm Grove following the Hospital Challenge Final.
- 8.2 Racing Award Presentations will take place in Palm Grove at the conclusion of racing.

9. FESTIVAL HOUSE RULES

- 9.1 All individuals in or associated with a team are asked to refrain from playing warm-up music, bagpiping, drumming and the likes adjacent to Marshalling, the Finish Line area or the Pontoon area, where such noisy expressions of Team enthusiasm are likely to interrupt or interfere with race operations and activities.
- 9.2 Teams are not permitted to sell raffle tickets, T-shirts or other items at or near the Festival since this contravenes conditions with Festival Sponsors and suppliers and with the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority.
- 9.3 The Festival Organisers, its staff, volunteers, and DBNSW will not be responsible for lost or stolen articles left in any area of the venue.
- 9.4 St Johns Ambulance First Aid will be on duty at the Festival.
- 9.5 Solicitation and other unauthorised activities are not permitted at the Festival. Please report any persons claiming to be authorised to sell products, services or other solicitations if they do not have a visible official Festival accreditation.