

Nanticoke River Recycled Cardboard Boat Regatta



Join us on **Sat., Aug 6th, 2016** on the **Nanticoke River in Blades**, Delaware for our third annual **Recycled Cardboard Boat Regatta**. The Regatta is open to participation from individuals, schools, youth groups, businesses, groups of friends, government and non-profit organizations desiring to build a boat and participate. This is a wonderful team-building experience, giving employees an opportunity to work together toward a common goal and have a lot of fun doing it.

General Rules

1. Only **recycled corrugated cardboard** may be used. It can be of any thickness but must not be bonded to any other material such as vinyl. Cardboard coated with resin or a wax-type coating found in packing cases may NOT be used. Teams must provide proof that their cardboard is recycled, such as pictures of their scavenging forays or signed and dated statements from their sources.
2. **Cardboard tubes, wood, metal, foam, 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 sandbags or similar materials may be used for ballast.
4. Hulls may (and should) 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, but caulking in seams is allowed. An all-white space 4" high by 8" wide must be provided on both sides of the bow for your boat number, which will be assigned on race day.
5. Joints and seams may be glued and/or taped. Duct tape, contact cement, rubber cement, or construction adhesive may be used. Screws and other metal fasteners may be used during the construction of the boat as long as they are removed when the boat is complete.
6. Design is builder's choice. Let your "imagination" reign supreme!! Decorations may be made from any material but may not be used to reinforce the actual structure of the boat. 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. Boats will be inspected and may be disqualified if found in violation of the above General Rules, (with the exception of rule # 6 which results in a 20 second time penalty).
8. 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)
9. Prior to the races, boats will be judged in the following categories: Pride of the Fleet (best constructed), Best Decorated, Best Team Effort, Most Whimsical and the People's Choice. Before and during the race teams will be judged for Team Spirit (dress, involvement with spectators, team spirit during race & sportsmanship).
10. During the races each event will be timed and awards will be given for the fastest times in each division. A maximum of two boats will race at one time. There will also be a Titanic Award for the most spectacular sinking. (Intentional sinking will disqualify a team.) Boats from any previous year's event are not eligible, but will be allowed to compete together in a Grudge Match.
11. **Participants may have multiple teams paddling the same boat in any event/category. You must notify the Race Chairman prior to the beginning of the races with the number of teams you will have and in which event(s) they will be paddling. Boats registered in multiple races will pay the full fee for the first race and \$5 for subsequent races.**
12. **After all other races are complete Boat Skippers may "Challenge" any other boat to a race, for Bragging Rights only. No trophy will be awarded. There is a \$5 fee for a Challenge Race, to be paid by the challenger.**
13. All entrants must ensure that their portion of the pit area has been cleaned prior to departure after the race. All boats must be removed from the marina after the races.

Note: Rules are subject to change. All registered participants and sponsors will be notified in writing if last minute changes are made. For answers to questions about the rules please email Steve Childers at: snchilders@comcast.net

Some Tips: Caulk the seams of your boat, both inside & out, with a latex caulk such as Alex-plus, let it dry and then apply as many coats of paint as time will allow. Make sure each coat dries before applying another. Once your boat is painted, carefully protect the hull. Unprotected cardboard soaks up water like a sponge, even through a tiny hole.

Our thanks go to The Rotary Club of Cape Coral, Florida for the use of their rules.