

## **Frequently Asked/Misunderstood Rules and Regulations**

### **Team Composition/Roster**

- A paddler may only paddle on one (1) mixed team roster. If there is no other choice a team may use an experienced steersperson from another team. Teams with paddlers not on their roster as of their first race may be disqualified at the discretion of Race Officials.
- Steersperson and drummer can be either gender on a Crew.
- The Team Manager of an adult team cannot be part of the racing crew and must be on shore.

### **Equipment**

- Only dragon boat paddles not exceeding the IDBF PS202a specifications may be used (carbon fiber paddles will be allowed). The Grey Owl dragon boat paddle meets the IDBF PS202a size specification.
- Friction tape and wax may be used on *your own personal paddles only*.
- Any "Department of Transport/Canadian Coast Guard" approved PFD will be allowed (except "self inflating jackets") - they will be inspected by dock personnel before each race, It is up to the discretion of the dock manager if the personal Flotation Device will be allowed.

### **Race Course**

- All races to be approximately 450 meters distance.
- Lanes will be numbered 1 to 7 with lane 1 closest to shore (Festival side)
- There will not be any lane markers, only out of bounds "tetrahedrons".

### **The Start**

- The Officials will signal the crews to line-up in their respective lanes in the pre-start area before the start of the race; the race will start without your team if you choose to ignore line-up instructions.
- The Starter will start the race when all boats are relatively lined up for a "STANDING START" (in the Starter's opinion, under the best possible conditions for a fair start).

The start commands will be:

1. "PADDLES UP"
2. "ATTENTION PLEASE"
3. An air horn blast or similar signal (from 1-5 seconds after "attention please")

### **Re-Race Rules**

At the official's discretion, a re-race may be ordered when:

- There is a false start called by the Starter, or
- There is clearly a collision within the first 50M of the race, or
- There is an equipment breakage, other than paddle, within the first 50M of the race

*There will absolutely be no grounds for re-races once all boats have passed the 50M mark, except one that is initiated by Officials under extraordinary circumstances.*

### **Protests**

Protests require a \$50 non-refundable fee and the protest must be in written form.

**A team may protest:**

- Illegal paddle/PFD used by another team, a crew not complying with the roster rule
- Collision initiated by another team during the race

*A protest must be brought up prior to your team leaving the Dock area. Otherwise, the offence cannot be verified.*

**A team may not protest:**

- Boat/lane assignment
- Interference from another boat that did not result in a collision

### **Penalties**

At the Official's discretion, a **minimum 10-second penalty or team disqualification** may be imposed for the following infractions:

- Verbal/physical abuse to any Official/Volunteer
- Crew does not comply with the Official Team Roster
- False starting
- Crew does not follow Official's instructions to change course, resulting in impeding another crew or resulting in a collision with another crew
- The use of unofficial paddle/PFD