



Team Rules and Regulation

1. Administration

a. Waivers and Rosters

All team members must sign the **TEAM MEMBER LIABILITY RELEASE & WAIVER AGREEMENT** stating that they have read and understand the conditions of the waiver, aware of, accept all risks associated with the event. All will waive all rights to take legal action against any of the sponsors, volunteers, Miami-Dade County's employees, partnerships, corporations and associations in any way associated with the South Florida Dragon Boat Festival – Race Committee (SFDBF-RC), for injury or death, or for loss and damage to property, howsoever damaged.

For insurance purposes, the **TEAM MEMBER LIABILITY RELEASE & WAIVER AGREEMENT** cannot be faxed and must sign in front of assigned Team Registration Staff.

Team managers/captains must submit to the SFDBF-RC, signed and dated team registration, waivers and a check for the appropriate entry fee by 9-20-2014. The organizers may accept late submission of waivers at their discretion.

A team member can be on the roster and race for one team only. The maximum number of team members in a roster is 25. A complete list of members giving the names and genders of each team member must be delivered before the first practice.

b. Dragon Boats and Equipment

The SFDBF-RC shall provide dragon boats, paddles, drums, drumsticks and personal floatation devices. All equipments shall be returned in good condition immediately following practices and races. In the event that the committee determines negligence, replacement or repair costs shall be charged to the team responsible. Drum and drumsticks shall be used to signal the strobe rate in addition to the non-electrically assisted voice commands.

c. Teams

All team members must be registered. A registered team member must be at least 14 years old, is registered to one team only and be listed on the team roster.

Each Team is allowed a maximum of 25 rosters: 20 paddlers and 5 spares. The steer person is NOT provided by the SFDBF-RC, unless the team requests SFDBF-MOC to provide one. The drummer is not considered as part of the team roster, can be either gender and can participate as a drummer of another team.

Each team must have a team manager/captain, who might or might not be part of the team roster. Each team must race with a minimum of 16 people and a drummer.

For women's teams, the drummer must be the same gender as the paddlers. For mixed teams, a minimum of 8 paddlers of each gender is required. Any team which has less than 8 women shall be considered as a men's team.

Team managers/captains shall ensure that only registered team members participate in on-water activities. Any team who violates this rule shall be subject to disqualification and prohibition from further on-water participation.

Furthermore, the committee may disqualify and/or prohibit any team member or team, if such team member or team display poor conduct.

Team managers'/captains' responsibilities are to promote team conduct, to communicate to team member and distribute information needed, to collect all required forms to the SFDBF-RC, to communicate with the committee and finally attend any necessary meetings.

d. Race categories and entry fee

There are three basic categories: men, women and mixed. The team entry fees are \$1,000 for Company, \$600 for Regular (government, non-profit or communities) and \$300 for academy.

There is no refund after 9-20-2014. A team that wishes to withdraw from the race must do so by writing to the Festival Committee, and the letter must be received by 4:30pm on 9-20-2014. A \$100 administration fee will apply (non refundable).

Each team is guaranteed for 2 races on Saturday.

2. Procedures

a. Safety

The Team Manager/Captain shall communicate the safety procedure and emergency procedure to the team members before each race or practice. Each team member must wear the personal floatation device during all on-water activities, including all practices and races. Excessive celebration after the finish is not allowed. During the race, NO alcohol is allowed for all team members until after their last race. All paddlers and drummer shall listen to the steer person's instructions.

Any individual or team who violates these safety rules will be penalized and might not be allowed to continue on-water activities depending on severity of the violation.

b. Sanctions

At its complete discretion, the SFDBF-RC may dismiss at any time, including but not limited to any practices or races, any person or team from further practices or races for:

- Violating safety procedures



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- Demonstrating poor conduct or behavior
- Willfully, recklessly or negligently damaging or losing equipment
- Disobeying reasonable requests or instructions made by officials or their designates

3. Practices

a. Location

Practices will take place at Haulover Beach Park & Marina - 10800 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach, FL 33154 or Oleta River State Park, 3400 NE 163 Street, North Miami Beach, FL 33162.

b. Schedule

As part of the entry fee, each team shall be granted two practices sessions during evenings or weekends of the two/three weeks immediately preceding the race. Each practice consists of 2-hour block. Additional sessions may be available for a fee of \$50 / 2-hour. Teams shall be assembled at twenty minutes prior to their schedule practice start time. If a team begins its practice session late because it is not ready on time, make-up time will not be given. A list of team members shall be provided by the team captain to the trainer before the practice session.

c. Park Entrance Fee

All team members must responsible to pay his/her vehicle parking fee at either Practice venues. UCAF encourages each team carpooling for all practices.

4. Races

a. Location

Race will take place at Haulover Beach Park & Marina - 10800 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach, FL 33154.

b. Race Schedule

The starting order will be determined prior to race day, be issued to Team Manager/Captain, and posted to Finish Line Station and Loading Dock areas. Each race will start as soon as possible following the race preceding it, with races to be held approximately every 20 minutes.

c. Pre-Race Procedure

Each team must be prepared to race at least 30 minutes prior to its scheduled race time. The announcer will call the appropriate teams to the Loading Dock area at least 3 times. If the team is not present, or fully assembled after the 3rd call, that team will forfeit that race.

d. Race Procedure

The referee shall have control of the race prior to the start. Only steer persons can communicate with the

referee. All paddlers and drummer of each team shall obey the steer person's command.

Upon Referee's command, the teams shall approach the start line and in the middle of their assigned lane. The referee has the responsibility of aligning the boats. Once the teams are lined up, the Referee shall give a ready signal. The steer person shall then give "Paddle UP" command to the team. The GO signal from the referee shall be given 5 seconds or more after the READY signal, followed by the sound of a horn. If a false start has occurred, a second start horn will be heard.

e. Post-Race Procedure

Upon crossing the finish line, all teams shall return to the Loading Dock area, being very careful to not collide with any other boats. Drummer has the responsibility of bailing the water, using bailing buckets. The boat must be substantially free of water and be ready for the next race.

f. Penalties

Each team is allowed to have one false start. If the same team makes another false start in the same race, that team will be penalized for 5 seconds.

g. Protests

Any protest must be lodged by the Team Manager/Captain within fifteen minutes of conclusion of the protested race.

The cost of lodging a protest is \$100, payable in cash at the time of the lodging of the protest. The race committee shall render a decision on a majority basis. There is no appeal of the race committee's decision.

If the protest is successful, the \$100 protest fee will be returned to the Team Manager.

NOTE: UCAF reserves the right to exclude or disqualify any paddler or attendee and /or their family for unsportsmanlike conduct or other conduct or behavior deemed inappropriate in the sole and absolute discretion of UCAF.

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