



## Festival Q and A

### **What is dragon boating?**

Born of a time-honored Chinese tradition, dragon boating's roots are over 2,000 years old. The tradition has transformed into a fun paddle sport that appeals to all ages and is growing quickly world-wide. Dragon boat racing is the ultimate team sport, and with a short lesson almost anyone can enjoy paddling.

Twenty paddlers sit two-by-two in a 41-foot long boat. A steersperson stands in the back guiding the boat, and a drummer sits on the bow and beats out the cadence of the strokes. The boat simply will not glide unless the 20 paddlers work together as a team. It is a sport that knows no limits and calls to people of all ages, genders and athletic skills. The appeal of dragon boating is truly universal because it is challenging teamwork at its finest, and a whole lot of fun getting to the finish line!

### **Is there an age limit for the people on my team?**

Dragon boating is a sport for both the young and those who are advanced in their years. However, team members must be at least 13 years of age as of their first practice session.

### **How do I register my team?**

Only one person can register a team online. They are known as the team captain. This person will be in charge of managing the team's registration and will be the key contact for bookings and festival communications.

To register a team, the team captain must create an account at [buckscountdragonboatfestival.com](http://buckscountdragonboatfestival.com). To create an account, he/she will need a valid email address. If an account already exists, please login using your user name and password. Once logged in, click on registration and follow the prompts until you are at the payment page. PayPal is the accepted forms of payment for this festival.

**Can each member of my team pay his/her own portion of the registration fee?**

The registration fee for each team must be made in full as a single payment via PayPal. It is the team captain's responsibility to collect money from his/her teammates to cover this fee.

**How will my team mates receive their waivers?**

Once team captains have registered their team members and created their roster, they will have the option to send their teammates an "invitation" via email to log-in and sign the waiver. A signed waiver is required for each paddler on the roster before he/she boards the boat.

**My team would like to purchase additional practice sessions before the festival. Can we do this?**

Yes, teams that would like to purchase additional practices can do so by contacting Dragon Boat Adventures at 877.418.6700. Each extra practice costs \$200. These will be held rain or shine and there is no refund for missed practices.

**Can my team fundraise for a non-profit organization or cause other than hunger?**

Dragon boating has long provided teams the opportunity to raise money for a cause that is special to them. The event producer, Bucks County Dragon Boat Association (BCDBA), will donate proceeds from this festival (above operating costs and reserves) to Bucks County organizations and agencies of its choosing that work to alleviate hunger in our local communities. Teams who choose to use this as a fundraising opportunity independently will be solely responsible for soliciting, collecting and distributing donations to the cause(s) of their team's choosing. Neither BCDBA nor other parties associated with the sponsorship or production of the Bucks County Dragon Boat Festival endorse companies or foundations other than those officially designated by BCDBA for the receipt of festival donations, and will not be held liable in the event of mishandling or misappropriation associated with independent fundraising.

**What is the cancellation policy?**

Race fees are non-refundable – no exceptions.

**Will the festival still take place if there is rain?**

The festival will proceed rain or shine. In the event of lightning in the area, racers will be pulled off the water until it is determined that it is safe to proceed. The event organizers will attempt to complete the full race program, but should inclement weather cause delays, the race program may be modified at BCDBA's discretion to complete racing on time. This may include elimination of races as needed to get back on schedule. *In the unlikely event the race needs to be cancelled in its entirety due to reasons outside the organizers' control (e.g. flooded lake conditions, severe weather) no refunds will be provided to teams. NO rain date will be scheduled*

**How will medals be awarded?**

Medals will be awarded to each first, second and third place finishers at the completion of each divisional championship finals. Awards will also be awarded to each first place finisher in each Challenge category.

**What are “challenge categories?”**

Challenge categories depend largely upon the types of teams that register for the event. For example, if several healthcare organizations enter teams then a “healthcare challenge” may be created by the festival organizers. Those teams who have been selected for these categories will be notified the week prior to the event. Winners of each challenge category will be determined by time (and not their physical place in a race). Awards – and bragging rights – will be given to each challenge winner.

**Can I bring a grill or have alcohol?**

No. Alcohol and outside grills are strictly prohibited by Core Creek Park. Teams that violate this requirement may be disqualified and removed from the festival

**What should I wear/bring?**

Wear comfortable clothing that does not absorb or hold moisture. Quick dry fabrics (nylon sports shorts and capris) and cotton tee shirts are recommended. Footwear should be water shoes or sneakers; no flip flops. Bring water and sunscreen. A dry change of clothes is also recommended. This is a water sport and you will get wet.