

RULES AND REGULATIONS



**BUFFALO BAYOU
PARTNERSHIP**

46th Annual Buffalo Bayou Partnership Regatta

**Saturday
March 10, 2018**

Regatta Rules

- ▶ A NEW DIVISION – **Non-Competitive** for participants who are paddling “just for fun” in any legal style of boat. Participants **will** receive all the Regatta benefits except they will not be part of the official timekeeping. This Division will start 5 minutes after the last competitive division (9:35 am).
- ▶ All Regatta race numbers from previous years must be removed from boats or competitors will be subject to disqualification.
- ▶ NOTE: Normal registration will close at midnight on Thursday, March 8. To qualify for advanced (prior to race day) pick up of your race packet, participants must have registered by midnight Tuesday, March 6. Participants can register on race day (March 10 at \$60 per person) and will be registered in our new Non-Competitive division (see above).
- ▶ The Race Director has the right to remove and/or disqualify a participant due to behavior or alcohol/drug influenced impairment.
- ▶ Minimum Regatta entry age for all divisions is 12. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult on the boat and waiver must be signed by a parent or guardian.
- ▶ Contestants can place their boats on the slopes of the bayou (perpendicular to the bayou) 10 minutes prior to the start of their division. Boats nor competitors can touch the water until the start of their division. Any participant not complying with the above will be disqualified.
- ▶ **DISALLOWED BOATS:** Inflatable canoes or kayaks; rafts; stand-up paddleboards; outrigger canoes; or any boat that does not meet the specifications of any division.
- ▶ Starting position is assigned according to the time registration and payment is received by BBP.
- ▶ All participants must wear a horse collar (around the neck) or vest style US Coast Guard approved PFD (personal flotation device) during the entire race. NO belt style PFD of any kind. The inflation system of a Coast Guard approved inflatable PFD need not

be armed when the PFD is worn inflated and in good condition. If uninflated, the vest must be armed with a fully charged cartridge and must be reviewed by a race official prior to the start. Any participant found not abiding by these rules will be disqualified.

- ▶ Except for portages over channel obstructions, boats must remain in Buffalo Bayou. Illegal portaging will disqualify participants.
- ▶ To qualify for awards, no third party is allowed to touch or help a participant with his/her equipment. Participants may pick up food, water or extra paddles during the race.
- ▶ Intentional capsizing or damaging of another competitor’s canoe or kayak will disqualify the offender.
- ▶ Competitive participants not in the water by 9:45 am will be disqualified from the event. For a participant to have a reasonable chance of finishing the race, he/she must have cleared the Woodway Bridge by noon. Any participant not reaching Woodway by noon will be disqualified and any participant not crossing the finish line by 2 pm will not be included in the official timekeeping.

Team Sponsor Division

- ▶ Two contestants per canoe
- ▶ If supplying own canoe, boat must be Recreational class (for specifications, please see chart below for Recreational C-2 and Team Sponsor).

Awards

Top three finishers in each division will receive a trophy. The winning Team Sponsor will gain possession of the Buffalo Bayou Partnership Regatta Cup for one year.

Severe Water or Weather Conditions

Because conditions can change without notice, race information will be provided at the start location by race officials on race day. The Buffalo Bayou Partnership Regatta is rain or shine. **If cancellation does take place due to severe water or weather conditions, all entry fees will support Buffalo Bayou Partnership.**

BOAT SPECIFICATIONS	Recreational C-2 and Team Sponsor	Recreational Kayak K-1 (short)	Recreational Kayak K-1 (long)	Surf Skis/ICF K-1	Solo Unlimited	Unlimited (2 or more in same boat)	Non-Competitive <i>Not part of timekeeping</i>
# of Contestants	2	1	1	1	1	Any	Any
Construction	Plastic/fiberglass, aluminum/wood/composite	Plastic or fiber glass	Plastic or fiber glass	Surf Skis/ICF rules	Any	Any	Any
Weight	50+ pounds	Any	Any	Surf Skis/ICF rules	Any	Any	Any
Length	17'-6" max	up to 13'-6"	over 13'-6" to 17'-6"	Any	Any	Any	Any
Width	15% length @ 4" waterline	22" @ 4" waterline	22" @ 4" waterline	Any	Any	Any	Any
Paddle	single paddle	double paddle	double paddle	double paddle	Any	Any	Any

In an effort to make the Buffalo Bayou Partnership Regatta a race where the most skilled and conditioned contestant(s) have the greatest opportunity to win their division and not the contestant(s) with the “fastest” boat, the basic classifications of boats and equipment have been established. Additional specifications or restrictions may apply and will be applied/enforced on those competitors who place in any division. Enter

the Unlimited class if your boat or number of contestants does not qualify for any other category as described above. Select the Non-Competitive class if entering “just for fun” and know that you will not be part of the official timekeeping. Questions concerning the correct class to enter should be directed to Buffalo Bayou Partnership by phone at 713.752.0314 ext. 103 or e-mail at info@buffalobayou.org prior to the race.