

# RULES AND REGULATIONS



**BUFFALO BAYOU  
PARTNERSHIP**

## Buffalo Bayou 44th Annual Regatta

**Saturday  
March 12, 2016**

### Regatta Rules

- ▶ All old Regatta race numbers from previous years must be removed from boats or competitors will be subject to disqualification.
- ▶ Please note that registration will close on Thursday, March 10 (at midnight). You will be able to register on event day (March 12 at \$60 per person) to receive benefits of Regatta participants (t-shirt, lunch, raffle entry), however, you will NOT be included in the official time keeping of the race, nor be eligible for awards, and will start 5 minutes after the last start of the race.
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ Canoes and kayaks in the starting area can be placed on the slopes of the bayou, but boats or competitors cannot touch the water until they are given further instructions by the Race Director. Any participant in the water will be disqualified if caught by a race official.
- ▶ Inflatable canoes and kayaks that are paddled are allowed (inflatable rafts or other crafts that are rowed are **not** allowed).
- ▶ Stand-up paddleboards and outrigger canoes are not allowed.
- ▶ Starting position is assigned according to the time registration and payment is received by BBP.
- ▶ All participants must wear US Coast Guard approved PFDs (personal flotation device) during the entire race. They must be worn as the manufacturer designed them to be worn. Any participant found not abiding by this rule will be disqualified.
- ▶ Except for portages over channel obstructions, boats must remain in Buffalo Bayou. Illegal portaging will disqualify participants.

- ▶ No third party is allowed to touch or help a contestant with his/her equipment. Contestants 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.
- ▶ Any regatta entry not in the water by 9:45 am will be disqualified from the event. For an entry to have a reasonable chance of finishing the race, he/she must have cleared the Woodway bridge by noon. Any entry not reaching Woodway by noon will be disqualified and any entry not crossing the finish line by 2 pm will not be included in the official time keeping.

### Corporate Cup Division

- ▶ Two contestants, one must be an employee of the sponsoring company.
- ▶ If supplying own canoe, boat must be Recreational class (for specifications, please see chart below for Recreational C-2 and Corporate Cup).

### Shell Styrofoam Cup

First Prize will be awarded for the most trash picked up along the bayou race course and arrive at the Finish Line by 1 pm. Contestants must notify a Regatta official before unloading trash onto the trash barge located at the Finish Line.



### Awards

Top three finishers in each division will receive a trophy. The winning Corporate Cup team will gain possession of the Corporate 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. **If cancellation takes place, all entry fees will be considered a tax deductible donation to Buffalo Bayou Partnership and used in its efforts to revitalize the bayou.**

BOAT SPECIFICATIONS	Recreational C-2 and Corporate Cup	Recreational Kayak K-1 (short)	Recreational Kayak K-1 (long)	Surf Skis/ICF K-1	Solo Unlimited	Unlimited (2 or more in same boat)
Number of Contestants	2	1	1	1	1	Any
Construction	Plastic/fiberglass, aluminum/wood/composite	Plastic or fiber glass	Plastic or fiber glass	Surf Skis/ICF rules	Any	Any
Weight	50+ pounds	Any	Any	Surf Skis/ICF rules	Any	Any
Length	17'-6" max	under 13'-6"	13'-6" to 17'-6"	Any	Any	Any
Width	15% length @ 4" waterline	22" @ 4" waterline	22" @ 4" waterline	Any	Any	Any
Paddle	single paddle	double paddle	double paddle	double paddle	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. Questions concerning the correct class to enter should be directed to Race Official or the Race Director prior to the race start.