



RULES FOR VESSEL CONSTRUCTION AND SAFETY INSPECTION

The rules are mostly simple. No commercial boats, no motor-propelled boats, and no boats over 20 feet long. Here's where the "mostly" part comes in. The following rules relate to the construction of competition vessels entered into the regatta and to safety concerns. These rules apply to all entrants equally.

All vessels must be constructed of materials that have been previously used. That is, no newly purchased material, except things used to fasten parts together (duct tape, screws, glue, sealant, etc).

All materials must be clean and safe for the environment.

NO boats or boating materials (new or recycled) may be used to make the vessel. No manufactured motors, paddles, or sails.

New this year: Used pool toys (noodles, single inflatable rafts, etc.) can be used as part of your vessel.

All vessels must be self-propelled (e.g., by self-made poles, oars, paddle wheels, or sails) or any combination thereof. No swimming, pushing, or towing.

As a safety precaution, please be sure your vessel has an easy exit in case of emergency.

All vessels must have a name and the name must appear either on both sides of the bow or on the stern.

It is the racing crew's responsibility to "leave behind no trace" of your vessel. Whatever you carry in, you carry out.

All crew members **MUST** wear a U.S. Coast Guard Approved Type III life vest (not that we don't trust your shipbuilding experience)

All vessels **MUST** be at the Vitale Park waterfront by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the regatta. The judges will inspect the vessels before the races begin.

RULES FOR MATERIALS:

The idea for this regatta is that the boats must be homemade vessels of materials that you could find around your house. One of our goals with the regatta is to encourage ingenuity and excitement about recycling. This means using in novel ways everyday items that we would otherwise discard to give them a second life.

Acceptable Recyclable Materials:

Any previously used or found materials that are not boating material and will not harm the environment:

Including, but not limited to cardboard, wood, PVC, duct tape, twine, rope, plastic bottles, metal cans, milk jugs,

saran wrap, old t-shirts, cloth, outdoor furniture, old bikes. Homemade oars and paddles are allowed, and pedal power is OK. No motors of any kind. Your craft MUST NOT be designed or built to travel on the water any further than the length of the race course. Example: Old powerboats, canoes, kayaks, skiffs, inflatable rafts, or other commercially designed craft will not qualify. The vessels must be powered by human or wind energy. The decision of the judges will be final.

Unacceptable Materials:

NO containers that contained pollutants or other hazardous waste;

NO potentially dangerous objects (e.g., sharp edges, rusty metal, glass containers)

NO parts from "real" boats or commercial flotation (e. g., no old boat hulls, no boogie/surf boards, no borrowed rudders, no motors)

NO material that could break off into the regatta course area (e.g., Styrofoam packing peanuts)

NOTE: Please make sure that all materials on the vessel are securely fastened so that no loose objects fall off into Conesus Lake during the regatta. If any piece of your vessel falls into the water, you MUST retrieve it.

EVENT RULES

The first rule is to be safe and have fun.

The regatta will occur rain or shine! Postponement will occur if severe or dangerous weather conditions exist at the start and the immediate forecast is favorable. If the immediate forecast is unfavorable in the judge's opinion, the regatta will be cancelled. There will be no refunds in the event of cancellation. The decision of the judges will be final.

Please check in between 9:30 and 10:00 am at Vitale Park near the Nature Center and make sure that you've brought all the personal protective equipment that you need. There will be a mandatory prerace meeting at 10:45 am at Vitale Park. Each team must send a representative, preferably the captain.

All vessels and entries will be inspected between 10:15 and 10:45 am to assure design; costumes, etc. are in "good taste" and that the design or identification does not violate safety standards. Entries not deemed appropriate will be given time to correct deficiencies, or may be disqualified. After all inspections are complete, the Master of Ceremonies will explain the race course.

The regatta will begin at 11:00 am. The races will begin at east end of Vitale Park and will continue along a buoyed course.

All participants must be at least 10 years of age. Crew members between the ages of 10 and 13 must be accompanied on the vessel by another crew member aged 18 or over and permission of parent. Each crew member must sign the provided waiver of responsibility. Signed waivers must accompany completed entry forms. Last minute crew changes are permitted upon receipt of signed waiver of responsibility form. Participants under 18 must have a signed waiver and release from a parent or guardian.

Teams can consist of 2 to 5 participants. Each team member must be capable of handling all the blame for losing or sinking. Participants will be divided into age appropriate divisions based on the number of registrations received. You will be advised of which division you're in at check in.

U.S. Coast Guard approved Type III personal floatation devices (PFD's, life jackets or vests) must be worn at all times during the race. The life jackets must be in good condition and be of the proper size. No safety equipment will be provided by the race organizers.

All vessels must float on their own.

All participants must be contained within their vessel. No participants can swim alongside their vessel.

ALCOHOL IS NOT TO BE CONSUMED BEFORE OR DURING THE RACE. The presence of alcohol on your vessel and/or the consumption of alcohol during or prior to the race will result in immediate disqualification.

Boat Captains are responsible for the proper salvage and disposal of their craft remains after the regatta. No vessels may remain in Vitale Park after the event is finished.

The regatta organizers reserve the right to amend these rules at any time and will notify you of any changes.