

Twin Pike Family YMCA
"Back to School Pool Party" Cardboard Boat Race
Rules and Regulations

Registration: Teams need to register in advance for the event. All participants must complete and sign a registration form prior to the event.

Theme: All boats are encouraged to have a "Back to School" theme.

Creativity: Creativity will be judged. Crew costumes are encouraged.

Painting/Decoration: Boats may be decorated with acrylic or other water-based paints. All materials must be dry before the boat enters the water.

CONSTRUCTION

Construction Time: Boats must be built before the day of the race and transported to the YMCA on the day of the race.

Materials: Boats must be constructed from corrugated cardboard and duct tape. Duct tape may be of varying colors for creativity but must have come manufactured in that color.

Sharp Objects: Boats must be free of sharp edges or pointy objects that could cause injury.

Waterproofing: Waterproofing is allowed, but is limited to the use of duct tape.

Prohibited Materials: Materials such as metal, plastic, resins, resin paints, fiberglass, laminations, and epoxy, are not allowed. Cardboard cannot be sealed with any sealants.

Size: Boats may be a maximum width of 48" (4 ft.) and a maximum length of 72" (6 ft.)

PROPULSION

Human Power: Boats must be propelled by human power, typically using paddles or oars.

No Mechanical Propulsion: Mechanical propulsion systems are prohibited.

Floatation and Propulsion: During the competition, the rowers must be IN the boat- not towing it or swimming with it. Competitors must not use the lane lines in any way during the competition.

SAFETY

Occupants: Each boat may hold no more than two occupants.

Safety Swim Tests: Boat crew under age 18 must have passed their safety swim tests to participate in the full-lane races.

Exiting the Boat: Overall, boats must be designed to allow easy and quick exit in case of sinking. The compartment CANNOT be enclosed so as to interfere with escape.

Interference: Teams are prohibited from intentionally interfering with other boats. Throwing water on another boat is reason for disqualification.

Clean Up: Teams are required to clean up their boat and any remains after the race. Sunken or discarded boats must be disposed of per management's direction.

INSPECTION:

Disqualification: Boats are subject to inspection and may be disqualified for not meeting any one of the stated rules.

RECOGNITION AWARDS:

Age Divisions:

- 9 and under (Adult assistance required to participate)
- 10-17 years of age
- 18+ year

FASTEST BOAT: If there are more than six boats in any age division, there will be heats in the "Fastest" boat competition. Time from heats will determine the fastest boat.

A team of 3 or more judges will determine those for recognition in each of the following categories.

- **MOST CREATIVE BOAT WITH A BACK TO SCHOOL THEME**
- **MOST ORIGINAL AND INNOVATIVE DESIGN**
- **TITANIC AWARD:** A special award will be given in each class for the most spectacular sinking.

Cardboard Boat Race Tips:

- Follow construction standards and rules.
- Make sure you construct in an area that will allow plenty of room. There's nothing worse than doing all the building and then not being able to fit out the door!
- Choose a style or theme and plan your design before you start building.
- Build the boat bottom first.
- Make sure there are no holes or spaces in your boat.
- More folding, less cutting helps!
- Name your boat, decorate, and add a flag to enhance your design.
- Layering cardboard helps make the design thicker and less likely to sink.
- Think about the weight of you or your team members. Your boat needs to be able to withstand all the weight.
- Give your boat plenty of time to dry before the big race.
- Always have an exit plan! Do not construct a boat that you could get trapped under.
- Use your resources! Parents and the internet make for great help!

Things to consider: • Duct tape is completely waterproof and extremely durable.

- The longer and narrower the boat, the faster it should travel through the water.
- The longer and narrower your boat, the harder it is to turn.
- The more people on your boat, the more weight your boat has to carry.
- The most important ingredient is FUN!

Tips adapted from the Warrensburg, MO Parks and Rec Association