

Duct Tape & Cardboard Boat Regatta Rules

Official Duct Tape and Cardboard Boat Regatta Rules for Kentucky District Royal Rangers

How are your engineering and boat building skills? Try them out here at our Cardboard & Duct Tape Boat Regatta at this fun, family event!

Regatta Rules Material Requirements:

Build boats using only brown corrugated cardboard and duct tape for the regatta boat. No glue, fasteners of any kind, paints, or coatings of any kind.

Use ONLY BROWN corrugated cardboard for the regatta. No plastic, plastic coated, paper coated, labelled or waxed cardboard allowed. No cardboard tubes allowed!

The maximum allowable thickness of corrugated cardboard is one-half inch.

You may NOT use any other objects to give to the structural rigidity or the craft's flotation ability.

We encourage decorations to create a theme (must be family campground appropriate in nature). Themes can include hats and clothing. Cardboard boats may be decorated with markers or paint (as in the boat's name), but decorations may not help keep the boat together, or aloft. Cardboard must be BROWN. Do not paint the whole boat.

Regatta Rules Design Parameters:

We inspect the boats the day of the regatta during building and prior to the race and must follow these guidelines. Any boat not following these guidelines will result in disqualification.

Boats require untreated, non-coated corrugated cardboard. The entire hull, superstructure, and seating must also be made from corrugated cardboard. The maximum thickness of cardboard allowed is two thicknesses. The maximum single thickness of cardboard you may use is 1/2 inch. Thus, the maximum thickness of your two thicknesses of cardboard is one inch. The "seats" may be made of boxes or cardboard.

Only the seams and joints may be taped, not the entire boat. In other words, you may only tape where you put two pieces of cardboard together. When taping seams, only 1.5 inches of tape can overlap the seam. When taping seams, a minimum of twelve inches of cardboard must separate the seams. To score the cardboard, use the dull side of a knife — it makes the cardboard easier to bend.

Both people must be clearly visible while the boat is in the water during the regatta. All occupants of a boat must be able to swim. All occupants must wear a life preserver (provided), water shoes, sneakers, or sandals (no flip flops allowed!). Single occupants must be 9 years or older.

Each team must remove their entire boat (including any and all decorations) or boat remains from the water when the regatta is finished. All boats and remains must be placed in the dump trailer provided.

Boat Propulsion

All boats may be propelled through the water by: utilizing a paddle or oars made of cardboard and duct tape (cardboard tubes are not allowed.) a sail of some sort arms may be in the water to aid with stability and/or propulsion. Boats may not be towed, pulled, or ride on top of participants (immediate disqualification).

