



AMERICA'S CARDBOARD CUP

*Regatta*

CRYSTAL LAKE, IL

**THE RULES**

Revised 4.1.16

## GOAL

America's Cardboard Cup Regatta is a fun, enjoy yourself, have-a-good-time race. Therefore, no matter how fast, slow, big, small, sensible or outrageous your boat is, the first rule is that the boat designers, builders, racers and supporters have fun.

The race is open to everyone—even pirates.

**All monies raised are donated to various charities benefiting McHenry County residents.**

## HOW TO ENTER

Class A, B, C, K or 50 plus, fill out and return the enclosed entry form with proper registration fee. Individual Registration \$25.00 includes a high quality T-shirt. If you register before the early bird deadline, registration is \$20.00. You can also purchase extra t-shirts for your team!

Class D "Kwiki Boats" - register on the day of the race at 9:30am. \$30.00 fee. Limited number, first come, first serve. T-shirt and admission not included.

Class A, B, & C boats may be used by more than one crew by registering each crew separately. You must make a note on your registration letting us know which other crew(s) are using the same boat. We will then number these multi-crewed boats 1A, 1B, 1C, etc. to avoid placing several crews using the same boat in the same heat.

## RULES

### (Mostly Helpful Dos and Don'ts)

#### A. THE HULL

1. The hull construction material must be corrugated paper more commonly known as "cardboard."
2. Non-corrugated cardboard may not be used.
3. Any type of corrugated may be used i.e. waxed, waterproofed, etc.
4. Any weight, thickness of corrugated is permitted.
5. All major and minor supports for the hull must be corrugated. No other material can be used to give the hull support
6. Corrugated cannot be bonded to any other substance. This means vinyl coatings like saran wrap, plastic sheets, or covering the hull entirely with tape is not permitted.
7. Any tape can be used on seams but may not be used more than three (3) inches from a seam or edge.

#### B. OTHER BOAT PARTS

1. Materials other than cardboard can be used for boat parts that are added to the hull. For example—wood, metal, non-corrugated cardboard can be used for oar locks, rudder, centerboard, support area for mast, etc. However, (and here is the catch) they may not contribute to the overall structural makeup of the boat in any but a minor way. So, if you have a 10 foot boat with 5 foot long oar locks that make the boat stiffer, it ain't gonna fly (or float) in the Regatta. Sheet metal is not permitted.

2. Oars, paddles, paddle wheels and other propulsion devices, such as steering systems, masts, booms, and sails need not be corrugated.
3. Seating need not be corrugated. Corrugated seats need not be removable and thus can be part of the boat structure. Non-corrugated seats must be removable and cannot be attached to the hull structure. Be careful here—if it's too large the judges can consider it contributing to hull structure and thus not allowable.
4. Any lone, rigid supports, other than corrugated whether attached to the hull or not, that significantly contribute to the rigidity and strength of the hull may not be used.

### **C. WATERPROOFING**

1. Hulls can be waterproofed with any one part substance. There are many commercial preparations available—also, several coats of varnish, shellac, polyurethane or some house paints have worked well. SECRET HINT—don't forget to waterproof the inside where water can splash in. No tar or tarpaper allowed.
2. Two-part waterproofing substances are not allowed. These include epoxy, fiberglass paints and varnishes that require the addition of a catalyst.
3. The hull may not be wrapped in plastic or any other substance. The hull may not be covered entirely by tape. Use of tape governed by rule A7.

### **D. OTHER CONSTRUCTION**

1. Multi hulls (catamarans, tri-hulls, outrigger type boats)—materials other than corrugated may not be used to connect hulls.
2. Sailboats—materials other than corrugated be used for sailboat masts and sails.

### **E. SAFETY (because we love ya)**

1. All participants are required to wear Coast Guard approved life jackets.
2. For safety sake, boat should be constructed with easy entry and exit.
3. Participants must remove all potentially dangerous objects from their pockets, such as pointy objects, knives, pens, etc.
4. Hull may not contain sharp, pointy objects, sharp edges or anything else that may pose a danger to the occupants or others.
5. Children 4 and under may not participate.
6. Unsportsmanlike conduct will disqualify you. Contacting another person or boat with your paddle at any time will result in disqualification.
7. The use of pyrotechnics (fireworks, smoke bombs, sparklers, etc.) of any kind will result in disqualification.

## F. BOAT APPEARANCE

1. **Commercial Entries:** Commercial names may only appear on a boat if it is a registered commercial entry and the commercial fee is paid.
2. **Individual Entries:** Anything goes—boat names, sayings, marriage proposals, or your Uncle Ralph’s seldom-used nickname, but please refrain from profanity—after all, this is a family fun event.

## BOAT CLASSES

### CLASS A

Boats propelled by any kind of rowing oars, canoe, or Kayak paddles

### CLASS B

Boats propelled by all other kinds of people power, including people powered air or water propellers, water wheels, bicycle type drives, etc.

### CLASS C

Sailboats—any size, style or amount of sail.

### CLASS D—“Kwiki Boats”

Boats built by spectator-sailors on site. These magnificent crafts will be put together using a kit containing the necessary materials and tools. Kits will be available in limited numbers on race day beginning at 9:30am for a cost of \$25.00 (includes material and registration fees). There is no time limit—just finish by the start of your race. All material will be supplied in kits. No other material may be used in the construction of the Kwiki boats. Paddles, oars, or other means of propulsion are not supplied. (No motors please!)

### CLASS K

Kids aged 5 through 10 years will participate on a special shortened, shallow-water course. Participation rather than competition will be emphasized, with a prize for each contestant.

## BOAT SIZE

Boats must be somewhere in between a doll’s bathtub and the Titanic in size. However, maximum crew size is 10.

## THE RACE

In order to give everyone as fair a chance as possible, we will try to run as few boats as is practical in each heat. To qualify for the semi-finals and finals, the **best time** will prevail. So, even if you’re in last place, push it! Your time may qualify you to advance. Time permitting, it is our intention to have a semi-final with approximately 50% of the preliminary heat participants qualifying. Again, everything is on the basis of time—not finish position. If you feel you have been fouled or unfairly held up by another competitor, you can ask to race again. If the officials saw the infraction and think your request is justified and it is possible to schedule you in another race, it will be done.

## THE RACE COURSE

Adult course is approximately 200 yards long, roughly in the shape of an upside-down U. Kids’ course is a short, simplified course in shallow water.

[www.cardboardcup.com](http://www.cardboardcup.com)

The America's Cardboard Cup Regatta is based upon the Great Cardboard Boat Regatta conducted annually in Carbondale, Illinois by the Southern Illinois University Alumni Association.

## **AWARDS**

### **AMERICA'S CARDBOARD CUP**

Best time of the day in Class A or C earns the honor of challenging for America's Cardboard Cup. If the present holder of the cup does not defend, the boats with the best time in classes A and C will race for the cup. The present holder of the cup will race one warm-up race prior to the race for the cup.

### **GEEZER CUP**

A race only for those that are 50 years young and older. Grab a boat, any kind of boat as long as it is made of cardboard and conforms to these rules, and come on down and show us that you've still got it!

### **STARS & STRIPES AWARD**

The boat with the most patriotic theme, best use of patriotic colors, etc.

### **MOST SPECTACULAR SINKING AWARD**

Sink and look good! Nothing can be used that will leave residue in the water. Fireworks cannot be used. A violation of Safety Rule #7 will result in disqualification.

### **MOST CREATIVE THEME BOAT AWARD**

The boat that most creatively expresses a specific idea, an expression, a title, story or incident, including movies, TV shows, books, poems, or children's stories.

### **PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD**

Impress the public! Vote for your favorite at the Pavilion

### **MOST ENTHUSIASTIC CREW AWARD**

This can include boat crew and pit crew.

### **THE KIDDIE CUP**

Everyone gets a trophy.

## **PROCEEDS DONATED TO A NUMBER OF WORTHY 501c3 LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Adult/Child Rehab Center

Andy's Chapter of Hope

Bear Necessities

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Crystal Lake Teen Center (The Break)

Family Alliance

Family Health Partnership Clinic

Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County

Home of the Sparrow

Horizons for the Blind

Interfaith Food Pantry

Journeycare

McHenry County Coop Dental Clinic

Options & Advocacy (McHenry)

PADS

P.E.A.C.E. For All

Pioneer Center

Sage YMCA

Salvation Army

Senior Care Volunteer Network

Senior Services Association

Turning Point