

The Paladin Paddle: A Cardboard Boat Race!



THE RULES

GOAL: The Petoskey Cardboard Boat Race (*AKA Paladin Paddle*) is a fun, have-a-good-time race. No matter how fast, slow, big, small, or outrageous your boat, the first rule is to have fun.

*All monies raised support **Petoskey Robotics** – FIRST Robotics programs for all ages!*

HOW TO ENTER: Find a crew or crew a boat yourself. Determine a boat design and build it using cardboard and tape per rules that follow.

RULES (Mostly Helpful Dos and Don'ts)

- A. THE HULL:** The only materials allowed in boat hull construction are cardboard and tape at the seams. Wrapping the entire hull in tape or other materials is NOT permitted.
- B. OARS and OTHER BOAT PARTS:** Other types of materials may be used for boat parts that are added to the hull or used for propulsion, steering or seating.
- C. WATERPROOFING:** Hulls may be waterproofed with any ONE part substance (varnish, shellac, polyurethane, etc...). HINT—don't forget to waterproof the inside where water can splash in.
- D. SAFETY:** All participants must be aged 10 and up and are required to wear Coast Guard approved life jackets; no sharp or pointy objects on boat or in crew's pockets; unsportsmanlike conduct will result in disqualification (contact with other boats, fireworks, smoke bombs, profanity, etc...).
- E. BOAT APPEARANCE:** Anything goes—but please remember that this is a family fun event.
- F. BOAT CLASSES:** Classes are based on age and will include a mixed age class.
- G. BOAT SIZE:** Pretty much anything goes, however, maximum crew size is 4.
- H. THE RACE:** We will run heats, based on the number of entries. Overall best times will determine the advancement to semi-finals. Approximately half the total number of entries will go to the semi-final rounds. Everything is based on time, not finish position (until the final final!).
- I. THE COURSE:** The course is approximately 100 yards long, in the shape of an upside-down U.
- J. APPEAL:** If you feel you have been fouled or unfairly held up, you may ask to race again.

AWARDS

- **COMPETITION CLASS WINNERS:** *The winning boat from each class will be recognized.*
- **PALADIN PADDLE CUP:** *Best times from each competition class will be compared to each other to determine the Paladin Paddle Cup winner.*
- **MOST SPECTACULAR SINKING AWARD:** *Sink and look good!*
- **MOST CREATIVE BOAT AWARD:** *The boat that most creatively expresses a specific idea, an expression, a title, story or incident, including movies, TV shows, books, or poems, stories.*
- **BEST ENGINEERED BOAT AWARD:** *This award will be given to the boat deemed to be the most efficient use of cardboard and best hydrodynamics.*