



# Rainier Dragon Boat Festival

Presented by  
**MultiCare Health System**  
&

Sponsored by  
**CHI Franciscan and General Plastics Mfg Co**

Hosted by Tacoma Dragon Boat Association

**Saturday, May 18, 2019**

Thea's Park, Foss Waterway

535 Dock Street East

Tacoma, WA 98421

## Team Registration Packet

Paddles Up!

[tacomadragonboat.org](http://tacomadragonboat.org)

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Hello Paddlers!

The **Tacoma Dragon Boat Association** (TDBA) is pleased to host the annual Rainier Dragon Boat Festival. This event is Presented by MultiCare Health System and Sponsored by CHI Franciscan and General Plastics Mfr. Company. This annual regatta has become one of the premier competitive dragon boat events in the Pacific Northwest.

TDBA invites competitive and corporate/community teams to join us. The race course is 500 or 250 meters, and the race venue is located at Thea's Park on the Foss Waterway in beautiful downtown Tacoma, Washington.

This registration packet includes:

- Registration Information (available online at [tacomadragonboat.org](http://tacomadragonboat.org))
- Registration Form for mail-in registration
- Team Roster/Paddler Waiver Acknowledgement Form

**IMPORTANT:** If registering via mail, payment must be received by TDBA by April 30, 2019, in order to complete your registration.

Follow us on social media at  
[Facebook.com/TacomaDragonBoatAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/TacomaDragonBoatAssociation)  
[Instagram.com/DestinyDragons](https://www.instagram.com/DestinyDragons)  
[Twitter.com/TTownDragonBoat](https://twitter.com/TTownDragonBoat)

[tacomadragonboat.org](http://tacomadragonboat.org)

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**There are two ways to register your team for the festival:**

- 1. Pay Online** - Visit [TacomaDragonboat.org](http://TacomaDragonboat.org) to pay online with a credit card, download the rules, registration information and waiver form.

When paying online please also complete one registration form per team and email to [tacomadragonboat@hotmail.com](mailto:tacomadragonboat@hotmail.com).

- 2. Pay by Mail** - Fill out this paperwork and mail it with your check to:

**Tacoma Dragon Boat Association (TDBA)**

**PO Box 64862**

**University Place, WA 98464**

*(Must be received by April 30, 2019)*

NOTE: There is a per-team discount of \$50 for three teams or more. This discount is available when paying by mail. It is not available online at this time.

For questions about registration please contact Shiela Marsh, Race Registrar.

- Via cell phone at 253-302-0316
- Via email [smarie7488@aol.com](mailto:smarie7488@aol.com) or at

**[TacomaDragonBoat@hotmail.com](mailto:TacomaDragonBoat@hotmail.com)**

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Rainier Dragon Boat Festival – May 18, 2019

Thea's Park on the Foss Waterway

535 Dock Street E – Tacoma, WA 98421

**Entry Fees:** \$500 Adult Team / \$250 Youth Team

There is a per-team discount of \$50 for three teams or more. This discount is available when paying by mail. It is not available online at this time.

A \$75 fee will be charged for all cancellations **prior** to April 30, 2019. Fees are non-refundable **after** April 30, 2019.

**No entry fees will be taken after April 30, 2019.**

**Registration:** See Form Below

**Divisions:** Mixed, Women, Youth, Cancer Survivor, Corporate, Community (*A minimum of three teams will be needed to create a division.*)

- ✓ Mixed teams will consist of 20 paddlers (a minimum of 10 paddlers identifying as female), 1 caller, 1 steersperson, and 1-4 alternates. Callers and steers will be provided, if needed, for corporate and community teams.
- ✓ Mixed teams at least half of the crew shall be comprised of paddlers identifying as female.
- ✓ Non-youth team paddlers must be 14 years old or older.

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**Must be submitted no later than April 30, 2019**

<b>Team Name:</b>	
<b>Team Manager / Contact Name:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	
<b>Team Manager's Signature:</b>	
<b>Indicate Your Division:</b> Mixed, Women's, Youth, Cancer Survivor, Corporate/Community, etc.	
<b>Team Profile:</b> Please provide a brief description of your team including team name for the Festival Announcers (maximum 100 words).	



## RAINIER DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL

Presented by Tacoma Dragon Boat Association

May 18, 2019

### OFFICIAL RACE RULES & REGULATIONS

#### SAFETY

The first priority of all competitors is the safety of your team and other teams you are racing.

1. Should a boat be in apparent distress, appropriate aid will be rendered as required.
2. No standing in the boat while the boat is on the water. All team members must remain seated at all times. **No adjusting paddlers due to balance once your boat leaves the dock.**
3. Life vests must be properly buckled/zippered while the team is in the marshalling area prior to entering the boats going down the ramp. Life jackets must be worn until back on land off the dock/ramp. All life jackets must be Coast Guard approved.

#### RACE DETAILS

1. Crews must contain a minimum of 16 paddlers and a maximum 20 paddlers.
2. Crews competing in the mixed division/class, at least half of the crew shall be comprised of paddlers identifying as female.
3. Community Team are allowed a maximum of 3 club crew paddlers
4. All team members must have signed a waiver before they are allowed in the boat.
5. All team members in the boat at the start line must be in the boat at the finish line or they will be disqualified.
6. The course for competitive races is 500 meters in length. The course for corporate and community races is 250 meters.
7. Teams will be assigned numbered lanes and must line up and stay within their assigned lanes during the entire race.
8. Teams must complete all assigned race heats to be eligible for awards.

#### STARTING THE RACE

1. The Race Starter will provide instructions when lining up for the start. It is imperative to listen carefully and follow these instructions.
2. Drummers may not drum before the start signal. Drummers must stop drumming should a false start be called. A false start is signaled by 3 short blasts after the start signal.

3. Starter instructions may include procedures for the boats to “hold”, “back up”, and “one minute to start” as boats are lining up to start the race.
4. Once the Starter believes the boats are evenly aligned, the warning signal of “attention please!” will be the cue to paddlers to prepare for the start. The Starter may sound the start signal at any time following the warning of “Attention Please!”

### **RIGHT OF WAY RULES**

1. A boat changing lanes before a heat may not pass in front of any team on the course. Doing so will result in penalty or disqualification.
2. Boats must avoid contact at all times while on the water. Contact between boats will result in a penalty or disqualification.
3. Non-competing boats must stay clear of the boats in competition.

### **FINISHING**

1. The finish line will be clearly marked by finish buoys.
2. The dragon boat’s bow must cross the finish line to stop the clock.
3. When your boat crosses the finish line, stay in your lane and “let it ride”. Then check for clearance and turn toward the shore in a slow turn heading to the docks as quickly and safely as possible.

### **DISQUALIFICATION AND PENALTIES**

1. Teams deemed to have broken rules of racing or safety protocol may receive a time penalty or disqualification, depending on the seriousness of the incident.
2. Any team or competitor who attempts to win by other than honorable means or who deliberately breaks the race rules shall face disqualification from the competition.
3. Team members who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be disqualified from racing. Tacoma Dragon Boat Association has the sole discretion to deny any racer from entering a boat if it believes a racer has exhibited behavior to indicate alcohol or drug use.
4. The Race Director may disqualify any team or racer who behaves improperly, or exhibits bad conduct or speech toward persons attending the event, including spectators.
5. Removal of boat safety equipment (bailers, etc.) will result in a time penalty to the team.
6. Removal or unfastening of a life jacket prior to returning to leaving the dock/ramp will result in a time penalty to the team.
7. Time penalties assessed can range from 1 – 10 seconds and are at the discretion of the Race Official.

### **APPEALS**

1. Appeals must be made verbally by the Captain and made only to the Dock Marshall immediately following the heat in which the penalty was assessed.
2. The Dock Marshall will investigate the appeal and discuss with the Race Director and the Race Starter. The Race Director will make the final ruling, which is final without appeal.

### **RACE DAY**

All teams need to be aware of their scheduled race times. It is the responsibility of the team manager to have all team members to the marshalling area when their team has been called to race.

What to wear or bring on race day:

- Dress for the weather and prepare for wet conditions

- Team uniform or shirts with team names
- Tennis shoes, aqua sock style shoes or other appropriate water sport sandals
- Bottled water (not allowed in boats)
- No wallets, keys, jewelry, purses or cell phones are allowed in the dragon boat

Please Note: Life jackets and paddles will be provided by TDBA if any member of your team does not have one. You are welcome to use your own paddles and PFDs as long as they are within IDBF regulations.

### **MARSHALLING AREA**

1. Do not report to the marshalling area until your heat number and team name is called. Teams will be called to the marshalling area approximately 20 minutes prior to their heat.
2. When your team arrives, you will be asked to line up with the Steersperson and drummer first followed by the team members of the boat.
3. Remind all team members that they need to have been recorded on the roster and signed the form.
4. Life jackets and paddles will be distributed in this area. You will remain in this area until docks are clear for loading.

### **DOCKS**

1. Team members are not to gather on the dock until instructed to do so. This is to ensure clear passage for teams needing to get into and safely out of their boats upon conclusion of their heat.
2. Teams will be directed to load the boats starting with the steersperson followed by the drummer then the remaining crew.
3. All teams are required to load in a safe, controlled, orderly fashion. Once the boat is loaded, wait for instruction to leave the docks.

### **FINISH**

1. Once the team is back at the dock after your race, please make sure you unload your boat from the center.
2. Life jackets are to be worn until you are off the dock and have returned to the marshalling area. All team members must either hand off borrowed lifejackets and paddles to another team waiting in marshalling or place them into designated receptacles.

### **RESULTS**

Each race is based on finish times. There will be a results board located near Registration. Awards and closing ceremonies will follow all final races.

**SAFETY FIRST AND ENJOY THE RACE!!**  
**Paddles Up!**