



## Dragonboat



# COMPETITION MANUAL

Updated: August 2025



## **GUIDING BODIES**

World Police and Fire Games Federation (WPFGF)  
7944 Convoy Court., San Diego, CA 92111 USA  
Tele: (858) 571-9919; Email: 4info@cpaf.org

International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF)  
Peter Tang General Secretary  
[www.dragonboat.sport/](http://www.dragonboat.sport/) or Email: [general-secretary@dragonboat.sport](mailto:general-secretary@dragonboat.sport)

## **[CLICK HERE FOR GOVERNING BODY FULL RULES](#)**

International rules will be followed unless specified in WPFG Guidelines

## **EVENTS**

### **Men's: 18+**

10's racing  
20s racing

### **Women's: 18+**

10s racing

### **Mixed: 18+ & 35+**

10's racing (at least 2 women required for a mixed team)  
20's racing (at least 4 women required for a mixed team)

**ALL RACES WILL BE HELD OVER A DISTANCE OF 200M**

**Age as of Date: 12/31/2027**

**Entry Deadline: 2/28/2027**

## **TEAM AND CREW COMPOSITION**

### **10 Person Boat**

A 10's Team roster can consist of as many as fifteen (15) people: a minimum of eight (8) and maximum of ten (10) paddlers, one (1) drummer, one (1) steerer, and two (2) reserve paddlers. The team may also have a sworn non-playing coach. (Refer to the WPFG General Rules).

Active-duty competitors from police and fire agencies may combine to form a team regardless of agency size **WITHIN A CONTINENT OF EMPLOYMENT**. Each



team can be a combination of police agencies and fire agencies or just police/or just fire.

Retired competitors may combine to form a team in any manner they wish including across country lines with other eligible competitors regardless of police or fire agency.

### **20 Person Boat**

A 20's Team roster can consist of as many as twenty-seven (27) people: a minimum of sixteen (16) and maximum of twenty (20) paddlers, one (1) drummer, one (1) steerer, and four (4) reserve paddlers. The team may also have a sworn non-playing coach. (Refer to the WPFG General Rules).

Active-duty and Retired competitors from police and fire agencies may combine to form a team in any manner they wish including across country lines with other eligible competitors regardless of police or fire agency. You must select an agency and country that the team will compete under for the Games.

## **EQUIPMENT**

### **BOATS**

The Host will supply four race boats of the same style, which are to be used by all competitors.

### **PADDLES**

Only those paddles approved for use by the International Dragon Boat Federation may be used. Competitors are encouraged to bring their own paddles; should this not be possible, competitors must notify the Host as soon as possible so the Host can arrange to supply paddles.

### **LIFE VEST**

All participants including sweeps and drummers must wear an approved life vest while competing. Competitors may bring their own vests or approved vests will be provided.

## **GENERAL SPORT RULES for Dragon Boat**

**DRUMMER** – Each boat crew must supply a “drummer”. This person must be a registered competitor. The DRUMMER can be any gender regardless of division.



**STEERERS** –All steerers must be certified by the relevant Dragon Boat Association applicable to the person’s home State or Country. **If a volunteer steerer is used that is not eligible to compete in the World Police & Fire Games no medal will be awarded to that steerer.**

**PROTESTS:** See *WPFG General Rules*.

### **AWARDING OF MEDALS TO ATHLETES AND COACHES**

One Non-playing coaches can **ONLY** receive a medal if they are eligible to participate in the games. This means that the coach would have to pass the same requirements of an athlete to receive a medal. This coach will receive an Athlete’s Credential when they register at the Accreditation Center and should do so at the Special Handling booth to receive the Athlete’s Credential.

Coaches who do not meet the requirements to participate in the Games **will not** receive a medal. **Technical Support Personnel SHALL NOT** receive medals.

During the medal presentation, only athletes and eligible coaches are allowed to participate in this ceremony. Each athlete and one eligible coach **SHALL** present their Athlete’s Credential. If the athlete or coach does not present their Athlete’s Credential, they **SHALL NOT** receive a medal. This is a mandatory requirement to receive a medal.

Technical Support Personnel and children are not allowed on the podium with the teams during the medal presentation.

The sport coordinator **SHALL** have in their possession a copy of the CSE Report and the team’s final roster that was submitted at the team captains meeting to verify the athletes being awarded medals.