



ICE DRAGON BOAT CHALLENGE

February 15, 16 & 17, 2020



*Preserving the Past
While Building the Future*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

EVENT

When is the Ice Dragon Boat Challenge?

Thunder Bay's first Ice Dragon Boat Challenge will be held during Fort William Historical Park's Voyageur Winter Carnival on February 15th, 16th & 17th, 2020.

Where is the Ice Dragon Boat Challenge?

The Ice Dragon Boat Challenge will take place on the Kaministiquia River at Fort William Historical Park, 1350 King Road, Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Will there be any prizes? When will they be awarded?

Trophies will be awarded to the top three (3) teams in both the Youth (Ages 12-17) and Adult (18+) categories. A prize will also be awarded to the top fundraising team. Trophies and prizes will be presented at the Awards Ceremony on Monday, February 17th, 2020.

REGISTRATION

When does registration close?

Friday, January 24th, 2020 at 4:00pm.

How much is the registration fee?

The registration fee is \$500 per team. Each team is also required to collect a minimum of \$500 in pledges per team. The total pledge amount will be divided equally between the United Way of Thunder Bay and the Lakehead Canoe Club.

What is included with the registration fee?

The registration fee includes participation in the Ice Dragon Boat Challenge and a three-day weekend pass to Fort William Historical Park's Voyageur Winter Carnival.

How do I register my team?

Teams can pick-up registration packages at the Fort William Historical Park's Visitor Centre from Monday to Friday from 9:00am-4:00pm or [download the registration package](#). Completed registration packages can be submitted in person at Fort William Historical Park's Visitor Centre, by fax 807-473-2312, or by email to

reservations@fwhp.ca. To register you will need to provide a team name, list of team members and the \$500 registration fee payment. If registering in person, payment can be made by VISA, MasterCard, Debit, Cash, or Cheque made payable to the “Minister of Finance”. If registering by fax, please provide payment information on Team Registration form and FWHP will contact the Team Captain confirming payment once processed. If registering by email, FWHP will contact the Team Captain for VISA or MasterCard payment information upon receipt of the registration package. Please do not provide credit card information on emailed registration forms.

Do I need to sign a waiver?

Yes, all team members are required to submit the waiver included in the registration package. 18+ participants will complete a “Full & Final Release Waiver & Consent” form included. Participants 18 years and under are required to submit the “Parental Agreement & Consent for Participants Under 18.” Team Captains must submit all waivers together for their team prior to the first practice. Waivers can be dropped off at the Fort William Historical Park Visitor Centre, Monday to Friday between 9:00am-4:00pm, faxed to 807-473-2312, or emailed to reservations@fwhp.ca. Waivers will also be accepted at the Team Check-in Area located inside Fort William Historical Park’s Visitor Centre between 8:30am-9:30am on their scheduled race day.

What is the team refund policy?

In the event that the Ice Dragon Boat Challenge is cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances beyond the reasonable control of Fort William Historical Park, a refund of the registration fee will be issued to the Team Captain. Refunds will not be issued for team withdrawals of any kind.

FUNDRAISING

When are pledges due?

The Team Captain is responsible for collecting all pledges raised and submitting to Fort William Historical Park prior to first practice time.

- Youth Team Pledges Deadline: Saturday, February 15th, 2020
- Adult Team Pledges Deadline: Sunday, February 16th, 2020

RACE COURSE

How long is the racing distance?

The race course is 125 meters (~410 feet) in length.

Where will the races take place?

The races will take place on the Kaministiquia River at Fort William Historical Park.

TEAMS

What are the age categories for the Ice Dragon Boat Challenge?

Two team categories will be offered, Youth and Adult. Youth paddlers are ages 12-17. Adult paddlers are ages 18+.

Do I need to be an experienced "paddler" to participate?

All levels are welcome.

How many people are allowed per team?

Teams are comprised of up to 10 paddlers, one (1) drummer, one (1) steers person with a maximum of 12 people per boat. A minimum of six (6) paddlers are required to race. Two (2) spare paddlers may be included on the team roster. If required, a steers person can be provided.

The drummer is an important team member on any dragon boat team. Sitting at the front of the boat and facing their paddling teammates, the drummer will use their voice and a drum to set the rhythm for their team. Drummers can be a source of motivation, encouraging their teammates all the way to the finish line. The drum and drum sticks are provided. A little rhythm and a loud voice are the only prerequisites.

Can a person paddle, steer or drum for more than one (1) team?

A person may only paddle for one (1) team. A steers person or drummer may be a member of more than one (1) team.

When are team rosters due?

A completed team roster must be submitted with the registration form and fee by Friday, January 24th, 2020 at 4:00pm.

Can I swap a team member on the roster if necessary?

Team members can be removed or added to the team roster until Monday, February 11th, 2020 at 4:00pm. Team Captains must call 807-473-2344 to complete the change.

Is there a Team Captains Meeting?

Yes, the Team Captains Meeting will take place at Fort William Historical Park at 9:30am on the day of competition (Youth – Saturday, Adult – Sunday).

PRACTICE SCHEDULES

Are teams allowed any practice times?

Teams will be provided with one (1) scheduled practice time prior to their scheduled races. Practice times will begin at 10:00am on race day at Fort William Historical Park for each team category. Youth practices will take place on Saturday, February 15th, 2020 and Adult practices will take place on Sunday, February 16th, 2020.

Where can I find the practice schedule?

Practice schedules will be emailed to the Team Captain one week prior to the event and will be posted on the [Ice Dragon Boat Challenge webpage](#). Practice times will take place prior to race times for the associated age category. Specific practice times will be allocated for each team.

RACE SCHEDULES

Where can I find the race schedule?

Youth teams will compete on Saturday, February 15th, 2020. Adult teams will compete on Sunday, February 16th, 2020. The finals will take place on Monday, February 17th, 2020. A detailed race schedule will be sent out to Team Captains and posted on the [Ice Dragon Boat Challenge webpage](#) one week prior to the event.

How many races will my team compete in?

On race day, each team will compete in two (2) races in their age category. Teams that advance to the finals will compete in additional races on Monday, February 17th, 2020. The number of races is subject to change, dependent on weather and ice conditions.

RACE PACKAGES

Will team members have specialized identification credentials?

Yes, team members will receive an Admission Pass that must be visible at all times. Admission Passes will be included in the race package. Team Captains are responsible for ensuring the correct number of Admission Passes have been received upon race package pick-up and for distributing all Admission Passes to team members. No additional Admission Passes will be provided. The Admission Pass also provides entry for the participant to the Voyageur Winter Carnival (February 15th, 16th & 17th, 2020).

When can I pick up my team's race package?

Team Captains will receive one (1) race package for their team which will include pertinent event information and team Admissions passes. The race package will be available for pick-up at Fort William Historical Park's Visitor Centre on Wednesday, February 12th, Thursday, February 13th and Friday, February 14th, 2020 from 9:00am-4:00pm. Race packages will also be available for pick-up at the Team Check-in Area located inside Fort William Historical Park's Visitor Centre between 8:30am-9:30am on Saturday, February 15th, 2020 and Sunday, February 16th, 2020.

What if I lose or damage my Admission pass?

Team Captains are responsible for ensuring the correct number of Admission passes are received in the Race Package upon pick-up and distributing to team members. FWHP is not responsible for and will not replace lost passes. If an Admission pass is lost, the team member will be required to purchase a replacement at the Fort William Historical Park's Visitor Centre. FWHP will only replace a damaged Admission pass if the damaged pass is presented and it will be exchanged.

EQUIPMENT & CLOTHING

What equipment do I need to bring?

All boats and equipment, including ice paddles and drums will be supplied.

What should I wear?

Participants should come prepared for the weather conditions. Ensure to pack appropriate winter clothing such as a toque, warm gloves or mittens and extra socks.

Are there any restrictions of what can be worn in the boats?

Footwear and footwear accessories that contain ice picks, skates, or anything that could potentially damage the boats, and loose clothing such as scarfs cannot be worn while in the boats.

REST AREAS

Where can my team "hang-out"? Can we bring a tent or shelter?

Teams can watch the races from the Wharf at Fort William Historical Park. There will be a designated outdoor rest area for teams on the Wharf and an indoor location on the historic site. There is no area available to set-up tents or shelters. Teams are encouraged to check out the variety of exciting activities occurring at Voyageur Winter Carnival outside of their scheduled race times.

Is there somewhere I can put my belongings during the event?

Limited space will be available in a storage trailer located on the Wharf as well as in the designated team hang-out area on the historic site at Fort William Historical Park. If the storage trailer or team hang-out area building has reached capacity, all participants are asked to keep their belongings with them at all times during the event. During the races, we recommend participants leave their belongings with a friend or family member. Fort William Historical Park is not responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged items.

Will food and beverage be available on site?

Food and Beverage will be available for purchase at the event. Licensed area will be available (19+). All visitors will be asked for appropriate identification by staff to enter the liquor licensed areas. Outside food and beverages are not allowed at the event.

VOLUNTEERS

Can I volunteer for the Ice Dragon Boat Challenge?

Volunteers who meet the criteria will be designated a specific role based on their knowledge and experience. Anyone interested in volunteering must complete the [Ice Dragon Boat Challenge Volunteer Interest Form](#) and submit via email to volunteer@paddlesport.org by 4:00pm on Friday, January 31st, 2020. For further

information about volunteering, contact the Lakehead Canoe Club by calling 807-345-8467 or emailing volunteer@paddlesport.org.

[Click HERE to download the Volunteer Interest Form \(PDF\)](#)

Will there be a Volunteer Orientation?

A Volunteer Orientation for Ice Dragon Boat Challenge volunteers will be held on Sunday, February 2nd, 2020 from 1:00pm-3:00pm in McGillivray's Landing located in Fort William Historical Park's Visitor Centre, 1350 King Road.

Can I volunteer for other Voyageur Winter Carnival activities?

Yes, Fort William Historical Park is seeking volunteers to assist with a variety of other exciting activities happening at Voyageur Winter Carnival. Please email volunteer@fwhp.ca for details on other volunteer opportunities.