



## SAN DIEGO DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT: **San Diego Dragon Boat Festival** <http://sdalliance.org>

WHEN: **Saturday, May 7, 2011, 9 am – 5 pm**  
(Teams begin arriving at 7:00 am for registration and orientation)

WHERE: **Playa Pacifica (north of Hilton), Mission Bay Park.** See map at [http://sdalliance.org/DBF%20Files/Festival\\_map.pdf](http://sdalliance.org/DBF%20Files/Festival_map.pdf).

CONTACT: Linda Tu at 858-405-3326 or [linda\\_alliance@yahoo.com](mailto:linda_alliance@yahoo.com)

#### What should I bring and wear on race day?

- Wear water-resistant clothes (e.g., shorts, bathing suit underneath, rash guard, windbreak).
- DO NOT WEAR JEANS, COTTON, or FLEECE** because you will get wet!!
- Optional, but recommended items include a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, and water gloves.
- You may wish to wear water-resistant shoes or go barefoot in the boats. **FLIP FLOPS are NOT recommended.**
- Do not wear a watch or jewelry that you do not want to get wet.
- Bring a towel, change of clothes and shoes, water or sports drink.
- Please also bring money to buy lunch from Festival food vendors as well as SD Dragon Boat Festival t-shirts and other souvenirs, including Asian arts and crafts.
- Bring your camera too!
- Team leaders--PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN TENT, CANOPY, OR TARP if you would like a covered shelter in your team's assigned area. You will be on grass. Please bring your own lawn chairs, picnic mats, etc. to sit in your team's area (first come first choice).**

#### What do I receive for my \$31.25 registration fee? (for 16-paddler teams paying \$500/ team)

Paddlers who register, execute a waiver, and pay a non-refundable \$31.25 will receive the following:

- (1) An unforgettable day of racing on the water, celebration on land, and a great team-building experience
  - (2) Use of wooden paddle blade\*, life jacket\*, 40-foot dragon boat\*
  - (3) Steersperson and drummer for each dragon boat provided by San Diego Dragon Boat Team
  - (4) On-site paddle training and water commands from SDDBT
  - (5) Participation in two or more dragon boat races
  - (6) Souvenir Festival program booklet
- (\*Paddles, life jackets, and dragon boats are property of SDDBT and must be returned.)

#### What do I receive for my \$40 registration fee? (for 16-paddler teams paying \$640/ team)

All of the above, plus

- (7) Souvenir Festival T-shirt

**How many races will I participate in?**

Depending on how your team fares, you will paddle in at least two races and as many as six races. Using the “round robin” elimination method, the winning team in one heat will compete against the winning team in another heat until we are left with two competitors. The top three teams will rank First (gold), Second (silver), and Third (bronze) place.

**May I participate in the Festival if I do not have a team of 16?**

If possible, Festival will place you on a team.

**May I participate in the Festival if I can only stay for part of the day?**

If possible, Festival will find you a replacement. Alternatively, your team may race with fewer than 16 paddlers.

**Will I have the opportunity to practice before race day?**

No, Festival contracts with SDDBT to provide paddlers with on-site training on the day of the race. No experience is required. All paddlers in the Festival are novice.

**What can I do to prepare and train for the race?**

Cardio and strength training are recommended, but not necessary. All paddlers in the Festival are novice. On day of the event, make sure to stay hydrated and stretch when possible.

**How is the winning team determined?**

First boat to completely cross the “finish line” is the winning team for that heat. SDDBT has full discretion to call the winner of close races.

**What is the physical distance of the races?**

Depending on the wind and other weather conditions, one race would be 250 meters.

**How can I monitor the progress of my team throughout the Festival?**

SDDBT will post the winners from each heat at a central location.

**What do I receive if my team wins?**

The top three teams will receive both a trophy for the team and 16 medals for the individual paddlers.

**Is the Festival free and open to the public?**

Yes! The event is free and open to the public.

**Can friends and family watch me paddle?**

Our Dragon Boat Festival is for everyone. Have friends, family and fans come down for the day and cheer you on! The location of our Festival is ideal for viewing the entire race from start to finish.

When you are not racing, join your entourage in enjoying our Asian Pacific Heritage Festival on land. Try out Asian cuisines, shop for arts and crafts, appreciate the works of Asian artists and craftspeople.

**What is the schedule for the Festival?**

The schedule, subject to change without notice, is listed below:

## **FESTIVAL SCHEDULE**

- 7:00-8:00 am Teams arrive and set up  
(See map at [http://sdalliance.org/DBF%20Files/Festival\\_map.pdf](http://sdalliance.org/DBF%20Files/Festival_map.pdf))
- 8:15-8:45 am **Mandatory Captains/Team Leaders' Meeting with SDDBT**
- 8:45 am Call to Assembly to Main Stage
- 9:00 am **Festival Opening Ceremony**  
San Diego Lucky Lion Dancers
- Introduction to Festival by Festival organizers  
President & Alliance Board Members  
San Diego Alliance for Asian and Pacific Islander Americans
- Singing of National Anthem
- Introduction of Guest of Honor
- Ceremonies of Blessing-the-Dragon-Boats & Dotting-the-Dragon's-Eyes
- 9:30-10:00 am Teams begin training
- 10:00 am **First-round races begin**  
[Racing continues through lunch hour]
- 4:00 pm **Closing Ceremony on Main Stage**  
Awarding of trophies and medals to First, Second, and Third-place teams
- [Entertainment, food, arts and crafts of Asian Pacific Heritage Festival continuous all day.]

The San Diego Dragon Boat Festival thanks the County of San Diego Community Enhancement Program and Qualcomm, Inc. for their sponsorships; the City of San Diego for use of Playa Pacifica in Mission Bay Park; the San Diego Dragon Boat Team for running our races; all Festival team captains and their team members, our Asian Pacific Islander performers and artists, our Asian food vendors, and all Festival participants for making our Festival a great day for San Diego: dragon boat racing and celebrating our Asian Pacific Islander heritage.