

The Raft Race Committee promotes a safe, family-oriented event. We encourage all participants to act in a responsible sportsman-like manner, obey all safety requirements and raft race rules, assist their fellow rafters when necessary, and above all, enjoy the event. Remember, safety comes first! Watch out for fellow rafters, lend assistance when needed, and have fun.

1 All captains are required to read these Rules and inform the entire crew.

2 All captains are responsible for obtaining a signature on the "Risk Awareness Acknowledgement, Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability Agreement" from each person on their vessel.

3 Racecourse starts and finishes on Black Beach. Participants will be expected to row/propel themselves out to a buoy or stationary boat and return to the shoreline. The start and finish will be from at same point.

4 The anticipated duration of the race is from approximately 12 midday – 12.30 followed by a presentation ceremony on the main stage at 4.30pm

5 We encourage the use of water guns and super soakers but NO WATER BALLOONS shall be permitted.

6 No alcohol is to be consumed before or during the race. There will be plenty of libations available at the festival in the maritime village and Café de Rude

for post race celebrations!

7 All entries will be required to accept a tow if found to be foundering mid-race and/or have not finished by 1:00 p.m.

8 All rafts must be of homemade construction, no commercially manufactured nautical parts allowed with the exception of rope, cleats and other rigging.

9 Raft size shall be limited to a maximum size of 4 metres wide by 6 metres long. The height for rafts shall be limited to no more than 5 metres above the waterline.

10 All sheet metal raw edges to be turned over and taped.

11 Any protruding long bolts are to be sawed off, filed, and taped.

12 All rafts may be inspected prior to launch and are subject to modification and/or disqualification at the discretion of the Committee and/or based on the Rules.

13 All entries must be solely human powered and self-propelled and make use of poles, oars, paddles, paddlewheels, sails, propellers, flippers, etc. or any combination thereof.

14 All minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

15 Each entry must be equipped with at least 15 metres of 80mm towline.

16 Each participant must wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket at all times during the event.

17 Captains will ensure their crew wears the Coast Guard approved life jackets aboard their raft AND will also conduct "abandon ship" drills with the crews donning life jackets before heading out.

18 All Captains and their crew must remain aboard their registered vessel for the entire duration of the Race.

19 All entries must run the entire course under their own power to be considered eligible. There shall be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes.

20 Anyone exhibiting unsafe behavior will be disqualified and could be permanently banned from the event.

21 All vessels must be removed from the harbour at the end of the event and discarded appropriately.

Captain acknowledges they have read these rules and shall inform his/her entire crew of these rules: