

The 21st Taft Public Library Great Cardboard Boat Race

Tuesday July 23rd, 2019

Races begin at 6:30pm.

Check-in and inspection begin at 5:30pm.

Mendon Town Beach, Lake Nipmuc

**All boats must be registered with the Taft Library before 5pm
on Friday, July 12th - No exceptions!!**

Categories

One Person Boat

Two Person Boat

Three or More Person Boat

Adult Only Boat

Family – any combination of adults and children

Prizes to be awarded for:

Speed – First, second and third place in each category

Pride of Mendon Award – Most creative design

Captain's Choice Award – Most attractive

Esprit de Corps Award – Most spirited and organized team

Gung-Ho Award – Most spirited individual participant

Titanic Award – Most spectacular sinking

Surprise Award – Surprised it floats, that is...

Pride of Mendon Award: Shows much love for the town of Mendon

Out of the World Award– Honors the boat and crew that best reflect the
2019 Summer Reading theme: Universe of Stories!!

Official Rules

The rules below have been written to ensure that every competitor is on a level playing field, or lake. Kindly abide by the rules below!!

Everything on your boat must be corrugated cardboard.

Only the oars or paddles you use for propulsion and items used as fasteners such as nuts, bolts, tape, washers or staples may be made of other materials.

- 1.) Boat Captain must register the craft at the Taft Library no later than Friday, July 12th at 5pm. There are no exceptions to this rule. Signatures of all participants/parents must be provided.
- 2.) To qualify as a finisher, you must be in your boat, not pushing or towing it.
- 3.) All occupants must wear a life jacket, properly fastened, while in the water.
- 4.) No more than 10 occupants will be permitted in any boat. All crew members must be friendly and reasonably warm-blooded.
- 5.) Your boat must be reasonably free of sharp edges, pointy objects, or anything else that could be a menace. You will have to fix any problems before you are allowed to race.
- 6.) The passenger area of the boat may not be permanently enclosed above the shoulders of the occupants. Each person must be visible while boats are in the water.

- 7.) Only corrugated cardboard may be used and it cannot be wax-coated. Any thickness is permitted. Use of cardboard concrete tubes (sonotubes) is not permitted.
- 8.) Absolutely no use of the following items will be permitted: tar-based substances, epoxy glue, fiberglass resin, rubber cement, caulk, two-part varnishes, waterproof paint or corrugated cardboard that is bonded to other materials.
- 9.) The entire hull, superstructure and seating must be made entirely of cardboard.
- 10.) The hull may not be wrapped in plastic, duct tape, shrink wrap, contact paper or anything else. Hulls may not be covered with any kind of rubberized compound.
- 11.) Only seams and joints may be taped – not the whole boat.

Technical Inspection

- 1.) All boats must pass a technical inspection. Your boat will be inspected for compliance with these rules.
- 2.) You will have an opportunity to fix any violation.
- 3.) Boats must pass inspection to be eligible for a speed award. As a courtesy, any boat that does not pass inspection may be allowed to participate but will not be eligible for a speed award.**

2019 Boat Race Registration Form

Name of person registering: _____ Boat name: _____

Age (if under 18): _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Boat category (please circle one):

One person

Two person

Three+ people

Adult only

Family – any combination of adults and children

Team members: All members that will be in the boat.

I have read the rules of this race and agree to observe the rules. I hold neither the Taft Public Library, the Town of Mendon, nor any of their employees responsible for any injury, property damage, or claim of any kind.

Signatures: (Parent or legal guardian must sign for children under age 18)
