



2017 USDBF Club Crew National Championships

West Windsor, New Jersey

September 16th & 17th, 2017

Invitation and Informational Bulletin 2

The United States Dragon Boat Federation and Great White North Communications Ltd., invite you to attend the 11th USDBF Club Crew National Championships (2017 CCNC) that will be conducted in conjunction with the Mercer County Dragon Boat Festival. In addition to the opportunity to win the National Championship, National Champions will also win a berth to the IDBF World Club Crew Championships to be held in Szeged, Hungary in 2018.

The USDBF Club Crew National Championships are for all club teams to compete in a National Championship. We will be hosting all divisions and urge all teams to participate. The Event will take place at Mercer County Park in West Windsor, New Jersey, from the 16th to 17th of September, 2017. Teams should plan on two full days of racing (this includes all day Saturday and Sunday) and make plans accordingly for departure. Friday September 15th, 2017 is available as a practice day.

The Organizing Committee Contacts are:

USDBF	Great White North
Bob Ricks	Carolyn Lee
USDBF Registrar	Director, Sales & Marketing, GWN
ricksre@yahoo.com	carolyn@gwndragonboat.com

USDBF CLUB ELIGIBILITY

The 2017 CCNC are for true club teams based in the United States. A club team is defined as any crew that regularly practices and races together. All members of the club must reside close enough to practice regularly with the club and hold membership with the club for at least six months prior to 2017 CCNC. If your club has members with addresses that do not appear to be from the same area as the club, be prepared to send documentation to justify their inclusion along with the roster, in advance, based on the above requirements. We will follow the IDBF guidelines regarding club membership.

Please see the IDBF regulations below:

4.3 Club Crews. *In IDBF Championships for Club Crews a Racer can only represent one Dragon Boat Crew. The rules for National Crew Representation need not apply but all competitors must have been bona fide members of the Dragon Boat Crew that they represent, for at least SIX (6) months before the Club Crew Championships in question. 4.3.1. A bona fide Club Member is one that has regularly trained and/or competed for the Club Crew that they represent during the minimum period of six months shown in 4.3. A bona fide Club Member will normally be resident in the Country in which the Club Crew is located. A Club Member who trains and competes with a Club Crew from a different Country or Territory or a geographical Region within a Country to the one in which the Club Member himself (or herself) is normally domiciled, will only be considered as a bona fide Club Member if they can prove that they have physically attended their Club to train or compete for a period or of at least twelve (12) weeks, over a minimum period of two (2) racing seasons. (Nov 06)*



RACE FORMAT AND CLASSES

This year, the National Champions will be decided based on 200, 500, and 2000 meter races. The 2017 CCNC will be conducted under the IDBF Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing. The IDBF requirement that the steersperson for BCS teams be a member of the BCS division will NOT be enforced. Teams will be awarded points based on performance in each competition class (distance).

USDBF Club Crew National Championship Races

	Racing Distances
Mixed (min 8, max 10 of each gender)	200, 500, 2000m
Open (any gender)	200, 500, 2000m
Women's (all female crew)	200, 500, 2000m
Breast Cancer Survivors	200, 500, 2000m

The 2017 CCNC will support age related racing classes and follow the IDBF regulations.

Racing Class	
U16	Mixed Women, Open
U18	Mixed Women, Open
U24	Mixed Women, Open
Premier	Mixed Women, Open
Senior A, B, C	Mixed Women, Open
All-Cancer	Mixed, Women
Breast Cancer Survivors	

If your club has a Senior or Junior crew, please indicate this when registering. We will accommodate all crews, but racing classes with fewer than three entries may be combined.

The BCS teams will be consulted on the racing classes and distances. Multiple divisions are possible if enough crews enter. BCS teams are also eligible to race in Open and Women's divisions if they so choose.

All-Cancer teams must consist of all paddlers and the drummer to be a cancer survivor. Steersperson does not.

Senior Class

Races will be held for Mixed or Single gender crews or in Open Competition. With the exception of the Drummer, all competitors must be aged as follows:

- For Senior A classes, paddlers must be 40 as of 6/1/18.
- For Senior B classes, paddlers must be 50 as of 6/1/18.
- For Senior C classes, paddlers must be 60 as of 6/1/18.



Junior Class

Races will be held for Single or Mixed gender crews or in Open Competition. With the exception of the Steerer (Helm) the following age categories will apply to the Junior Class:

- For the Club Crew Junior U18 class, paddlers must be under 18 but over 12 as of 6/1/18.
 - (10 age waivers for U-18 per crew).
- For the Club Crew Junior U16 class, paddlers must be under 16 but over 12 as of 6/1/18.
- For the Club Crew Junior U24 class, paddlers must be under 24 but over 18 as of 6/1/18.

Multiple Rostering and Cross Event Participation

Club Divisions – Participants may race with only one club at the 2017 CNCC. A participant may be on more than one crew within that club, but in no case will racing be held up to allow the transfer of a participant from one crew to another. Shared steerspersons and drummers will be allowed on a case by case basis.

In addition, there will be an event for BCS crews. In recognition of Dana Nelson, the BCS Cup Challenge will be continued. Dana’s contribution to the BCS division is well known, and this is a Memorial Cup that will be given each year in her honor. This will recognize the National Champion in the BCS division. The winner of the Memorial Cup must be a full BCS crew (paddlers and drummer). In some regions, BCS crews also allow supporters. Supporters must be members of the crew with whom they are racing. These crews can race in the BCS division, but the Memorial Cup will be reserved for all-BCS crews only. All drummers must be BCS for this division; steerers may be BCS but this will not be required.

Important Note:

Inflatable PFDs WILL be allowed for use during the CCNC Racing.

RACE FEES

Registration is now open. Please go directly to the [GWN site for registration](#):

<https://www.gwndragonboat.com/registration/Default.asp?page=EVENTS&type=2>

Each team will compete in 7 races over 2 days: 3 x 500m, 3 x 200m and 1 x 2,000m. Registration fees include one practice and a 10x10 tent rental. Team and rental fees are in USD and no taxes charged.

Before June 1 st , 2017	\$1,445
After June 1 st , 2017	\$1,545

Each team registered at the festival will get a 10 x 10 team tent. Teams have the option to upgrade their tents. In addition to tents, chairs and tables are also available.

10’ x 20’ Tent Upgrade	\$125
20’ x 20’ Tent Upgrade	\$225
Chair Rental	\$5
Table Rental	\$15



For all early bird registrations, full payment must be received in full 15 days after the end of the early bird date, i.e. for registrations received by June 1st, payment must be received in full by June 15th 2017.

Attention Team Captains / Team Managers:

Only one person can register a team online. They are known as the team captain. This person will be in charge of managing the team's registration and will be the key contact for bookings and festival communications.

Each team registered for the 2017 CCNC will receive a 10x10 team tent with their registration. Every site is approximately 400 sq. ft. in size. Sites will be assigned on a first-come-first-serve basis and can only be assigned once payment for the event is received in full. **Unless rented from GWN, no additional tents will be allowed to be erected beside an existing tent structure supplied by GWN.** Any team wishing to bring their own tents, may do so by notifying GWN at least 10 days in advance from the event and opting out. Please note that any tent(s) erected, must remain within the space provided and be no less than 10' from all other tents. Furthermore, any combination of tents cannot exceed 200 sq. ft. without written approval from GWN. Failure to comply by these rules can result in disqualification from the event. There will be no reduction in the registration fee for opting to bring your own tent(s).

BOOKING PRACTICES

Practices will be held at Mercer County Park on Friday September 15th, 2017.

Practices can only be confirmed once event fees are received in full. The practice schedule will be posted by June 1st. GWN will contact teams to book in their times and will be booked on a first-come-first-serve basis. Equipment such as paddles and lifejackets will be provided if needed. Teams should arrive at the park at least 15 minutes before their practice time. A GWN representative will be on-site to check teams in, provide assistance and to collect waivers.

BOOKING TEAM SITE LOCATIONS

The Athletes' Village Map will be posted by June 1st. GWN will contact teams to book their team site locations and will be booked on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Questions regarding practices or booking your team site location should be sent to bookings@gwndragonboat.com.

IDENTIFICATION

Club Crew participants must be prepared to show government-issued ID at the event. Junior participants may provide a copy of their birth certificate or other official document showing birth date and name in lieu of government-issued ID.

EVENT LOCATION

Mercer County Park is located at 1638 Old Trenton Rd., West Windsor, NJ, 08550. Parking is available east of the Marina. Please follow parking signs when you arrive on-site.



GROUND TRANSPORTATION

GWN will be posting a list of transportation companies along with any rates cards and contact information on the GWN website in the upcoming weeks. Teams are welcome to contact them for custom quotes based on their needs.

ACCOMMODATIONS

GWN has secured a variety of hotels at price points to meet our varied needs. We ask that you make every effort to use one of the Host Hotels. If you are having trouble making a booking or have special requests, please contact Carolyn Lee at GWN, who will be able to assist. (email: carolyn@gwndragonboat.com)

Westin Princeton Forrestal Village (Host Hotel)

201 Village Blvd
Princeton, NJ 08540
Phone: (609) 452-7900

Group Name: Mercer County Dragon Boat Festival
Group Rate: \$139 per night plus applicable taxes
Room Block Deadline: August 14, 2017
Reservations: Book [online](#)

Residence Inn Princeton at Carnegie Center

3563 US Route 1
Princeton, NJ 08540
Phone: (609) 799-0550

Group Name: Dragon Boat Races
Group Rate: \$139 per night plus applicable taxes
Room Block Deadline: August 14, 2017
Reservations: Book [online](#) or call 609-799-0550 and quote group name.

Crowne Plaza Princeton

900 Scudders Mill Road
Princeton, NJ 08536
Phone: (609) 936-4200

Group Name: GWN Dragon Boat Festival - Mercer County Park
Group Rate: \$109 (King) and \$129 (Double Queens) per night plus applicable taxes
Room Block Deadline: August 15, 2017
Reservations: Call 1-877-424-4188 and quote group name.



Courtyard Princeton

3815 US Route 1 @ Mapleton Road
Princeton, NJ 08540
Phone: (609)716-9100

Group Name: GWN Dragon Boat Races
Group Rate: \$129 (Double Queens) per night plus applicable taxes
Room Block Deadline: August 14, 2017
Reservations: Book [online](#).

RENTAL CARS

Hertz

Discount rates have been negotiated with Hertz Rent-a-Car for MLDB participants. To book your vehicle, please click [here](#).

Reservations

To reserve special meeting rates, please include our CV# when making reservations.

CV#: CV#052D0001

P: 1-800-654-2240

W: www.hertz.com

At the time of reservation, meeting rates will be automatically compared to other Hertz rates and the best rate will apply.

AIRLINES

Discount rates have been negotiated with United Airlines and Delta Airlines for MLDB participants.

Participants can save 5% on Coach airfares and 10% on First Class airfares if travelling within US 50 States and between US 50 States and Canada.

United Airlines

To book your travel, visit United.com and provide the following code: ZXN5441303

Delta Airlines

To book your travel, visit Delta.com and provide the following code: NMPCG



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM OUTLINES

(Subject to change)

Friday September 15th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Club Crew teams arrive • Registration • Practices for Crews at event site (times to be confirmed) • Race Officials training
Saturday September 16th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration • 500m heats, semi-finals and finals
Sunday September 17th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200m heats, semi-finals and finals • 2,000m races



USDBF Level 1 Officials Training Registration Form

Date of Training: Friday, September 15th, 2017

Time: 9AM to 3PM

Location of Training: Westin Princeton Forrestal Village (Race Headquarters)

Address: 201 Village Blvd., Princeton, NJ, 08540

Phone: (609) 452-7900

Participant's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____ **Cell Phone #:** _____

Email Address: _____

Club Affiliation (if applicable): _____

Dragon Boat Experience (if applicable): _____

Purpose for taking training: _____

Please indicate if you wish to shadow officials on Sat. and/or Sun.: Yes ___ No ___

Fee: \$50 per participant

(All Checks & Money Orders should be made payable to USDBF)

Send check or money order w/ hard copy of Registration Form to:

Patsy Zick, USDBF Treasurer
123 Town Square Place
#115
Jersey City, NJ 07310

* Payment must be received at least 72 hours in advance of course.

If you have any questions regarding registration issues, please contact USDBF Treasurer, Patsy Zick at patsymba@hotmail.com