

Bayfront Maritime Center 2023 Cardboard Boat Regatta

Saturday, September 16th, 2023
East Canal Basin - behind BMC
40 Holland Street, Erie, PA, 16507

[Cardboard Boat Regatta - Erie](#)

Phone: (814) 425-5184 Email: Events@bayfrontcenter.org



Great fun for all ages! Boats are built using only cardboard, tape, paint and glue and compete in races, two by two, and vie for the Fastest Time trophy in four divisions – Children (under 12), Teen (13-18), Adult (19 and up), and Mixed Ages. There are also judge's awards for **Most Creative** and **Most Dramatic Sinking!** The **Crowd Favorite** trophy goes to the boat that collects the most donations in their cans (**at the Raffle/50/50 tent**) over the course of the day. **Entry fee to create a boat and race in the regatta is \$50 per boat and includes 2 shirts per fee. Additional shirts may be ordered or purchased at the merch tent the day of the event.**

Not participating in the races? All supporters and onlookers are welcome! 2 small sets of bleachers are available, but it is suggested to bring a chair if you would like to sit and watch. Food and drinks will be available for purchase at the event. Bayfront Maritime Center & Cardboard Boat Regatta Merchandise will be available at the Merch tent.

Make sure to check out the Raffle tent to get your tickets for a chance to win a to-be-announced Large Raffle Prize, scratch-off tickets for gift cards and other prizes, get your 50/50 tickets, and put your "vote" in the donation bucket of your favorite cardboard boat!

All proceeds from the regatta, merch, snack and raffle tents support the continuation of hands-on maritime programming, boat-building, and sail programs at the Bayfront Maritime Center.



Regatta Guidelines:

- Have fun! And always BE SAFE.** All crew members must wear life jackets which we will provide for each crew member prior to your race. You may bring your own safety vests if you prefer, but they will be checked for proper use before racing. You may also bring your own paddle, but we will have some on hand for those who need to borrow them to race.
- Motors are not permitted,** so bring your best paddlers!
- The boat's hull must be made of **corrugated cardboard and should be constructed and sealed with any of the following: tape, caulk, glue, latex paint, or varnish.**
- Above the hull the boat may include additional decorative materials - *as long as they don't aid in flotation.* Be creative and have fun designing!
- Length and width requirements** - We do not have requirements for length and width. We ask this on the registration form to help match competitors in each division as fairly as possible.

6. **Number of crew/paddlers in boat** - We do not have requirements for number of crew/paddlers in boats. You can participate as a crew of 1 or more. We ask this on the registration form to help match crews/paddlers to competitors as fairly as possible in each division. The number on your crew is up to you!
****Each registration fee for a boat receives 2 shirts per crew. If you would like to purchase additional shirts, you can do so by pre-ordering them on your registration form or purchasing at the event day of. If you have any questions about registration or shirts, please email us at Events@bayfrontcenter.org*
7. **Boat class divisions** - Kids Crew (under 12); Teen Crew (13-18); Adult Crew (19+); Mixed ages crews
8. **Awards** - Fastest Time Award (in each division); Crowd Favorite Award (voting buckets located in the raffle tent); Judge's Awards - Most Creative & Most Dramatic Sinking

Some Suggested Supplies:

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| • Corrugated cardboard
(Required) | • Duct tape |
| • Acrylic latex caulk | • Varnish |
| • Utility knife | • Clamps |
| • Glue | • Measuring tape |
| • Paper package tape | • Straight edge |
| • <i>Paint (Latex preferred)</i> | • Scissors |
| • Paint brush or roller | |

Restricted Hull Materials:

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| • 2-part glues (ie. epoxy or polyester resin) |
| • Styrofoam |
| • Metal, or metal foils |
| • Plastic |
| • Pasteboard or chipboard |
| • Wood |

A Few Construction Tips:

1. Use multiple layers of cardboard, alternating the direction of the corrugations for most strength.
2. Score your cardboard along the line of folds for the straightest bends.
3. Seal the edges of your cardboard with caulk or paper tape to prevent water from getting in.
4. Consider building a few model boats to test for the most stability and buoyancy.
5. Don't make the sides of your boat too tall for the crew to reach over and paddle.
6. Paint the inside of your boat - this will help to prevent sinking!

The Competition:

Your cardboard boat will be put to the test racing 2-by-2 in the East Canal Basin, next to the Bayfront Maritime Center. Boats will race in heats based on age of the crew and length of the boat from the east side of the Basin to a buoy and back; judges will determine the winners of these categories:

Fastest Boat(must finish race), Most Creative Design, Most Dramatic Sinking, Crowd Favorite (based on donations to each boat's bucket - at the donation tent)

How to Sign-Up for Event:

Complete registration and payment online here:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cardboard-boat-regatta-2023-registration-677516168097?aff=oddtcreator>
 Email any questions to: Events@bayfrontcenter.org

Visit www.bayfrontcenter.org/events/cardboard-boat-regatta/ for an overview of the event, registration info, and more!

Day of Event:

Parking: Participants and supporters may park in the public lot on Holland Street, at the Intermodal Building, Erie County Public Library, etc.

Schedule: The day's race schedule will be posted at the check-in tent and the boat staging area.

- **Check-In:** 9 - 10 AM at the registration table, located in the tent in front of the BMC building, near the sidewalk on Holland St. After checking in, you will be directed to take your boat to the Boat Staging area, where volunteers will show you where to place your boat. Your boat will remain here until the parade and return to the staging area until your race.
- **Parade of boats:** Line-up at 10; Parade 10:30 - You will be directed to line-up on the sidewalk next to the boat staging area. The parade will follow along the sidewalk, around the BMC, and back to the boat staging area. This is a great opportunity to try to get votes for the "Crowd Favorite" award!
- **Regatta Begins:** Races start at 11:00 AM. Race and division times will be announced and displayed at the event.

Event Map:

1. Registration Check-In
2. Boat Drop Off
3. Info/First Aid
4. Boat Staging Area
5. Parade Line-up Start
6. Merch/Raffle Tent & Crowd Favorite Voting
7. Food/Snack Tent
8. Porcupine
9. Restrooms
10. Master of Ceremony/Announcer
11. Seating
12. PFD/Paddles/EMT
13. Dock 1
14. Dock 2

