Cardinal Hill Boat Race

Eligibility & Crew

- **Requirements:** Register boat and crew online on Cardinal Hill website. All boaters must be Cardinal Hill members and at least 8 years old. Each boat must have a two-person crew.
- **New Boats Only:** Boats must be built fresh this year to qualify for prizes. Older boats may only race unofficially.
- **Inspection:** Every boat must pass a technical judging inspection before racing.

Race Rules

- **Paddles:** Each crew member gets one single-bladed paddle (no double-sided paddles). You must supply your own. Paddles can be store-bought (plastic, wood, metal) or homemade, and do not need to be cardboard.
- **Conduct:** No intentional bumping, touching, or contacting other boats. Intentional contact results in disqualification.
- **The Race:** Launch at the horn. The boat must travel from one end of the pool to the other in one piece.
- **Sinking:** If your boat sinks, you must swim and tow it back.
- **Assistance:** Only the two teammates can help each other in and out of the water once the race starts.
- **Clean-up:** *Teams must take their boats home for disposal.* Pool dumpsters cannot accommodate boats, and leaving trash next to the dumpsters is prohibited.
- **Tie-Breaker:** If no boat finishes in one piece, a random drawing will determine the "Fastest Boat" winner.

Boat Building Rules

Dimensions & Constraints

- **Size:** Maximum 8 feet long and 4 feet wide. Boats exceeding these limits may race but cannot win points or prizes.
- **Decoration:** Team names must be visibly marked on the boat. Decorations cannot aid the boat's buoyancy.

Approved Materials

- **Structure:** Corrugated cardboard (boxes, sheets, tubes).
- **Fasteners & Adhesives:** Rope, string, plastic zip ties, and water-based white glue.
- **Tape:** Clear, packing, duct, gaffer, or masking tape. **Note:** Tape can only be used on seams and joints, not to wrap the entire boat or bottom.
- **Coatings:** Latex or spray paint (must be completely dry before racing).
- **Sails:** Cloth may be used for sails only.

Prohibited Materials

- Solid cardboard, wood, metal, rubber, PVC, or plastic structures.
- Styrofoam, rigid foam, or any inflatable devices (inner tubes, vinyl floats).
- Plastic sheeting, shrink wrap, tar, caulk, wax, lacquer, or roof sealants.
- Staples, nails, screws, metal oarlocks, or metal fasteners.
- Two-part paints, epoxies, fiberglass, or oil-based paints/sealants.
- Motors of any kind.

Judging & Prizes

All decisions by the judges and boat committee are final.

- **Prize Categories:** Fastest Boat, Swag, Pride of the Pool, Best Dressed Team, and Titanic.
- **Aesthetic Criteria:** Judges will score the *Swag* and *Pride of the Pool* awards based on:
    1. Use of color
    2. Originality & creativity
    3. Humor
    4. Historical or theme accuracy
    5. Best use of corrugated cardboard
    6. Crew costumes