



The Smithfield

River Rat Regatta

on the Neuse

5th Annual River Rat Regatta

AUGUST 10, 2024 / (Rain Date: August 24, 2024)

(Race from Boat Ramp to Town Commons)

Objective:

To design and build a “river worthy” vessel using cardboard, duct tape, and glue that will successfully carry two passengers from a starting line at the boat ramp down the river to a finish line located at the 70 business bridge.

Event Guidelines/Rules:

- Boats built using **only corrugated cardboard** (none with waterproofing or wax coating, and not bonded to any other material, such as vinyl), **glue & duct tape**.
- You may **NOT** wrap or encase the boat in tape / or any other material that may aid in flotation.
- Oars and Paddles must be made from cardboard also.
- No cardboard tubes or carpet rolls can be used.
- Wood, metal, Styrofoam, or other materials that would aid in flotation or make the hull rigid are prohibited. This restriction applies to the keel, transom, ribs, hull, etc.
- No material such as Styrofoam or rubber flotation devises may be used to provide “buoyancy” or maintain flotation. No sandbags or similar materials may be used for ballast.
- Hulls may be painted with "one-part" paint. No epoxy glues, fiberglass resins or "multi-part" varnishes or paints may be used. Tar based substances like roof coatings are not permitted.
- Joints and seams may be glued and/or duct taped. Duct tape, contact cement, rubber cement or construction adhesive may be used. No nails or metal or wood fasteners or staples may be used in the construction of the boat. (Small amounts may be used for REMOVABLE decoration only.)
- Where the crew sits CAN NOT be enclosed. Must be able to get in and out of your boat easily. Surfboard and Raft style designs are NOT ALLOWED. Consider "staying dry" as part of the challenge.



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- No boat will be allowed to leave the starting gate unless: a) all persons on board are wearing a Personal Floatation Device (PFD), i.e. Life Jacket and shoes; and b) have their handmade paddles.
- **PARTICIPANTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN LIFE JACKETS—AS THEY ARE REQUIRED.**
- Helmets are required for participants 12 & under (we will have some for use) / Recommended for all participants.
- Boats are 2-man vessels.
- All entrants must ensure that their portion of the pit area has been cleaned prior to departure on Regatta Day. All boats must be removed from the park or cut apart and placed in trash containers.
- If your 2 person crew consists of a child and an adult, you will participate in the Adult Division.
- Youth Division is a 2-person crew - Ages 12 and Under.
- If there is any doubt about the construction of your vessel, judges reserve the right to use a probe, such as an ice pick, to test and verify that the vessel meets the rules as set forth above.

ALL RACE DAY ENTRIES WILL BE REQUIRED TO SIGN WAIVERS AT CHECK-IN. ANYONE 17 AND UNDER MUST HAVE A PARENT PRESENT TO SIGN THEIR WAIVER AT THAT TIME.

(If you pre-register, parents must submit packets for all entries 17 and under, with signed waivers.)

*Thank you for observing all the rules to make this event
a safe and fun-filled morning!*





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Remember...

Race begins at the Boat Ramp, located at 295 North Front Street, and finishes at the Hwy. 70 Bridge.

8/10 RIVER RAT SCHEDULE

*Boat Registration: 8:00am–9:30pm

*Boat Judging: 9:30am

*Captains Meeting: 9:45am

*Regatta starts: 10am

*DJ: 9am-12pm

(Rain Date: Saturday, August 24th)

Participants may PRE-REGISTER at Smithfield Parks & Recreation Department (600 M Durwood Stephenson Pkway., Smithfield, NC 27577) up until Thursday, August 8th. Questions contact: 919-934-2148.

CHECK-IN IS EASIER IF YOU ARE PRE-REGISTERED!!!

AWARDS:

Youth Division—Fastest (1st & 2nd Place)

Adult Division—Fastest (1st, 2nd & 3rd Place)

Overall—Best Decorated and Titanic Award (Most Memorable Sinking)



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REGISTRATION, WAIVER AND RELEASE
(Please Print Legibly)

BOAT NAME: _____

Skipper: _____ **Little Buddy:** _____

Skipper Age: _____ / **Little Buddy Age:** _____ (Teams w/ one Adult and one 12u entered in Adult Division)

Skipper Address: _____

Little Buddy Address: _____

Emails: _____

Phone Nos.: _____

I fully understand that training for and participating in activities such as the River Rat Regatta may result in accidents, illness or serious injury. I am voluntarily participating in the River Rat Regatta (hereinafter the "event") sponsored by Smithfield Parks & Recreation Department (hereinafter "SPRD") with complete understanding of the risks associated with participation in the event.

I further acknowledge that this event requires participants to be in proper physical condition. By signing this Waiver and Release Form, I declare that I am medically able, properly trained, physically fit, and capable of participating in the event.

In consideration for being allowed to participate in the event, I agree to release and hold harmless the premises owner and the event's sponsors, including SPRD, its affiliates, agents, and employees, from all liability for any injuries and/or illnesses sustained, which may directly or indirectly result from my conduct or from the negligence of other participants in the event, and/or from the negligence of the premises owner or the negligence of the sponsors of the event, including the SPRD, its affiliates, agents, and employees. I also acknowledge full and sole responsibility for any and all medical expenses that I may incur as a result of any injury and/or illness that occurs as a result of my participation in the event. I understand and agree that this Waiver and Release is binding.

I hereby grant my consent and permission to the SPRD, its affiliates, agents and employees, to use my name, photograph, videotape, motion picture recording, voice, or likeness for P&R purposes, including pre and post event publicity.

I have carefully read this Waiver and Release and fully understand its contents. By my signature below, I consent and agree to the terms of this Waiver and Release.

X _____
 Signature of Skipper or
 Skipper Legal Guardian

 Date

X _____
 Signature of Little Buddy or
 Little Buddy Legal Guardian

 Date

