

## Frequently Asked Questions:

What type of dragon boat is raced in Dubuque?

**Taiwan** dragon boats are used. Taiwan style racing consists of 18 paddlers, a drummer, a “flag catcher” and a sternsman paddling on a two lane course racing to be the first team to pull the flag at the finish line.

What about the race course?

In Dubuque, we race on the Mississippi River, and the race length is 250 yards. We race two boats at a time, inside and outside lanes with flag catchers. We do two heats of racing, first heat you would be on the inside lane, next heat is the outside lane. (Or vice versa outside first, then inside).

How many times will we race dragon boat weekend?

Race weekend, your team will race two times, once in the morning session and once in the afternoon session. On Saturday, these races are time trials which determines what division you are in for Sunday. After seeding races, race officials reserve the right to move teams to the most appropriate division. On Sunday, teams compete for medals, 1st-3rd. Usually, one race in the morning session and one race in the afternoon session.

Any special rules when paddling?

Paddlers must have shoes or sandals with a back strap (no flip flops). Everyone must wear a PDF approved by the Coast Guard, inflatable PDF's are not allowed. Paddles (wood) are provided, carbon fiber paddles are not allowed.

Can we “borrow” a flag catcher from another team?

Yes, the local teams love helping out the visiting teams. Please email: [info@dubuquedragonboat.org](mailto:info@dubuquedragonboat.org).

What are the different divisions?

**Elite Crew Mixed Composition:** Registration fee includes 25 team members, 18 paddlers, drummer, flag catcher and stern in the boat at any time. **(8) eight women paddlers** in the boat at all times. Team members must be age 14 to paddle on an adult team.

**Corporate Cup and Adventurers Cup:** Registration fee includes 25 team members, 18 paddlers, drummer, flag catcher and stern in the boat at any time. **(8) eight women paddlers** in the boat at all times. Team members must be age 14 to paddle on an adult team.

**Junior Teams:** Registration fee includes 25 team members, 18 paddlers, drummer, flag catcher and stern in the boat at any time. **(8) eight women** in the boat at all times. All paddlers must be 11 years of age to 18 at the time of the event for Junior Divisions.

**Breast Cancer Survivor's Teams:** Registration fee includes 25 team members, 18 paddlers, drummer, flag catcher and stern in the boat at any time. Drummer, Flag catcher, and Stern may be of either sex.

**Boy or Girl Scout Teams:** Registration fee includes 25 team member, 18 paddlers, drummer, flag catcher and stern in the boat at any time. All paddlers must be 11 years of age to 18 at the time of the event.

How many practices for a local team?

Dubuque local teams are allowed one practice before the race, where lifejackets, paddles, and a "coach" is provided. Your paddlers need to come with water to drink and shoes or sandals with a back strap (no flip flops).

Are there any hotels close by?

The hotel right by the race site is <https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/dbqdtgi-hilton-garden-inn-dubuque-downtown/>

Many teams stay here <https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/days-inn/dubuque-iowa/days-inn-dubuque/overview> rooms are very reasonable priced.

Here's a hotel downtown

Dubuque. <https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/dubuque/dbqia/hoteldetail>

Can I camp at the race site?

Yes. If you are interested in camping please email: [info@dubuquedragonboat.org](mailto:info@dubuquedragonboat.org).

Camping reservations start June 1st. Here's more information about the Miller Riverview Park and Campground:

Miller Riverview Park and Campground is a 20-acre park located on the scenic Mississippi River, adjacent to the Q Casino. Miller Riverview is located at [1851 Admiral Sheehy Dr.](#) and includes:

- Primitive campsites
- Pull-through and back-in campsites with full electric hookups (20, 30, or 50 amps)
- Handicapped accessible restrooms and showers
- Picnic tables
- Fire pit grills
- Playground equipment
- City water and dumping station located near the campground entrance
- Fishing
- 0.95 miles of walking and biking trail
- Three picnic pavilion shelters
- Pet-friendly campsites