

Working Waterfront Whaleboat Race Rules 2017

- 1) **Entry Form:** All teams must submit a completed and signed entry form including your team name, club affiliation, sponsor name if any, race classification (category & division), and the names of team members.
- 2) **Insurance Waivers:** Every person in the boat must have a signed insurance waiver on file. Blank waivers are available in the dock box in the blue/clear file box, in a folder marked "Blank Waivers". They are also printed on the reverse side of the BBRC Membership Applications in addition to being available on line.
- 3) **Race Fee:** Teams may begin practicing once the race entry form is completed and submitted along with the race fee. The race fee is determined by the Race Committee each year and is non-refundable. Teams with incomplete paperwork or fees owed will not be allowed to participate in the race.
- 4) **BBRC Teams / Visiting Teams:** Race teams consisting entirely of current BBRC members may practice during any month of the year as per their membership. Race teams with one or more crew members NOT currently a BBRC member will be considered a visiting team.
- 5) **Rowing Rules:** Each team must adhere to the BBRC membership rules at all times while using BBRC boats and/or equipment.
- 6) **Race Practice Season:** For visiting teams with currently certified boatsteerers, race practices begin on the Monday four weeks prior to the race. At the discretion of the Race Committee race practices may begin earlier for teams whose boatsteerers are new and in need of training and certification. The BBRC training of new boatsteerers will take precedence over scheduled team rows, and teams may be asked to give up a row in order to accommodate these training sessions.
- 7) **Practice Times:** Each team is allowed two hours each week to practice. This is contingent on boat demand. Should teams want to practice 3 or more hours a week they will be allowed to do so if the schedule allows. Committee reserves the right to request a team to scale back to two hours a week should demand for the boat increase.
- 8) **Boatsteerer Certification:** No team may practice until their boatsteerer has been certified by BBRC at the *Race Boatsteerer* level at minimum.
- 9) **Race Boatsteerer Limitations:** *Race Boatsteerers* must keep the boat within the Inner Harbor. They may not go outside the Hurricane Barrier or north of the Route 6 bridges. BBRC Race Committee asks that boatsteerers take out only their registered team. In the event the team needs a substitute, please use another registered race participant or BBRC member.
- 10) **Scheduled Practices:** All teams must contact Jodi Duval 508- 997-6866 to schedule practices. Teams may only go out during their specified practice times. All teams must have BBRC clearance to begin practicing.
- 11) **Equipment:** The equipment must be cared for as outlined in the Boatsteerer Training Manual (located on line or in the blue/clear file box in the dock box). The equipment may not be altered in any way. No adhesives are to be applied to any part of the boat or oars. The oar sleeves and collar are not to be moved. *Tying in with rope, buckles, use of seat cushions is permissible.*
- 12) **Vices:** Smoking and/or consuming alcoholic beverages while in the boats are strictly forbidden.
- 13) **Race Day:** Teams will race against other teams in their division and category and will be pulled at random if necessary at the pre-race crew gathering. The crew gathering will be scheduled prior to the race, typically the evening before the race. Boat and Lane assignments are to be randomly drawn immediately before each heat. In the instance of a heat consisting of only one team, that team is not allowed to opt out of a random boat choice.
- 14) **Classifications:** Each team must choose their classification (see the definitions below) upon registering. Each team is allowed to compete in only one classification and will race during the times assigned to that classification. If a classification has only one entry the race committee may require the single team to race simultaneously in any other classification having only one team in a given heat. The race results will be applied only to the classification in which the team had originally applied.

- 15) **Collisions & Turns:** A boat that has a collision with a buoy will have 15 seconds added to its race time. In the case of two boats colliding on a straight run both boats will be considered at fault unless otherwise determined by the committee and the penalty will be disqualification. In the case of two boats colliding on a turn, the boat judged to be out of its lane would be considered at fault. **If a boat leaves their lane causing another boat to stop or divert their course but no collision 20 seconds will be added to the offending boats time.** A boat that turns the wrong way around a buoy will have 40 seconds added to its race time. The first turn is port, the second turn is starboard, the third turn is port and the fourth turn is starboard.
- 16) **Infractions:** If you break the rules your team may be disqualified from the race.

Classifications:

Classifications include five main categories of competition, **Right Whale, Pilot Whale, Blue Whale, Grey Whale** and **Beluga Whale**; each divided into three divisions, **Men, Women** and **Co-Ed**, for a total of fifteen separate and distinct classes of competition:

Race classifications:

1. Co-ed Pilot
2. Women's Pilot
3. Men's Pilot
4. Co-ed Blue
5. Women's Blue
6. Men's Blue
7. Co-ed Grey
8. Women's Grey
9. Men's Grey
10. Co-ed Right
11. Women's Right
12. Men's Right
13. Co-ed Bowhead
14. Women's Bowhead
15. Men's Bowhead
16. Co-ed Beluga
17. Women's Beluga
18. Men's Beluga

Competitor Specifications: (each rower's age is "at most recent birthday, as of 22 September 2017")

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| Right Whale (Open): | Rowers' at least 18 years of age |
| Blue Whale (Masters): | Rowers' average age must be at least 50 years |
| Grey Whale (Senior): | Rowers' average age must be at least 60 years |
| Bowhead Whale (Veteran): | Rowers' average age must be at least 70 years |
| Pilot Whale (Youth): | Rower' must be at least 14 years of age and under 18 years of age & Boatsteerer must be a trained adult |

Beluga Whale (**Non Competitive**): This category is for newcomers or individuals that want to participate but may feel they are not experienced enough to compete

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| Men's: | At least 4 male rowers |
| Women's: | Female rowers only |
| Co-ed: | At least two female rowers and at least one male rower |
| Boatsteerers: | Must be BBRC-certified |