

Rules & Regulations



Saturday, October 3, 2026

Registration

- Online registration will close at 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, October 1. To qualify for advance pick up of your race packet, you must register by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, September 28. Participants who wait until race day to register at \$60 per person will be registered in the Non-Competitive class (see below). There will be no race day on-site boat rental.
- Minimum entry age for all divisions is 12. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult on the boat and waiver must be signed by a parent or guardian.

Boat Rules

- Allowed boats are solo, two-person, and multi-person canoes and kayaks. Human muscle power propulsion only. See below for boat classes.
- **DISALLOWED BOATS:** rafts; stand-up paddleboards; boats with motors, or any boat that does not meet the specifications of any division.

Race Boat Classes & Boat Specifications

- **Non-Competitive Class:** For participants who are paddling "just for fun" in any allowed style of boat. Participants will receive all the Regatta benefits except they will not be part of the official timekeeping. This division will be the first start.
- **Recreational Canoe and Team Sponsored Canoe:** Two-person canoes may be made of aluminum, fiberglass, plastic or wood construction, and must meet the length/width specs for the recreational class canoe (17'6" max length). No carbon fiber hulls, or Kevlar hulls allowed in this class. No rudders. Single blade paddles only. Carbon paddles are allowed.
- **Tandem Recreational Kayak:** Tandem kayaks max length is 17'; plastic, wood or fiberglass hull; sit on top or sit inside. Rudders allowed. If your boat is made of carbon fiber or Kevlar, or is longer than 17', or is classified as a sprint K2 or tandem surfski, enter Performance Unlimited.
- **Solo Adventure Kayak:** Solo kayaks max length 15'6", plastic, wood or fiberglass hull; sit on top or sit inside. Example boats in this class are fishing kayaks, Aquaterra Prism, Malibu ocean, Pelican, Sun Dolphin, Wilderness Systems, etc. Single or double blade paddles. Rudders allowed. If your boat is longer than 15'6", or classified as a K1 or surfski, enter Solo Unlimited.
- **Performance Unlimited:** Any boat with two or more persons may enter this class. This class includes all tandem canoes longer than 17'6", all tandem kayaks longer than 17', all tandem or multi-person boats made of carbon fiber or Kevlar, USCA C2, 18' Standard, Wenonah Sundowner, Jensen 18' and concrete canoes. Rudders allowed. Any human muscle powered propulsion allowed.
- **Solo Unlimited:** Any solo boat may enter this class. This class includes solo canoes, boats made of carbon fiber and/or Kevlar, ICF K1, surfski, USCA C1, and any solo kayak longer than 15'6", regardless of hull material. Rudders allowed. Any human muscle powered propulsion allowed.

Race Day Rules

General and Start Area

- All participants must wear a US Coast Guard approved PFD (personal flotation device) during the entire race. **NO BELT STYLE PFD OF ANY KIND ALLOWED.** Any participant found not abiding by these rules will be disqualified.
- All previous years' race numbers should be removed from boats or securely covered so as not to be visible. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure the correct race number is unambiguously visible at the finish line. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
- All participants will have in-water starts. Participants should enter the water at least 20 minutes prior to their designated start, proceed to the upstream staging area and wait for their start wave to be called.
- Any contestant crossing the start line prior to their designated start will be subject to disqualification.
- The Race Director has the right to remove and/or disqualify a participant due to inappropriate behavior or alcohol/drug influenced impairment. Additionally, the Race Director can disallow, at his/her discretion, the entry of any boat or team in any division that may in any way be deemed to be a potential danger to other contestants or themselves.
- Competitive participants not in the water by 9:30 a.m. will be disqualified from the event.

Racecourse

- General rules of sportsmanship apply to this event. Intentional capsizing or damaging of another competitor's canoe or kayak, grasping or pushing or pulling another competitor's boat or person during the race with intent to harm or gain advantage will disqualify the offender. Participants may report infractions to the Race Director.
- Except for portages over channel obstructions, boats must remain in Greens Bayou during the race.
- Participants may pick up food, water or extra paddles during the race.

Finish Line

- The finish line will be between two points or markers as designated by the race committee and will be clearly visible to competitors.
- "Close finishes" will be called by the finish line judge. All decisions are final.
- After crossing the finish line, competitors are required to exit the racecourse.
- Any participant not crossing finish line by 12:00pm will not be included in the official timekeeping.

Awards

- Top three finishers in each class will receive an award, with awards for both men's and women's divisions in the solo classes, and a "mixed" division in the tandem classes. The winning team sponsor will gain possession of the Greens Bayou Regatta Cup for one year.
- Race times will be posted at www.greensbayou.org/annual-regatta as soon as possible following the race.

Severe Weather or Water Conditions

- Because conditions can change without notice, race information will be provided at the start location by race officials on race day. The Greens Bayou Regatta is rain or shine.

If cancellation does take place due to severe water or weather conditions, all entry fees will support Greens Bayou Coalition.