

2017 ADBA Championship Race

The American Dragon Boat Association is pleased to announce that the ADBA Regional Championship Race will be held in conjunction with the Chicago International Dragon Boat Festival at Lake Arlington, Illinois (near Chicago) on July 29, 2017. The winners will be awarded berths to the IDBF Club Crew World Championships which will be held in Szeged, Hungary in 2018.

In order to earn a berth, ADBA requires the following:

1. Crews are required to be current ADBA members (2017) and maintain their membership in the ADBA for 2018.
2. Crews are required to submit to the ADBA Secretary (dboatsue2@aol.com) a roster of bona fide club members no later than June 1, 2017. Exceptions will only be given to new paddlers who have not competed with another dragon boat club in the last twelve months.
3. Crews will register by entering into the local festival and must notify ADBA and GWN in advance, in writing, which division they're racing for i.e. Premier Mixed, Senior A Mixed, Senior C Women, etc.

Berths will be awarded to ADBA crews based on their time in the final 500m race.

The ADBA Championship Races will use the IDBF rules of racing. Please note that the IDBF rules regarding gender composition in a mixed boat have recently changed!

The winners will be awarded the ADBA Championship for each of the recognized ADBA Racing Division / Classes below (all ages are calculated as of June 1st 2018):

Premier Mixed –A mixed gender boat must have a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 10 of each gender in the boat. A drummer may be male or female.

Premier Women - paddlers, drummer and steersperson must be women (head2tail)

Premier Open - any combination of paddlers irrespective of gender count or age

Breast Cancer Survivor (BCS) - paddlers, drummer and steersperson must be survivors inclusive of males and females

Senior Class - Races will be held for mixed, women's and open. With the exception of the Drummer, all competitors must be aged as follows:

For Senior A class, competitors must be the age of 40 or over as of 6/1/18.

For Senior B class, competitors must be the age of 50 or over as of 6/1/18.

For Senior C class, competitors must be the age of 60 or over as of 6/1/18.

Junior Class - Races will be held for mixed, women's and open. With the exception of the Steerer (Helm) the following age categories will apply to the Junior Class:

For Junior U18 class, competitors must be under 18 but over 12 as of 6/1/18 (10 age waivers for U-18 per crew).

For Junior U16 class, competitors must be under 16 but over 12 as of 6/1/18.

For Junior U24 class, competitors must be under 24 but over 18 as of 6/1/18.

ADBA Champions, will be awarded the ADBA berth (provided that the team/club is a regional member (2017) in their respective division to represent USDBF at CCWC in Hungary in 2018.

ADBA Champions are required to declare their intention (accept/decline) to utilize the berth for CCWC by August 26, 2017.

In the event that the ADBA Championship team elects not to use their earned berth, ADBA will then offer it to the next fastest team based on the results from the Chicago event.

Teams are expected to adhere to the rules of racing as well as to requirements specified above for qualifying for the Championship Race. Any violations such as having an unregistered paddler in the boat at either event will result in a disqualification.