



Frequently Asked Questions

What does my race fee include?

Race fee includes the use of dragon boats, paddles and lifejackets. Race fee also covers an area for your team in the Athlete's Village.

[Registration](#) is located online.

What is the deadline for registration?

Registration will end on August 1, 2025.

How can I pay?

Teams can pay via ACH or Zelle. We currently do not accept credit cards, Paypal or Venmo.

What is the refund/cancellation policy?

All registration fees are non-refundable. Participants acknowledge and accept this policy by signing the waiver. OPA reserves the right to change, cancel or postpone the event as a result of circumstances that may impact the festival.

What is a community team?

A community team consists of paddlers who are new to the sport and compete recreationally throughout the year.

What is a sports team?

A sport team consists of paddlers who practice 3 or more times a week and participate in 3 or more races during the year.

What is a corporate team?

A corporate team consists of paddlers representing their company.

How many paddlers are required?

For sports teams, a minimum of 10 female paddlers are required to qualify to race.

For community and corporate teams, a minimum of 8 female paddlers are required to qualify to race.

What if my team does not have enough people?

If you would like to enter a team, but do not have enough people, don't worry. We have paddlers able and ready to join your team's roster. Reach out to dbfestival@ohanapaddling.org and we will work with you to fill the seats on your team.

What if I do not have a team but want to participate?

If you are not part of a team, and am interested in racing, you can sign up for a spot on our [festival paddler waitlist](#)! We will pair you with a team and introduce you to the team captain. You are welcome to attend the team's practice sessions or show up on race day. No experience is required.

What is a team roster?

A team roster lists all paddlers, drummers and steerers for the team.

Rosters must consist of a minimum of 20 paddlers, with a maximum of 24. A steerer and drummer is also required.

For sports teams, drummers and steerers must be members of the team.

For community and corporate teams, drummers and steerers do not have to be employees or members of the team.

What is the minimum age for paddlers?

The minimum age for paddlers is 14 years old.

What happens after I register?

You will receive an email confirmation after registering. Download the [team roster form](#) and [waiver](#). Each paddler, drummer and steerer will require a signed waiver.

Bring the team roster and waiver documents with you on the day of the race. You will receive your team wristbands upon completion of the check-in. Registration will begin at 7am.

Do I have to sign a waiver?

Yes, all paddlers, steerers and drummers must sign the OPA waiver to participate.

Paddlers under the age of 18 must have a waiver signed by a parent/guardian, providing consent to paddle.

Waivers will be crossed checked against the team roster on the day of the race.

What is the race schedule?

The schedule will be released a week before the race.

The race will consist of 3 x 200m races.

Will there be race announcements?

All participants who have registered will receive a welcome email.

Race logistics and information will be emailed to all registered teams during the month of September.

A reminder email will be sent to all teams a week before the event.

What do I need for race day?

We will provide the boat, life jackets and paddles. You are free to bring your own paddles and lifejackets.

Make sure to bring an extra set of clothes to change into, a towel, food and water.

Bathrooms and portable bathrooms will be available throughout the race site.

Do I need to know how to paddle to register?

No. We welcome paddlers of all experiences.

Will there be practice sessions before the race day?

Yes. We are coordinating practice sessions and will announce available dates for August and September.