

**Rules for the 23<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Cardboard Boat Races**  
(featured live on ESPN 2005)

**Construction**

All boats must be built of corrugated cardboard and, if the judge deem it necessary, must pass the dreaded "Ice Pick Test" to verify that the boat is constructed of only cardboard. No motors. Your cardboard boat may be as thick as you want it to be. Thickness of cardboard doesn't matter at all. Remember, it must be all cardboard—not cardboard and wood or cardboard and metal. **The entire boat must be built of corrugated cardboard.**

The only exceptions are: Oars, Propulsion system, and steering devices. These exceptions are of course, not part of the boat proper and can be constructed of materials other than cardboard.

If you don't want your boat to sink, the Committee urges you to waterproof the entire boat with a one-part substance paint. ( A two-part substance would include those that require the addition of a catalyst or hardener.... This eliminates epoxy glue, fiberglass, and certain varnishes. One-part waterproofing substances are easily obtained at a paint or hardware store.)

You cannot wrap the entire boat with plastic or duct tape or any similar tape or wrap. Duck tape can only be used at the seams and stress points. However, you are allowed to reinforce all seams and stress points with tape before waterproofing.

Contestants are not allowed to use any substance which might be harmful to the environment. Contestants should take care to ensure that the construction of your boat does not include pointed projections and sharp edges that might cause personal injury.

**July 25th, 2009  
Cardboard Boat Race  
Registration**

**Please Print**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Division:**    \_\_\_Adult\_\_\_ Children  
                  13+        12 & Under

**Category:**    Pre-reg            Race Day

1 or 2 Persons \$45\_\_\_        \$50\_\_\_

Team            \$50\_\_\_            \$55\_\_\_

Mechanical    \$50\_\_\_            \$55\_\_\_

**\*Deposit Included in Registration**

Make checks payable to:  
Heber Springs Area Chamber  
1001 W. Main  
Heber Springs, AR 72543

Captain \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Boat \_\_\_\_\_

**Boat Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

For Official Use Only

“Corrugated Cardboard only” - “No Motors”

Life Jackets Must Be Worn During The Race  
By signing my name below and/or participating in this event, I hereby agree to abide by the safety rules and/or guidelines governing this cardboard boat race and the rules and regulations pertaining to Greers Ferry Lake as set forth by the U S Army Corps of Engineers in charge of said lake. **I also hereby waive any claim or right to make any claim against Heber Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, City of Heber Springs, or any group or individual involved in this event. If I am a minor, my guardian will sign in my behalf.**  
**By signing this form I understand that photos or video may be taken and released for advertising the Cardboard Boat Race in the future.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



A **\$25 deposit** is included in your registration fee. It will be refunded upon satisfactory removal of all cardboard and only on the day of the race. **It cannot be disposed of on site.**

**Removal verified by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

# World Championship Cardboard Boat Races

2009 Theme  
“Viking Spirit”

Treasure Dig, Tug of War, World  
Championship Watermelon Eating  
Contest, Several Children’s  
Activities

Presentation of Trophies for  
World Championship Cardboard Boat Races  
& Demolition Derby will be following the  
Derby.



## How To Be A Winner

1. **Decide on design and sketch it. It can be any size. Let your imagination go wild!**
2. **Do the bottom of the boat first. Two to three layers of cardboard glued together and weighed down—let set.**
3. **Cut side pieces. Cut against the grain of the corrugated cardboard to insure durability. Use dull side of knife when scoring to make a fold—makes it easier to bend pieces in proper shape.**
4. **Glue sides to bottom. Let glue set.**
5. **Carefully cover any seam with duct tape.**
6. Waterproof inside and out with any single substance compound, such as varnish.
7. Paint and decorate the boat.

## Following awarded for Speed

### **Adult & Youth Divisions**

**1 or 2 person:**

Trophies -1<sup>st</sup> -2<sup>nd</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> Place

**Team:**

Trophies -1<sup>st</sup> -2<sup>nd</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> Place

**Mechanical:**

Trophies: 1<sup>st</sup> -2<sup>nd</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> Place

## Pride of the Fleet Award

### Engineering Details

- Science or physics involved in designing the boat.
- Floatability and movement in water.

### Innovative & Unique Design

- How creative, unusual and how elaborate.

## Team Spirit Award

- Team dress (costumes) such as t-shirts or hats
- Team involvement with spectators and crowd response.
- Decoration of site on land and team spirit during competition and at the finish line.
- Team spirit will be judged from the time the captains register until the end of the race.

## Titanic Award

- Most dramatic sinking.
- Boat must float and clear (50 feet) beyond the starting line.
- Best effort NOT to sink.

## Demolition Derby Award

### Youth & Adult Division

- No use of foreign objects to hit another boat.
- Cannot abandon boat to sink alone.
- Ramming will be the only way you can sink another boat.
- Life vests are required, last standing boat wins.
- Anyone breaking the rules will be removed from the derby immediately.