

Hello Team Captains/Paddlers,

Thank you again for registering your team for the Fanshawe Dragon Boat Festival on **Saturday, June 8th, 2024**.

The festival is just around the corner and team practices are almost here.

Here are a few things to check off your list to ensure that you and your team have the best possible experience during practices and at the festival itself (links to relevant forms are underlined):

- Download and review the [Captain's Package](#) on this page. **(Share with your team members too!)**

Practice info:

Practice sessions are optional for experienced (Club) teams. If you have a paddler who cannot make either of your registered practices, please email our [practice coordinator](#) for options. It is **MANDATORY** that every paddler attend at least one practice (unless an experienced paddler).

- Inform your team members to arrive **AT LEAST 30 minutes before** your scheduled practice time (earlier if team roster still needs to be collected/reviewed) for safety orientation and dragon boat instructions. **Captains and paddlers should check in with registration upon arrival – at the clubhouse.**
- Arrive to your first team practice with a COMPLETED [Team Roster](#) found here. **Captains** – please send a copy of your roster with a team member if there's a chance you'll arrive late (i.e., less than 30 minutes before practice).
- Ensure that EACH team member has completed an **ONLINE** [Waiver of Liability](#). Only those who have completed the waiver can get into a boat! Paddlers should forward the online waiver confirmation to team captains so they can keep track.
Note: Wi-Fi not available at Fanshawe Conservation Area and cell reception is weak. **Please do not leave waivers to the last minute!**
- Remind your team members to dress for the weather conditions (layering is good) and to bring dry clothes to change into after practice. Dragon boating is a "water sport"! **Bring drinking water with you to rehydrate during/after practices** – especially if it's a warm night/day. PLEASE LOCK VALUABLES (including phones) IN YOUR CAR – DO NOT BRING ON THE BOAT.
- If you have not already done so, please consider fundraising for our 2024 **Paddle for a Purpose Pledge Program: [Massel Cruickshank Patient Assistance Fund](#)**. It's the first fund of its kind in Ontario to help breast cancer patients with expenses related to treatment as well as expenses such as wigs and prostheses. For more information about the fund and how to support it, visit [here](#).

- If you have not yet submitted your **Team Bio**, please e-mail it to rowbust.event@gmail.com by **Friday, May 24th**. Bios received by May 24th will be read out during Festival Day.

PARKING PARKING PARKING!

[MAP TO PRACTICE SITE](#)

- Parking on practice nights can be VERY busy so please CARPOOL if possible and give yourself **LOTS** of time to find the site (Yacht Club) and find a parking spot. This is another good reason to have your roster ready to go and all online waivers completed in advance!

Please drive slowly through the park and follow posted speed limits – we want to respect park users, campers and the wildlife.

- Keep your windows rolled up once parked. Raccoons are always looking for a free meal!

IF THE WEATHER IS RAINY/STORMY ON THE NIGHT OF YOUR PRACTICE, PLEASE STILL COME TO THE YACHT CLUB. EVEN IF WE CAN'T GET YOU ON THE WATER, WE CAN DO “DRYLAND” TRAINING INSIDE THE CLUBHOUSE. TRUST US, IT’S PRETTY EFFECTIVE!

ANY LAST-MINUTE UPDATES WILL BE POSTED TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.



FRIENDS OF FANSHAWE



Rocky – hungry, adept at squeezing through small openings



Gord – easily distracted by his dinner & vulnerable to speeding cars

**** As a courtesy to the health and wellbeing of our paddlers and volunteers (and the wildlife), please refrain from smoking and leaving cigarette litter on the Fanshawe Yacht Club grounds. ****