



Peachtree City Dragon Boat Race & International Festival

**Drake Field, Peachtree City, GA
September 27th, 2025**

Invitation and Information

BULLETIN #1



Fellow athletes, festival sponsors, vendors, and entertainers:

It is with great excitement and heartfelt gratitude that I welcome you to the inaugural Peachtree City Dragon Boat Race & International Festival, taking place on September 27, 2025. Whether you are here to paddle, cheer, or simply enjoy the vibrant festivities, your presence makes this event truly special.

This milestone event is the culmination of months of dedication and hard work by the Peach State Dragon Boat Academy Board and a remarkable team of volunteers. Their passion and commitment have been instrumental in bringing this vision to life, ensuring an unforgettable experience for all.

We are especially thankful for PanAm Dragon Boat for their partnership and expertise, which have been indispensable throughout this journey. Special thanks also go to the City of Peachtree City, the Visit Peachtree City Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the folks at GoSeeDoATL for their invaluable support and encouragement in helping us make this day a reality.

Today, as we celebrate sport, culture, and community, I hope you will take the time to enjoy the camaraderie, marvel at the beauty of dragon boat racing, and immerse yourself in the international spirit that makes this festival unique.

The net proceeds of this event will go towards the purchase of new boats and equipment that will support year-round paddling opportunities for seniors, cancer survivors, para-athletes, and other interested adults of all abilities in Fayette County, GA. Thank you again for all your support.

PADDLES UP!

Jessica Walker

Founder

Peach State Dragon Boat Academy



Office of the Mayor

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Dear Dragon Boat Paddlers and Visitors,

On behalf of the citizens of Peachtree City, Georgia, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to our community for the Peach State Dragon Boat Academy's **1st Annual Peachtree City Dragon Boat Race & International Festival** on September 27, 2025. We are honored to host such a vibrant and thrilling event that brings together athletes, cultural enthusiasts, and spectators from across the globe.

Peachtree City is a truly unique destination that we are delighted to share with you. Nestled in the heart of Fayette County, just 25 miles south of Atlanta, our city is renowned for its picturesque landscapes, welcoming spirit, and one-of-a-kind amenities. What sets Peachtree City apart are our 100+ miles of scenic multi-use paths, perfect for golf carts, cycling, walking, and exploring—offering a relaxed yet active way to enjoy the beauty of our surroundings.

In addition to the excitement of dragon boat racing at Lake Peachtree, the festival offers a dynamic lineup of cultural showcases, international cuisine, live performances, and interactive activities that spotlight the rich diversity of our community and the visiting teams. Be sure to experience the festival's colorful energy, whether you are competing, cheering, or simply soaking in the lively atmosphere.

But Peachtree City has even more to offer beyond the race and festival. Nature enthusiasts can explore our lakes, parks, and trails, while golfers will find top-tier courses that cater to all skill levels. Our shopping centers and local eateries ensure you'll savor memorable moments in town, whether you're enjoying unique boutiques or indulging in Southern hospitality at its finest. And for those seeking a bit of history, our city's rich heritage and proximity to Atlanta's iconic landmarks mean there's always something fascinating to discover.

As you prepare to paddle in the dragon boat races, we encourage you to take time to immerse yourself in all Peachtree City has to offer. We hope your visit will be filled with unforgettable experiences, new friendships, and lasting memories.

Thank you for bringing your energy, talent, and passion to the Peach State Dragon Boat Academy's **1st Annual Peachtree City Dragon Boat Race & International Festival**. We are delighted to welcome you and look forward to sharing this event and our extraordinary city with you.

Warm regards,

Kim Learnard
Mayor



CONTACTS For any questions please contact festival@psdba.org

LOCATION AND VENUE Drake Field on Lake Peachtree, located in Peachtree City, Georgia, can be seen at this link: <https://visitpeachtreecity.com/plan/360-virtual-tour/>

As a visitor to the City of Peachtree City, you can enjoy 100+ miles of paved multi-use paths connecting you to shopping, dining, retreat-styled hotel/conference centers, leisure sports, and other recreation. Shop each of Peachtree City's five distinct Villages filled with locally-owned boutiques and national chains, along with premier dining experiences featuring almost every cuisine imaginable.

Located 25 minutes from Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson Airport, our city boasts eight hotels and more than 100 restaurants

FESTIVAL COURSE

Address: Drake Field, 155 Willowbend Rd., Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

Width: 130 meters

Depth: approx. 2 meters

Racing Lanes: 6 lanes each of 13.5 meters wide

Docks: multiple – and will be positioned for greatest flexibility and ease of loading

Water Quality: healthy quality and tested by the Fayette County Water System; the lake is part of an overall water system which feeds into the water supply for Fayette County

Avg Temp: September average temperatures are a low of 60 and a high of 85



COMPETITION FORMAT

The Peachtree City Dragon Boat Race & International Festival will be produced by PanAm Dragon Boat who will supply 8 small (10-paddler) boats including PFDs (flotation jackets) and paddles.

You are welcome to bring your own IDBF Licensed Paddle showing the Spec 202a Manufacturers Mark. Maximum paddle length is 51 inches.

Our Festival insurance requires ALL paddlers, steers, and drummers to wear a US Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD).

PanAm will also provide all the race officials and professional steers. All Recreational teams are required to use a PanAm steer. Competitive teams are permitted to use their own team steer unless they are causing a race disruption or are deemed to be unsafe by the PanAm staff, in which case, a PanAm steer will be provided at no extra charge to that team.

The racing program will be determined by the makeup of the registered teams. All teams will race 2 qualifying heats and 1 final race. There are further opportunities to register for Fastest Time of the Day trophies. The winner of the Knock-Out race will have their 2026 team fees waived (a \$700 value).

Medals for 1st-3rd place in each race category/group will be awarded at the end of the day after the Knock Out race. Medals for the RCC Special Needs teams will be awarded directly after their lunchtime exhibition race.

Free Agent paddlers are available to help teams who are short paddlers to be able to fill their rosters. In addition, when there are enough Free Agent paddlers registered, the Festival will create a separate team for them to race in the appropriate category.



**RACE
REGISTRATION
PROCESS**

Registration for Free Agent Paddlers	<p>Follow this link (https://psdba.org/dragon-boat-and-international-festival/) to register as a Free Agent Paddler:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click the “Register Your Team Here” button. • Choose the Free Agent Paddler category • Pay fees
Registration for Team Captains	<p>Follow this link (https://psdba.org/dragon-boat-and-international-festival/) to register as a Team Captain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click the “Register Your Team Here” button. • Choose your team’s racing category (Create a Team) • Create a team name and password • Choose Recreational or Competitive designation • Choose additional fundraiser race options (see below) • Pay fees and/or apply coupon code if you have one • Send your team members the following so they can self-register: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Team racing category ○ Team name ○ Team password
Registration for Team Members	<p>Follow this link (https://psdba.org/dragon-boat-and-international-festival/) to register as a Team Member:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click the “Register Your Team Here” button. • Choose your team’s racing category (Join a Team) • Choose your team’s name and enter the password • Your fees have already been paid



**RACE
REGISTRATION
FEES – TEAMS
AND FREE
AGENTS**

https://psdba.org/dragon-boat-and-international-festival/)	Free Agent	Early	Regular	Late	Fastest Time of Day Option	Knockout Race Option
Free Agent Paddler	\$100	\$700	\$750	\$800		
Traveling Team Registration (outside 100 mile radius of Peachtree City) request coupon code from festival@psdba.org		\$700			\$100	\$100
Local Team Registration		1/1/25 – 4/3/25	4/4/25 – 9/3/25	9/4/25 – 9/20/25	\$100	\$100



**RACE
REGISTRATION
FEES – TEAMS
THAT HAVE
SPONSORSHIPS**

See more details about all sponsor benefits in our Sponsorship Packet: https://heyzine.com/flip-book/2471432eb6.html - page/1		Fastest Time of Day Option	Knockout Race Option
Premium - \$10,000	3 free teams + \$350 per added team, + additional benefits described in Sponsor Packet	\$100	\$100
Signature - \$5,000	2 free teams + \$400 per added team, + additional benefits described in Sponsor Packet	\$100	\$100
Jade – \$2,500	1 free team + \$450 per added team, + additional benefits described in Sponsor Packet	\$100	\$100
Pearl - \$1,500	\$500 per team, + additional benefits described in Sponsor Packet	\$100	\$100
Ruby - \$500	\$700 per team, + additional benefits described in Sponsor Packet	\$100	\$100



FASTEST TIME OF THE DAY TROPHY

During the team registration process, an additional \$100 (or \$50 for non-profits) will purchase the right to be included with other teams in recording who had the fastest time of the day in each of these categories:

- Bank/Financial
- Church
- Gym
- HOA
- Manufacturing
- Medical
- Non-Profit Org

A small trophy will be awarded for the winner in each category that has participants. Please contact us at festival@psdba.org if you have an additional category that you'd like to have us include in this list

"BEST OF THE BEST" KNOCK-OUT RACE

This race is brand new to Peachtree City and its inclusion this year is a testament to the high-quality competitiveness of teams that we attract. The winner of this race will have their team fees waived for 2026. This is a \$750 value!

During the team registration process, an additional \$100 will purchase your entry to this race. It is currently capped at 6 team entries.

How a Knock-Out Race works:

1. Six teams line up at the 100m mark and race to the finish line.
 2. The slowest two boats are knocked out and head back to marshaling.
 3. The remaining four boats go immediately to the 100m mark to run the race again.
 4. The slowest boat is knocked out and heads back to marshaling.
 5. The remaining three boats to immediately to the 100m mark to run the race a final time.
 6. The winner of this race will have their 2026 team fees waived!
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**DIVISIONS,
RACING CLASSES,
COMPETITION
AND RACE
DISTANCES**

SMALL BOATS (12 Competitors)

Racing Class	Premier Division	Senior age 50+ Division	BCP Division	ACP Division	ParaDragon (PD1) Division	ParaDragon (PD2) RCC Special Needs Division	ParaDragon (PD2) Division	ParaDragon (PD3) Division
OPEN: Recreational & Competitive Options	200m	200m		200m	200m	200m SINGLE EXHIBITION RACE ONLY	200m	200m
WOMEN: Recreational & Competitive Options	200m	200m	200m					
MIXED: Recreational & Competitive Options	200m	200m	200m					

**AGE
REGULATIONS**

IMPORTANT NOTE: For all age groups, ages shown below are as of **December 31st, 2025:**

Premier	No age limit
Senior age 50+	50th or later birthday falls in the year of the competition (with the exception of drummers)



CANCER SURVIVORS

Breast cancer and all-cancer survivor crews (BCP/ACP) are dragon boat crews formed from competitors who have been diagnosed with breast cancer or another form of cancer.

Team Captains, please be sure to indicate that your team should be considered as an BCP/ACP crew during the registration process. We will be featuring a Flower Ceremony to recognize you.

Everyone on the roster of a team registered in the ACP division must be a cancer survivor. For BCP teams, everyone on the roster must be a breast cancer survivor.

In both divisions, these rules do not apply to the drummer or the steer.

PARADragONS

The Para-dragon category is relatively new to our sport and gaining lots of traction. We are proud to announce that the leadership team of the Peachtree City Dragon Boat Race & International Festival has been on the leading edge of including this category of paddlers for the past 14 years for our Special Needs community, as well as in the past 3 years with our PD3 paddlers who all have a lower limb amputation.

We are strongly committed to our continuing encouragement of those paddlers with physical, psychological, neurological, sensory, developmental or intellectual impairments to participate at the club and local festival level so that interested Para-dragon individuals and teams are prepared to participate on the National and International stages when the opportunity arises for them.

HOW TO BOOK A TEAM PRACTICE

Each team's registration fee includes one coached practice session which will be held at the event site, on Friday, September 26th. Registration fees must be received in full and confirmed before the practices may be booked. Team Captains, follow this link to see the open training sessions available to apply for your top three choices for team training:

<https://psdba.org/dragon-boat-and-international-festival/festival-information/>

Your team will be assigned to a single training session based on a first-come-first-served basis.



ACCOMMODATION www.visitpeachtreecity.com

The Festival is currently working with the Peachtree City Convention and Visitor's Bureau on hotel room block discounts for traveling teams.
More information will be included in Bulletin #2.

**TRAVEL
INFORMATION**

For information on direct flights and airlines serving the Peachtree City area, visit ATL.com

For destination information, visit visitpeachtreecity.com and GoSeeDoATL.com

**TRANSPORTATION
TO/AT RACE
VENUE**

Recommendations and options for transportation between accommodations, venue parking, and the race site will be included in Bulletin #2.

**TEAM / VENDOR /
SPONSOR TENT
RULES**

The City of Peachtree City does not allow ANY STAKING on Drake Field due to underground utilities that could be damaged. To ensure compliance with this rule, the Festival will provide each team a tented 10x10 space in the Athlete's Village which is included in the team fees.

Teams should NOT bring their own tents, and are strongly encouraged instead to bring their own chairs and to decorate the 10x10 space allotted to them.

All vendor and sponsor tents will be required to use weights to keep their tent secured rather than stakes.

**VENDOR
APPLICATION**

<https://psdba.org/dragon-boat-and-international-festival/vendors/>

**ENTERTAINER
APPLICATION**

<https://forms.monday.com/forms/625a9e3d462f8255cb1e69751521b4b3?r=use1&DBF+Entertainment=>



**SPONSOR
APPLICATION**

<https://psdba.org/dragon-boat-and-international-festival/sponsorship/> to see our Sponsorship Packet

<https://forms.monday.com/forms/83d039e2d381d68a22fe3b37a2efb0a9?r=use1&Sponsor=> to go directly to the Sponsorship Form

**VOLUNTEER
SIGNUP**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054FA5AA2AA1FDCF8-56739452-volunteer#/>

**HIGH-LEVEL
SCHEDULE**

DATE	SCHEDULE
01/01/2025	Early Bird team fee registration open
04/04/2025	Regular team fees registration open
05/15/2025	Applications Open: Vendor: https://wkf.ms/4dcliok?DBF+Vendor= Sponsor: https://forms.monday.com/forms/83d039e2d381d68a22fe3b37a2efb0a9?r=use1&Sponsor= Entertainment: https://forms.monday.com/forms/625a9e3d462f8255cb1e69751521b4b3?r=use1&DBF+Entertainment= Volunteer: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054FA5AA2AA1FDCF8-56739452-volunteer#/
09/04/2025	Late team fees registration open
09/26/2025	Race Venue Setup & Team Practice Day
09/27/2025	Race Day
09/28/2025	Race Venue Cleanup
