



UW Oshkosh in partnership with YMCA.



## Oshkosh Community Dragon Boat Race and Festival

Riverside Park 8AM–5PM  
Saturday, Sept. 26, 2009  
Oshkosh, WI

### 2009 Team FAQs

#### How do I get on a dragon boat team?

- You can paddle in a sponsored boat, which is a boat whose entry fee is paid by a company or organization. Team members can be made up of co-workers, organization members, friends, athletic teams, etc.
- If you don't know enough people for an entire team, you can sponsor yourself and be asked to be put on a team by contacting us at: In this case, you'll need to get an individual pledge form and raise enough money for your entry fee. Each person would need to raise \$35 per person before July 1: \$42.50 after July 1 (based on a team of 20).

#### What does it cost to participate?

Each boat costs \$750 (before July 1 or \$850 after July 1). Most sponsorships include a boat in the race.

##### How do I register?

###### By Mail:

Oshkosh Community Dragon Boat Festival  
c/o YMCA  
3303 W. 20<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Oshkosh, WI 54904

###### By Fax:

920-230-8444

###### By Email:

dragonlady@uwosh.edu

#### When is registration?

Registration for all teams is thru July 1. Late registration is July 1–September 1. The competition is based on 40 boats and race slots will fill quickly.

#### When and where do we hand in registration materials?

You can hand in your registration materials anytime before Sept. 1, 2009. We'll host a Paddle Party Friday, Sept. 25 to celebrate the event and allow teams some good-hearted pre-race competition. The Paddle Party details will be announced later.

#### What if we register late? (After July 1)

Registration after July 1 is \$850. If the race fills up by July 1, you'll be put on a waiting list.

#### Do I need paddling experience?

No. Most paddlers aren't experienced. The size and design of the dragon boats makes them very stable. The challenge is paddling in synchronization with 19 other people.



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### **What if I don't know 19 other people for a team?**

We'll help you find other paddlers. Just contact us.

### **Can a team be all male or female?**

No. Teams must have a minimum of eight female paddlers. Two alternates are required for each team.

### **What's the youngest age to participate?**

14 years old.

### **How many races does each team get on race day?**

Each team is guaranteed three races.

### **How will we know what to do?**

We provide a practice session for each boat so you can learn the spirit of paddling together. Practice schedules will be published later.

### **When will we practice?**

Team practices will be held on a weekend before the race. We'll publish a practice schedule closer to race day.

### **How do we pick a captain?**

Choose someone who can handle the paperwork for the team. This includes collecting registration money, T-shirt sizes, and waivers. The team captain is responsible for communicating all information regarding the race practice schedule, tents at the Athlete's Village, pledge forms, race times, etc.

### **What's the purpose of the drummer?**

The drummer is responsible for getting 20 people to paddle together. Paddling in unison greatly increases your speed, makes steering easier, and increases your chances to advance in the race lineup.

### **Who steers the boat?**

The Festival provides steerspeople for the dragon boats. While it takes no experience to paddle a dragon boat, steering a 40-foot human-propelled canoe is another story. A professional steersperson ensures that you will actually cross the finish line.



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### What is the Athlete's Village?

The Athlete's Village is where all the paddlers congregate with their team between races. Usually teams rent a tent from the Festival which provides a place for team members to hang out, watch other races, prepare for their next event and enjoy the festivities of the day. Many times friends and family hang out in the Athlete's Village with paddlers. Food, drink, concessions and restrooms at the site.

### My company might be interested in sponsoring a boat. What do I do?

Sponsorship packets are available online @ [www.uwosh.edu/dragonboat](http://www.uwosh.edu/dragonboat) or email [dragonlady@uwosh.edu](mailto:dragonlady@uwosh.edu)