



Crews and Teams for IDBF World Championship Regattas

Extracts from the IDBF Bye-Laws

Crew shall mean an entity comprised of more than one competing Racer who group together for the purpose of competing in a Dragon Boat Race, Event or Regatta. A crew shall be considered an entity subject to these Regulations and Rules and members of a crew shall be collectively responsible for its conduct in a race, event or regatta in which the crew competes. A crew, to be recognised as such by the IDBF, must be registered with or affiliated to an IDBF Controlling (Governing) Association and when the crew is part of a Dragon Boat Club, the Club is also responsible for the conduct of their competing crew or crews.

Dragon Boat Clubs. For the purpose of Article 10 of the IDBF Statutes, a Dragon Boat Club or Crew is defined as being a Crew or group of Crews which have a formal Sports Club Constitution which, in general terms, shows that the Club's individual members are responsible for the Club's affairs; that they elect representatives to their *governing* Dragon Boat Association; that they elect Club Officers and Officials to manage the affairs of their Club; that the Club keeps properly maintained and controlled accounts; that the Aims and Objectives of the Club and its Constitution or Statutes, are consistent with those of their own *governing* Dragon Boat Association, where one exists and where appropriate, the IDBF. (A draft Club Constitution is shown at Attachment 2 - Sep 02).

World Championships. The following administrative terms of clarification are primarily for use by Organising Committees of IDBF World Championships:-

- 1. Group:** The total number of people **shown on the numerical Summary List** of those attending an IDBF World Championships, as submitted by the controlling association of the country concerned.
- 2. Team:** All those personnel in a **Representative Team** as shown on the **Named Entry Form** for an IDBF World Championships, that is, the Competitors and Team Management personnel (Officials, Coaches, Medics) and including Senior and Junior competitors, when joint championships are held.
- 3. Squad/Division:** *Squad, those people in a particular World Championship Division, when a Team consists of competitors in the Junior and Senior Racing Classes (Division) in addition to the Open, Women or Mixed, any age, racing classes. For example, the Premier Division is all competitors in the any age Open, Women and Mixed competitions, who thus form the Premier Squad. The total number of people in a particular Squad will include all the competitors, plus their relevant coaches, managers etc. (It is therefore possible for Junior and Senior competitors to be listed in the Premier Squad, as well as their own age group Squad).*
- 4. Crew:** Those competitors who will **actually race in a particular Competition Class** (Premier Mixed 250 m or Premier Open 1000m, for example) at a World Championships, **as listed on the Crew List** submitted for that Competition Class by the Team Leader.

BL 3.10 (1.7) Championships Races (National Championships excepted) may be held for either **Representative Crews** or **Club Crews**, as defined in this Bye-Law. Championship Races shall be conducted under the IDBF Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing. *Championship races are considered to be Sport Racing events as defined in Bye-Law 3.3.2.*

3.10.1 (1.8.2) Representative Crew Races, are races organised specifically for crews that have been selected to represent their country or territory by an IDBF controlling association or a member of a Continental or Regional Federation.

3.10.2 (1.8.1) Club Crew Races, are International Races organised *or sanctioned by the IDBF* and its Members, or other organisations, for crews that are not representing a country *or territory*. By definition crews that are not selected on a national or *territorial* basis are Club Crews. IDBF Members may only send crews representing their own Clubs, to Club Crew Races.

Extracts from IDBF Competition Regulations.

1.4 Championship Crews. IDBF Championships may be held for **Representative Team Crews; Club Crews or Corporate & Community Crews.** A **Representative Team Crew** is a Dragon Boat Crew selected to represent their country, territory, *continent region or Member, as defined in the IDBF Bye-laws (Sep 02).* A **Club Crew** is a Crew that represents itself or a bona fide Dragon Boat Club.

a. **Racing Colours.** **Representative** Crews at a WDBRC must compete in the recognised Racing colours of their *Country or Territory (see Regulation 9.12)* and are subject to the *Representation* rule shown at Regulation 4.1. *Crews from an IDBF Associate Member must compete in the Racing Colours of their Associate Member.* At a CCWC or CorcomWC, crews must compete in their own or neutral (*plain White*) Racing Colours. (Sep 03)

1.4.1 **World Dragon Boat Racing Championships (WDBRC)** are normally restricted to Representative Teams from IDBF Full and Basic Members. **By exception and at the discretion of the IDBF Council, Representative Crews from other classes of Membership may be allowed to compete in a WDBRC.** (Sep 02) The total number of crews, per IDBF Member, is defined as a 'Team'.

1.4.2 **Club Crew World Championships (CCWC)** are restricted to Club Crews representing a Dragon Boat Crew or Club, *not an IDBF Member.* Crews must compete under their 'Club Name' and in club attire and must not be given *Representative Team* status. Club Crews from at least six (6) IDBF Members must compete before a Competition Class can be given Club Crew World Championship status. (See Reg 1.5.2)

* 1.4.3 **World Corporate & Community Championships (WCorcom)** are primarily designed for **Novice Crews**, that is, crews with little or no experience of Sport Racing. Entries are restricted to crews representing corporate (commercial/business) or community organisations (Police, Fire Service, Medical Services, Armed Forces etc). Participants must be employees of, or immediate family members of employees, of the organisation concerned.

Other special regulations concerning the known ability and experience of competitors may apply. Corcom Crews from at least six (6) countries or territories recognised by the IDBF must compete before a Competition Class can be given Corporate and Community Crew World Championship status. (Sep 03)

a. Breast Cancer Survivors Crews – World Championships Events.

Breast Cancer Survivors Crews (BCS) are classified as Corcom Crews and may therefore compete in a World Corcom, within their own Racing Class (Sep 03) **as well as the BCS World Dragon Boat Championships.** BCS Championships are sanctioned by the IDBF as a World Championship Regatta and organised by the International Pink Dragon Boat Commission (IPDBC) which is the IDBF C&TC Divisional Committee for Breast Cancer Survivors. If a BCS Crew is a bona fide Club Crew or part of a Dragon Boat Club, then they may compete as a Club Crew in a Club Crew World Championships. (Nov 06)

1.4.4 (1.4.3) **Continental or Regional Championships** may be held for Representative; Club or Corcom Crews. A minimum of six crews from at least three **(3) Countries, Territories** or IDBF Members, must compete before a Competition Class can be awarded Championship status. (See also Regulation 1.5.3 and Regulation 7.11 - Titles). (Sep 03)

1.5 Participating Crews. The number of participating crews in an IDBF Championships Regatta is laid down by the IDBF Executive Committee and approved by the IDBF Council. These numbers may be changed at the discretion of the Executive, if to do so is in the best interest of the sport.

* 1.5.1 **World Championships.** For a World Dragon Boat Racing Championships one (1) crew per Nation or Territory shall be allowed to compete in each Competition Class listed in the Championships Programme. (For Juniors & Senior Racing Divisions, 2 crews per Competition Class, are presently allowed, *In the Senior Division one crew may be a Grand Dragons crew, that is the crew members will be over 50 years of age*) (POct 07)

1.5.2 **Club Crew Championships.** For a Club Crew Championships up to five (5) different crews per Competition Class, may compete from one nation, territory or IDBF Member. **In a World Corcom** there are no restrictions on numbers. (Sep 03)

* 1.5.3 **Continental & Regional Championships.** For a Continental or Regional Championships up to three (3) entries per Competition Class are allowed.

1.7 Restrictions on Championships Entries. When races for both *Representative Team* Crews and Club Crews are being held at the same Regatta, crews will not be allowed to compete in both competitions in the same Competitive Class, on the same day, neither shall *Representative* and Club Crews be permitted to compete together in one Comp Class.

1.7.1 **CCWC. Entries to a Club Crew** World Championship (CCWC) must be approved by the IDBF Member Controlling Association, where one exists, in the Country or Territory in which the Club Crew is domiciled. Approval means that the Club Crew is a bona fide crew as described in these Regulations, is financially sound; has a good disciplinary record and is a current member of the IDBF Member concerned. (Sep 02)

2. RACING AND COMPETITION CLASSES and CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISIONS.

2.1 Racing Classes. For all IDBF *Championships* or *sanctioned* competitions, races may be organised for the following Racing Classes, *based on age and gender*.

2.1.1 **Open Class** - the *primary* class of racing. There are no restrictions on crew composition, *or age*, except that competitors under 12 years old must be accompanied, in the boat, by a parent or nominated responsible adult and must wear a personal flotation aid. (See also Regulation 7.7.).

2.1.2 **Women's Class** - for all female crews, of any age, except for those under 12 years old to whom Regulation 2.1.1. applies.

2.1.3 **Mixed Class** - crews must contain a minimum of eight (8) and a maximum of twelve (12) Female paddlers. There are no restrictions on age, except for the 12 years old rule shown in Regulation 2.1.1.

2.1.4 **Junior Class** - Races may be held for Single or Mixed gender crews or in Open Competition, as shown above, with the exception of the Steerer (Helm) the following age categories, **as at the 1st January**, will apply to the Junior Class:

Junior **A.** Competitors under the age of 18 *but at least 12 years old*

Junior **B.** Competitors under the age of 16 *but at least 12 years old*.

Junior **C.** Competitors under the age of 14 *but at least 12 years old*.

NOTE: This means that a competitor whose 18th; 16th or 14th birthday, falls on or after 1st January, in a given year, can compete in that year only, as a 17, 15 or 13 year old, respectively.

2.1.5 **Senior Class** - Races can be held for Mixed or Single gender crews or in Open Competition, as shown above, with the exception of the Drummer, all competitors must be aged 40 or over, **on the 1st June**, in a given year.

a. **Age Group Categories** for the Senior Class, such as *Over 50 years old and over 60 years old*, may be introduced at World Championship Regattas, when the IDBF Council so decides.

2.2 Competition Classes. Races for each designated Racing Class may be held over a variety of different race distances (for distances see Competition Regulation 6.1). At an IDBF Championships, each combination of Racing Class and Race Distance shall be known as a Competition Class.

2.4 Championship Divisions. At IDBF World Championships or international races, where either (or both) Senior and Junior Races are being held in addition to races open to all age groups, the open age group Racing Classes will be prefixed as 'Premier' and the total Competition Classes of each type, will be known as a Division. Thus the Open, Women's and Mixed, 'Premier' Classes will form the Premier Division; the combined Senior Classes, the Senior Division and all the Junior Classes the Junior Division.

3. CREW and TEAM COMPOSITION.

3.1 Crew Numbers. Dragon Boat Crews competing in World and Continental Championships will normally consist of:-

a. for the Standard Racing Boat (DB22) a minimum of eighteen (18) and a maximum of twenty (20) Paddlers; one (1) Steerer and one (1) Drummer; giving a minimum total of twenty (20) and maximum total of twenty-two (22) Racers in a boat. For other Championships the numbers can be reduced to a minimum of sixteen (16) Paddlers, for a minimum total of eighteen (18) Racers, in a Crew.

b. for the Small Racing Boat (DB12) the crew shall consist of ten (10) paddlers plus a Drummer and a Steerer, for a maximum of 12 Racers in a Crew. (Nov 06).

Variations to these numbers can only be made with the approval of the IDBF Executive Committee.

3.1.1 World Championship Teams and Squads. *For a WDBRC the minimum number of people in a Representative Team shall be 20, that is one crew, as defined in 3.1 above. The maximum number of people in a Team will vary according to the Competition Programme and shall be 84 persons, per Championship Squad, that is, the Racers in the Premier, Junior and Senior Divisions, plus their supporting managers, coaches, medics etc, who may also be competitors.*

Thus a Team may range from a minimum of 20 to a maximum of 252 persons, dependant on the number of Championship Divisions in a particular World Championships.

3.1.2 Squad Composition. *From this maximum total of 84 people, per Divisional Squad, must come all the competitors for all the Competition Classes entered in a particular Division, that is, Premier, Junior or Senior, as the case may be, and the squad officials. (The figure of 84, allows each Squad to have specialist crews, each with a maximum of 26 racers, that is 22 + 4 reserve paddlers, in each of the Open, Women's and Mixed Racing Classes, with which to contest all the Competition Classes in a particular Division.*

However, Mixed Crews can also be formed from a combination of competitors from the Open and Women's Crews).

3.3 Crew Reserves. Reserve Competitors up to a maximum of four (4) may be nominated for each crew, at all IDBF competitions. Such Reserves may compete without further reference to the Event Organisers or Competition Committee provided that their names are shown on the **Competition Entry Form** for IDBF Championships or the official **Crew List** for other IDBF sanctioned races. (See Regulation 8.5).

3.4 Restrictions. Only those competitors entered on the Entry Form and shown on the Crew List will be permitted to race in an IDBF Championship event.

4. REPRESENTATION and NATIONALITY

4.1 Representation. To represent a country or *territory* in an IDBF Championship or International Race for **Representative Crews**, a Dragon Boat Competitor must normally be a citizen of the country, *or born in the Territory*, represented and be able to prove this by showing an official document, such as a Passport, Identity Card, Birth Certificate, or the like.

a. Dual Nationality: *Competitors with dual nationality (citizenship) may represent the Country or Territory of their Birth or their dual citizen Country or Territory, whichever of these they are residing in, providing that they have been resident in that Country or Territory for a current period of at least 3 full years. Competitors who do not meet these requirements must comply with Regulation 4.2 or 4.2a below.* (Sep 07)

4.2 Country or Territory of Residence. Dragon Boat competitors who have left their country *or territory* of birth and are resident in another country *or territory*, may represent that country *or territory*, if they have lived there for a *current* period of three (3) years or **more and have not represented their country/ territory of birth, during the previous two (2) years.**

a. Exceptionally, competitors who have a residential qualification of less than 3 years and who have not represented an IDBF Member previously, may with the permission of both their birth and residential IDBF Member, apply to the IDBF Executive Committee for permission to compete for their country/territory of residence. When permission is given, the competitor concerned will not be allowed to compete for any other IDBF Member for a minimum period of 2 years following the year in which the permission is given. (Nov 03)

b. (4.2) Competitors who, by marriage have acquired the nationality of another country may compete for that country without delay.

4.3 Club Crews. In IDBF Championships for **Club Crews** a Racer can only represent one Dragon Boat Crew. The rules for National Crew Representation need not apply but all competitors must have been bona fide members of the Dragon Boat Crew that they represent, for at least **SIX** (6) months (Nov 06) before the Club Crew Championships in question.

(See Bye Law 12.3, copied below, for the definition of a Dragon Boat Club Crew.)

4.3.1. *A bona fide Club Member is one that has regularly trained and/or competed for the Club Crew that they represent during the minimum period of **six months** shown in 4.3. A bona fide Club Member will normally be resident in the Country in which the Club Crew is located.*

A Club Member who trains and competes with a Club Crew from a different Country or Territory or a geographical Region within a Country to the one in which the Club Member himself (or herself) is normally domiciled, will only be considered as a bona fide Club Member if they can prove that they have physically attended their Club to train or compete for a period or of at least twelve (12) weeks, over a minimum period of two (2) racing seasons. (Nov 06)

4.4 International Races. In **IDBF sanctioned International Races**, the representation rules above need not apply but all Competitors must be recorded on the Crew Lists of the crews that they paddle with.

BL 12.3 (12.4 / 12.7) **Dragon Boat Clubs.** A Dragon Boat Club is defined as being a single Crew or group of Crews which have a formal Sports Club Constitution which, in general terms, shows that the Club's individual members are responsible for the Club's affairs; that they elect representatives to their *governing* Dragon Boat organisation; that they elect Club Officers and Officials to manage the affairs of their Club; that the Club keeps properly maintained and controlled accounts; that the Aims and Objectives of the Club and its Constitution or Statutes, are consistent with those of their own *governing* Dragon Boat Association, where one exists and where appropriate, the IDBF. *(A draft Club Constitution is shown at Attachment 2 - Sep 02).*

5. DRAGON BOATS AND EQUIPMENT

5.5 Sponsors Advertising. At IDBF Championship sponsorship of or advertising on, dragon boats and equipment, by an event sponsor, is permitted subject to the conditions laid down, under Regulation 7.2, by the IDBF Executive Committee from time to time. (See also Comp Reg 7.2.1 -7.2.3, concerning advertising on crews clothing and equipment).

Under this Regulation, Organising Committees may override Regulation 9.12, and **exclude crew from using their own boats or paddles when advertising a sponsors products, provided that all crews are supplied with alternative boats and paddles to the championships specifications.** For a World or Continental Championships such action must first be authorised by the IDBF Executive or the Continental Federation concerned

5.7 Paddles (Jiang). Subject to the exceptions shown in Regulation 5.5, competitors in IDBF Championships shall be permitted to use their own paddles (Jiang) provided that they conform to the IDBF Racing Paddle specification, or a specific specification laid down by the IDBF Executive Committee for a particular championships.

Competitors found to be using paddles that do not conform to the published 'paddle' regulations for a particular IDBF championships, will be warned accordingly and if the warning is ignored they will face **disqualification** from the competition concerned.

7. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION and SAFETY MATTERS

7.1 Delegation. All IDBF competitions are conducted under the overriding of the IDBF Executive Committee as authorised by the IDBF Council. The IDBF Executive may delegate to an Organising Committee the responsibility for the organisation of the competition. (See also Competition Regulation 9 - Competition Organisation).

7.2 Sponsorship/Publicity/Advertising. The IDBF Executive Committee are empowered to lay down conditions regarding sponsorship, publicity and advertising at IDBF events. For IDBF Championships, the Organising Committee must submit for approval to the IDBF Executive details of any sponsorship before any formal agreement is reached with a sponsor.

7.2.1 (9.12). Advertising on Crew Uniforms, Boats & Equipment. At IDBF Championships the advertising of a *Representative* Team's sponsor on a crews 'off water' uniform and training apparel; Team Boats and Equipment, not supplied by the Organising Committee *will* be permitted subject to any conditions established by the IDBF Executive Committee from time to time and published in a Championship Information Bulletin, provided that such uniform (or training clothes) are not worn during an actual race. At other IDBF competitions advertising as above shall be at the discretion of the organisers. **Failure to act in accordance with this Regulation may result in disciplinary action against the crew concerned.**

7.2.2 Advertising on a Crews Racing Clothing and Equipment. With the exception of boats and equipment provided by a Championship Sponsor under Regulation 5.5, the advertising of a Representative Team's sponsor on a crews **racing apparel** or personally owned Racing Paddles, will be permitted subject to the following provisos. That any such advertising is unobtrusive and tasteful (that is, of a design that does not cause offence to the public or cause the racing vest to become unrecognisable as a Crew's Representative Colours). One such advertisement will be permitted on the Racing Vest placed in such a position that it does not unduly disrupt, hide or negate the Crew's Colour design thereon.

7.2.3 The maximum size of sponsors name and logo advertising that will be permitted on a Racing Vest shall be that which can be contained in a box measuring 20cm long by 5cm wide. For competitors personal **Racing Paddles, that is those that comply with the IDBF Paddle Specification**, the sponsors advertisement may be of a different shape to that on the Racing Vest but shall not exceed the overall area of the 20cm x 5cm box (100 sq cm).

8. TECHNICAL ADMINISTRATION.

8.4 Team & Crew Lists. For an **IDBF World Championship** each IDBF Member taking part shall submit, to the Organising Committee by the Closing Date for Entries, a **Team List**, showing the full names of all competitors and team officials selected to take part in the Championships. Blank Team Lists shall be sent out with the Entry Forms. For all IDBF competitions

8.4.1 Crew Lists, showing the Names and Racing Numbers of the competitors in a crew must be submitted to the Chief Official before a crew's first race in a Competition Class.

a. **'Fit To Race'** When signing the Crew List, the person signing is confirming with the Chief Official, that all the competitors shown on the list are **Fit to Race**.

This statement covers not just the physical ability of the competitors to undertake the race concerned but it also means that the signatory is confirming that there are no known medical reasons why those listed should not compete during the whole period of the Championships. **This is particularly relevant to Senior and Junior competitors.**

b. To ensure that Team Officials can sign the Crew Lists with confidence, **all competitors attending an IDBF Championship are required to sign a personal declaration** stating that there is no medical reason why they should not compete in the Championships concerned and that they are physically fit to race – see 8.4.2. (Sep 03)

8.4.2 Competitors Declarations. At IDBF World Championships there will be a medical doctor appointed to conduct checks, by requesting proof of a competitors medical fitness. This can take the form of a Doctor's medical certificate or a signed declaration from the competitor or a declaration by a Team Leader on behalf of all competitors. (Sep 03)

8.4.3 Banned Substances. Competitors who have been prescribed banned substances, and do not possess a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) must complete a **Banned Substances Declaration**, which must be handed to the appointed IDBF Medical Doctor before the athlete concerned competes

8.5 Competitors Eligibility & Identification. Only those competitors named on a Team List (IDBF World Championships) or Crew List, including reserves, may take part in a competition. A false declaration regarding the name, classification, *citizenship or residential qualification* of any competitor may result in the disqualification of the Team or Crew concerned from the Championships or the Competition Class entered.

a. (8.5) **For identification purposes photographs** of all competitors must be taken before a Championship event and, ideally, forwarded to the Organising Committee with the Entry Form.

8.9 Objections to Crews. When, at an IDBF Championships, a Crew Manager has received advanced information concerning participating crews, any objection against a crew or competitor entered in the Championship must be made by an IDBF Member within two (2) days of receiving the list of Entries. When such information is only received on arrival at the competition site any objections must be made within 24 hours of receipt.

8.10 Submission of Objections. All objections shall be made to the IDBF Executive President, with a copy to the Organising Committee. The IDBF Executive President shall consult with members of the IDBF Executive Committee or the Championships Jury, as appropriate, and shall decide if the objection is well founded, or not and take action as necessary, informing those concerned of his decision.