



Docklands Sailing and Watersports Centre
235A Westferry Road, Isle of Dogs, London E14 3QS
Phone: 020 7537 2626
Email: info@dswc.org
Website: www.dswc.org

Dragon Boat Race Event Information Pack 2016



Introduction

We provide a complete Dragon Boating experience for your perfect team building London corporate event from 16 to over 500 people!

Ten to sixteen people paddling side by side in a boat forty foot long. A drummer, sitting in the prow, beating time, a helm at the stern with a steering arm, all working together as one - this is Dragon Boating!

We run up to six boats down the dock together providing not just great fun to the participants but a superb spectacle for the spectators. This ancient and fascinating sport requires no previous experience and caters for all ages and abilities in one crew, male and female. Above all it's exciting, motivating, social, fun and competitive.

A typical race event consists of two heats per team racing up to three boats at a time. The fastest teams will then go through to a head to head final. Qualification is based on the fastest, not average time.

Expert commentary from our in-house PA adds a great atmosphere to your event for an extra fee. PA is compulsory on events over 100 people.



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Event Summary

The Dragon Boat Race event can be done as a pure race event or packaged with BBQ and drinks, and even an after-party event or disco in our 200 people capacity hall and bar combo area.

Dragon Boat Race requires a minimum of 20 participants with 10 people in a boat/team. If there are only two-boats racing, the format could be in the form of best of three races or the best average time.

If there are more than two boats racing, the event runs on a heat system with 2 boats racing at a time and individual times recorded. The teams with the fastest qualifying times go head to head in the final race. We recommend having as many teams as possible as this will increase the thrill factor exponentially. As a guide an event for 40 people (four boats) will take approximately 1 hour and for 100 people (ten boats) will take around 2 hours, not including BBQ and drinks session. The centre is able to cater up to 500 participants in a day.

Sample Summer Evening Race Program

In the summer season, races can start late in the day suitable for professionals and corporates. Below is a sample program for about 100 to 200 participants.

5.30 pm	Participants register and get changed
5.45 pm	Briefing
6.00 pm	Race starts
8.00 pm	Race finishes
8.10 pm	Prize-giving
8.30 pm	BBQ buffet
11.00 pm	Program ends

The Sports Bar can open from 5.30pm and participants and spectators may start buying alcohol. However we monitor participants' consumption strictly as they are not allowed more than two units before finishing the race.

Before the race

Team name

We ask that teams of minimum of 10 people be formed before the race. Each team comes up with a catchy name and designs a team uniform, preferably consisting of fancy headwear and face paint - the more outrageous the better! Of course, be mindful that team uniform should not get in the way or impede the performance of the race.



What to wear

As participants will surely get wet, we encourage them to bring extra change of clothes and shoes. There are change rooms and shower facilities at DSWC so participants may bring towels and toiletries as well. Participants should also consider bringing waterproof jackets in case it rains.

The Race

When you arrive

On arrival to the participants are greeted by our staff and directed to the changing areas. We have 115 coin-operated lockers available, which are 20p per use and non-refundable. Once participants have changed, the team captain will register the team at the main reception.

Briefing

Once changed, everyone is gathered together to have a safety briefing and be instructed on how to dragon boat. All our staff are qualified helms and trained in first aid.

On the water

After the briefing, teams are called to their boats as their heats come up in the race schedule. Boats are loaded and paddled down the right side of the dock and are given additional instruction by the helms to fine tune the information from the briefing.



At the top of the dock, teams are lined up on the start line for the race. The race is 250 metres and should take approximately a minute and a half to complete. The procedure from



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loading boats, to off-loading the boat at the end of the race takes around 20 minutes and gets quicker as the event goes on. Normally there will be 2 races per team. The event runs on a heat system with individual times recorded. The teams with the fastest qualifying times go head to head in the final. There are benches situated in front of the loading and finish area for spectators.

On shore

The Bar

We have two fully stocked bars; one upstairs and one downstairs. The bar downstairs is a boat filled with drinks and topped up with ice, and is cash only. The upstairs bar has the facility to run a tab or be used as a cash bar.

Our BBQ

Our famous barbecue leaves nobody hungry. There is food to suit all and plenty of it. If there is anyone with special dietary requirements please let us know as soon as possible and we will endeavour to accommodate them.

Sample BBQ menu include beef and vegetarian burger, Texas Style chicken, Thai green curry calamari, macaroni cheese, corn on the cob, Mediterranean pasta salad, seasonal green salad, potato salad and fruit platter. Naturally, we are able to discuss variations to this menu depending on your taste and requirements.

Prize Giving

Prize giving is optional and commences as soon as the racing finishes outside by the race officers tent.

The After Party

After Party is also optional and the bar upstairs remains open after the event, with the music moving inside to continue the party. There will be space to dance and karaoke for the brave singers out there.

Our Clients

Being an effective and fun team-building session, our Dragon Boat Race event has attracted companies such as HSBC, Morgan Stanley, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Deutsche Bank, JP Morgan, KPMG, Nuffield Health, Schroeders, Royal Bank of Scotland and many more. Charity organisations also find the race a good way to fundraise and foster better relationships with donors. Our charity clients include Red Letter Days, World Child Cancer, Leukemia and Lymphoma Research, Back-up Trust, amongst others.



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Pricing

Pricing for Dragon Boat Race event is per person as below:

Race with BBQ	£38 per person +VAT
Race only (No BBQ)	£27 per person VAT included
BBQ only (for spectators)	£20 per person +VAT
MC with PA*	From £350 +VAT
MC+PA+DISCO	£550 +VAT
Trophies	from £30 +VAT
Medals	£3 +VAT

* For events over 100 people, it is highly recommended to have an MC

Exclusive Use

Whole site exclusive use rate are (including main hall, seminar room, bar area, ground site):

6pm - 11pm	£1000 + VAT
2pm - 11pm	£1500 + VAT
9am - 11pm	£2500 + VAT

Dragon Boat Race in the heart of London

