

2011 San Diego PDBA Championships Race Rules

Note- the PDBA West Region holds an annual championship race to determine the regional champion for the next year in each racing division. On odd years the championship also serves as a qualifier for the following even-year Crew Club World Championship (CCWC). This year the division winners not only earn the title of “regional champion” for the next year, they also earn the bid, and first option, for the CCWC in Hong Kong 2012.

The following rules will apply specifically for the PDBA and this event. Other regions determine their yearly champs, and as such CCWC bid winners, in a different manner. Any rules not specifically stated here will fall back to the standard IDBF race regulations as much as practicable. The race organizer reserves the right to make modifications to the IDBF rules if, and as necessary.

Racing Rules, Regulations, and Other General Information for PDBA 2011

1. All paddlers participating in the PDBA races must be members in good standing with their respective clubs for at least 90 days before the event. This would date back to July 22, 2011. This policy has been in place for a number of years, but has not been actively enforced. PDBA clubs are on the “honor” system in this regard.
2. Clubs that are declared the winners of each racing division (I.E. Senior A Men, Women’s, U23, etc.) have the first right of refusal to take the bid for the CCWC the following year. Should the first place team (club) decide not to take the CCWC bid, the bid will be offered to the second place club. If the second place club decides to pass on the bid for CCWC, the bid will fall back to the USDBF to be awarded in another manner to be determined.
3. Should a winning crew decide to accept the bid for CCWC, their club must post a deposit of \$500 (per winning crew) with the PDBA to be held in earnest (checks are not cashed). The club then has a period of 60 days to make a final decision regarding CCWC attendance. If the club decided within 60 days to pass the bid to the second place crew, the deposit check(s) are returned to the club. If the club backs out after the 60 day limit the \$500 will be forfeit to the PDBA. This policy is in place to discourage teams from holding a bid too long and backing out without giving the next bid winners a reasonable amount of time to make arrangements for the CCWC.
4. PDBA policy is that clubs accepting the bid for CCWC should retain at least 2/3 of the winning crew to participate in the CCWC. 1/3 of the roster may be replaced with other members provided that all members attending the CCWC meet the following IDBF criteria:

Competitors must be bona-fide members of the Clubs that they represent, for at least six (6) months before the date of submission of their Crew Final Entry Form & Names List to the IDBF and be able to prove such membership if requested to do so by the Chief Official.

Explanatory Note: IDBF Competition Regulations state that 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** before a CCWC. 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 of at least twelve (12) weeks, over a minimum period of two (2) racing seasons.

5. Age Divisions. The following age clarifications will apply for the CCWC, and will be checked by ID at the San Diego event. So please bring ID for any paddlers entering age group divisions. These are per IDBF regulations.

* **Senior A** - 40 or over on 01 June 2012 ** **Senior B Grand Dragons** - 50 or over on 01 June 2012.

Junior A - under 18 but at least 12 on 01 Jan 2012. ## **Junior B** - under 16 but at least 12 on 01/01/2012.

Note that there has been a change in the U23 division age determination. U23 now includes paddlers who are aged 23 (but over 18) on the 1st June in any given year (of the event) and not just those who are Under 23 on the 1st January, as is presently shown in the Competition Regulations. The rationale being that this clarification allows more paddlers aged 23 to race in this Racing Classes for up to a year longer.

6. At the 2011 PDBA Championships, winning crews will be determined by head to head racing over three (3) heats in each division that has at least two (2) entrants. The winner of each heat will be awarded five (5) points, second place is awarded three (3) points, and third place receives one (1) point. After 3 head to head heats, the team crew with the highest point total will be awarded the championship. Should a point total tie occur between two or more teams after three races, the crew with the lowest total combined time over the three races will be named champion.

7. Should only one crew enter any division of racing, then that crew will be required to carry out a minimum of one (1) heat at the championship event in order to be awarded the title of Champion. The race organizers may elect to add this crew to another race heat in order to optimize the racing grid.

8. Racing Information. The Racing Distance for all PDBA heats will be approximately 500m. The starting line will be located between two stationary objects that are perpendicular to the racing lanes. Starts will be aligned by a starting boat that will be stationed adjacent to the race course.

9. From the marshalling area, boats will proceed to the start line in an orderly manner adjacent to the number 1 lane (number 1 lane is counted as closest to the shore) and will make a turn around an orange buoy. Teams will be called to the start line by the boat marshal approximately 2 minutes before the heat is to begin. The boat Marshal /race starter will call the boats forward to the start line and will provide direction to individual crews until the boats are on the start line. At that time, the call of "we have alignment" will be sounded over the speakers. After that the crews are not permitted to move forward. The start commands will be "Are you ready," "Attention Please," followed by a horn within 1 to 5 seconds to signify the start of the race.

10. Determination of Lanes. For the first heat, lanes will be assigned at random. For heats 2 and 3, lanes will be assigned as follows: Winner of preceding heat goes to lane 3, 2nd place goes to lane 2, 3rd place goes to lane 1, 4th place goes to lane 4.

11. Protests must be filed within 15 minutes after the completion of the heat and will be submitted to the race committee by the team captain. The race committee will take all testimony under consideration and will make a ruling as soon as possible. All decisions by the race committee with regard to protests will be considered final.