



**Beware of rough waters ahead as you put your nautical skills to the test!**

The City of Flagler Beach presents...

The 8th Annual **Rain Gutter Regatta Boat Race** on **Friday, May 5th** at 7:00 pm right in front of City Hall as part of our First Friday celebration.



Build your vessel and dare to battle the howling winds and the high seas as you navigate through the treacherous and unforgiving 3,048 millimeters of the infamous rain gutter course. This race is open to captains of all ages. Trophies and bragging rights go to the winners!

Get your official boat kit now for at City Hall in Flagler Beach. For more information, call  
517-2000.

# RULES FOR RAINGUTTER REGATTA

## City of Flagler Beach

**Boat Specifications:** Hull: No longer than 7" or shorter than 6 1/2" Mast: 6 1/2" from deck to top Keel: Supplied in kit Rudder: Supplied in kit Sail: Supplied in kit  
Catamaran Designs are not allowed.

1. Boats **must** be made from the supplied Raingutter Regatta kits. However the materials supplied in the kit can be modified and/or added to somewhat. The hull, mast and sail provided in the kit must be used; however, they can be modified. The hull cannot be shortened. Sails cannot be altered, but, they can be decorated.
2. The participants, when called to race, place their boat in gutter and place one hand in front of their sail holding the boat back against the end of the gutter, they will release their boat on the word "GO" from the starter. The boat may not be pushed.
3. When racing, participants are allowed to "upright" their boats with their hands, but, **cannot** push the boats forward when doing so. *This will be a big temptation to do and it seems participants need to be reminded over and over not to do it, especially the young participants.* We will give one warning and run the particular race over if one participant pushes his or her boat ahead AND that boat wins. We will have to eliminate a participant from racing if he or she pushes the boat on the restart of a race and **we don't want to eliminate anyone from racing.**
4. One (1) judge for each gutter, and one (1) over all judge for the races.

# **Building & Design Tips:**

1. ***Stability is the key.*** Metal keels and plastic rudders are provided with the kit to help stabilize boats. Other ideas to help in this area:

(a) Build boat and test it over and over in bathtub to check for stability. After testing, weights can be added to level the boat as it goes in the water, however, REMEMBER THE MORE WEIGHT THE SLOWER THE BOAT. It's best to design the boat so it's stable without having to add weight.

(b) Catamaran designs are not allowed for the race.

(c) Keep hull flat. Do not round the hull into a V as with a normal boat. The flatter and wider the hull the more stable the boat will be.

2. Make the boat as light as possible. Drill out the hull, or remove wood from the "deck" of the hull.

3. Put sail as low on mast as possible, this promotes stability.

4. Tie back sail by tying thread to each of the lower corners of the sail and then securing the "lines" to each side of the boat (tying to a straight pin and then pushing the pins into the hulls is an easy way to do this). This will keep the sail from twisting when being blown on. The sail will stay at a 90 degree angle to the hull and allow it to "catch" the most air possible thereby promoting speed.

5. Channeling bottom of boat. Cut channels under the hull of the boat with some straight back, some in a "V" with the point towards the front of the hull. This will seem to add some stability and promote speed of the boat. It also lightens the boat which contributes to speed.

## **The Event:**

One judge will be positioned at the end of the Raingutter course. An overall judge will determine the winner.

## **Decorating Tips:**

1. Be Creative.
2. An area to show off your decorations is on the sail. This is an excellent place for decals and stickers. The sail provided in the supplied kit has a glossy side and a dull side. The dull side can be lightly spray painted to compliment the color of the boat. Use caution when painting a sail, too much paint will just peel and crack when the sail is placed on the mast.
3. Flags: A small flag can be made with a straight pin mast and attached to the deck or even on top of the mast. This is a cool decorating idea. The American or your State flag are some ideas...or, just a wild colored one.
4. Crew: Small figures such as "Mighty Max" ® (Mattel Toys) make excellent decorating ideas and can be glued to the deck of the boat.
5. Glitter instead of paint.

# City of Flagler Beach

## **Rain Gutter Regatta Registration**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Category (12 & under or 13& over)\_\_\_\_\_

Vessel name \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_

**For additional information call The Recreation Department at 517-2000.**



Registration ends at 6:45pm and  
races begin at 7:00pm.