



17th IDBF WORLD DRAGON BOAT RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS

14.- 20. July 2025

14772 Brandenburg an der Havel / Germany
An der Regattastrecke 1



BULLETIN No 4

17TH IDBF WORLD DRAGON BOAT RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Regatta Beetzsee, Brandenburg an der Havel, Germany, 14th – 20th July 2025

Bulletin No.4 is to be read in conjunction with Bulletin 1, 2 and 3 and provides important information on technical aspects of the 17th IDBF World Dragon Boat Racing Championships (WDBRC).

Race program overview

This is the first time that the World Dragon Boat Racing Championships have been extended to 6½ days to accommodate the increase in the number of entries and the decision to continue to include all 4 race distances. Version 2 of the race program was distributed on 6th July 2025 and must be read in conjunction with this Bulletin.

The race program has been designed to give athletes a rest where possible by alternating mixed and women in the same competition classes so they are on alternate days.

	Day 1 Monday 2000m	Day 2 Tuesday 2000m	Day 3 Wednesday 1000m	Day 4 Thursday 200m	Day 5 Friday 200m	Day 6 Saturday 500m	Day 7 Sunday 500m
Classes	Mixed	Open & women	Open, mixed, women	Mixed: Premier, 18U, 16U, Snr B. Open & women: Snr C, Snr A, 24U	Mixed: 24U, Snr A, Snr C Open & women: Premier, 18U, 16U, Snr B, BCP PD2	Mixed: Premier, 18U, 16U, Snr B. Open & women: Snr C, Snr A, 24U, BCP, PD1	Mixed: 24U, Snr A, Snr C Open & women: Premier, 18U, 16U, Snr B, BCP PD2
Boats	Std & small		Std only	Std & small			
First race	12:00	09:00	09:00	09:00	09:00	09:00	09:00
Last race	16:00	17:30	18:20	15:45	15:10	16:42	17:45
Race Interval	30 min	30 min	10 min	5 min	5 min	6 min	7 min
Last medal ceremony	16:30	18:00	18:30	16:20	15:45	17:10	18:05
Total races	9	17	55	81	74	77	75



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Sunrise, sunset and temperature forecast

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daytime temperature forecast (Celsius)
Sat 12 Jul	5:02am	9:27pm	23-16 degrees – showers early
Sun 13 Jul	5:03am	9:26pm	26-17 degrees – a few storms
Mon 14 Jul	5:04am	9:25pm	28-16 degrees - broken clouds
Tue 15 Jul	5:05am	9:24pm	26-16 degrees – mostly cloudy
Wed 16 Jul	5:07am	9:23pm	26-15 degrees – late showers
Thu 17 Jul	5:08am	9:22pm	24-14 degrees – showers early, cloudy
Fri 18 Jul	5:09am	9:21pm	26-14 degrees – mostly cloudy
Sat 19 Jul	5:11am	9:20pm	28-13 degrees – late showers, mostly cloudy
Sun 20 Jul	5:12am	9:19pm	28-13 degrees – passing showers, overcast

World Nations Cup Points (trophies)

IDBF has 3 trophies which will be presented at the end of the Championships.

- The Nations Cup (Premier Division only)
- Seniors Cup (Senior A Division only)
- Juniors Cup (18U/16U Division)

The methodology for calculating the points used to determine the winners of these prestigious trophies will be explained at the Team Managers' meeting on 14th July.



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Crew lists

Crew lists **must** be handed into the Race Admin Office no later than **30 minutes after the last race** the day before the event for which the list relates. Exceptions will not be granted.

- a. Team managers are encouraged to hand in their crew lists as early as possible and will be accepted by the Race Admin Office at any time up to the deadline set out above. Should it become necessary to change a crew list that has already been submitted, this can be done provided the change occurs before the deadline above.
- b. Computers and a printer will be available in Race Admin Office for Team Managers to print their crew lists. However, this facility is limited and only available on a 'first come, first served' basis. Failure to submit a crew list because of delays experienced using the facilities in the Race Admin Office will not be a valid excuse.
- c. Crew lists **must** be printed in the IDBF format (accessible from the IDBF online system).
- d. Team managers are reminded that the registration system for preparing crew lists does not include the rules of the crew composition. It is the responsibility of the Team Manager to ensure that each crew complies with the relevant rules.
- e. Competitors do not need to be nominated as reserves. The crew lists allow for 26 participants (for standard boat) and 14 (for small boat).
- f. Once the deadline for submission has passed, no change to competitors will be permitted unless it relates to a medical issue and a Chief Official has authorised the change (which will then apply for the remainder of the event).
- g. Fit to Race (**Rule Cr8.7.1 and R3.11**) The Team Manager who signs the crew list is also confirming to 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.

Failure to submit a crew list by the deadline means your crew will not race the next day

Marshalling

IDBF will be trialling scanners at Marshalling this year. Please ask your competitors to respect that there may be unexpected problems and to be patient. Paper copy crew lists will also be available to race officials so crews will be marshalled!

It is the responsibility of teams to ensure their crews report to marshalling when called. Races WILL NOT be held up for crews late to marshalling. In normal circumstances, crews will be called 3-4 races prior to their scheduled start time (**CR5.3**).



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Double rostering (competitors in more than one competition racing class)

(CR2.2.2) No changes of allowance will be made in the Race Program or by race officials to delay races for any athletes who are double rostered. It is a Team responsibility to ensure it has a crew available to race at the appointed time.

Paddles and equipment

- Paddle must be 202a specification and display the IDBF registration sticker and paddle license number - <https://www.dragonboat.sport/manufacturers>
- Seat pads (cushions) - shall be made of a soft material, such as neoprene, of an approximate thickness of 15mm that will compress easily when squeezed between finger and thumb. The width of the seat pad may vary in size and shape but shall approximate to the width of a paddling seat in the IDBF Standard International Racing Boat (12.5 cm) and the length should ideally, not exceed 20cm in width and 40cm in length. Seat Pads that excessively exceed these dimensions will not be permitted. **(refer CR13.4)**
- Exceptions to the above are permitted for Paradrageon athletes competing in PD1 and PD2 races. Refer to Rules for Paradrageon Racing (edition 1.3) for further information - <https://www.dragonboat.sport/rules-and-regulations>
- If there is equipment failure (broken oar, seat, steering arm) within the first 50m **(R6.15)** the race will be restarted providing the crew stops paddling immediately and the drummer raises their arm fully in the air.
- Cox Vox's will not be pre-installed in each of the dragon boats for these Championships. IDBF recommends each crew to bring their own cox vox which can be installed and removed quickly for each race.

Starts

The automatic dragon cups start system will be used and is the same as the one used at the 2023 World Dragon Boat Racing Championships in Pattaya, and 2024 Club Crew World Championships in Ravenna, Italy and 2022 Sarasota, USA.

Crews will be permitted to use paddlers on the back two seats (standard boat) and on the back seat (small boat) to paddle as necessary before the start so as to keep the dragon's head in the starting cup.

The starting system will be in use during the training sessions and crews unfamiliar with it are encouraged to practice with it during their allotted time



2000m race

The 2000m races in Brandenburg will be conducted over a course with four turns.

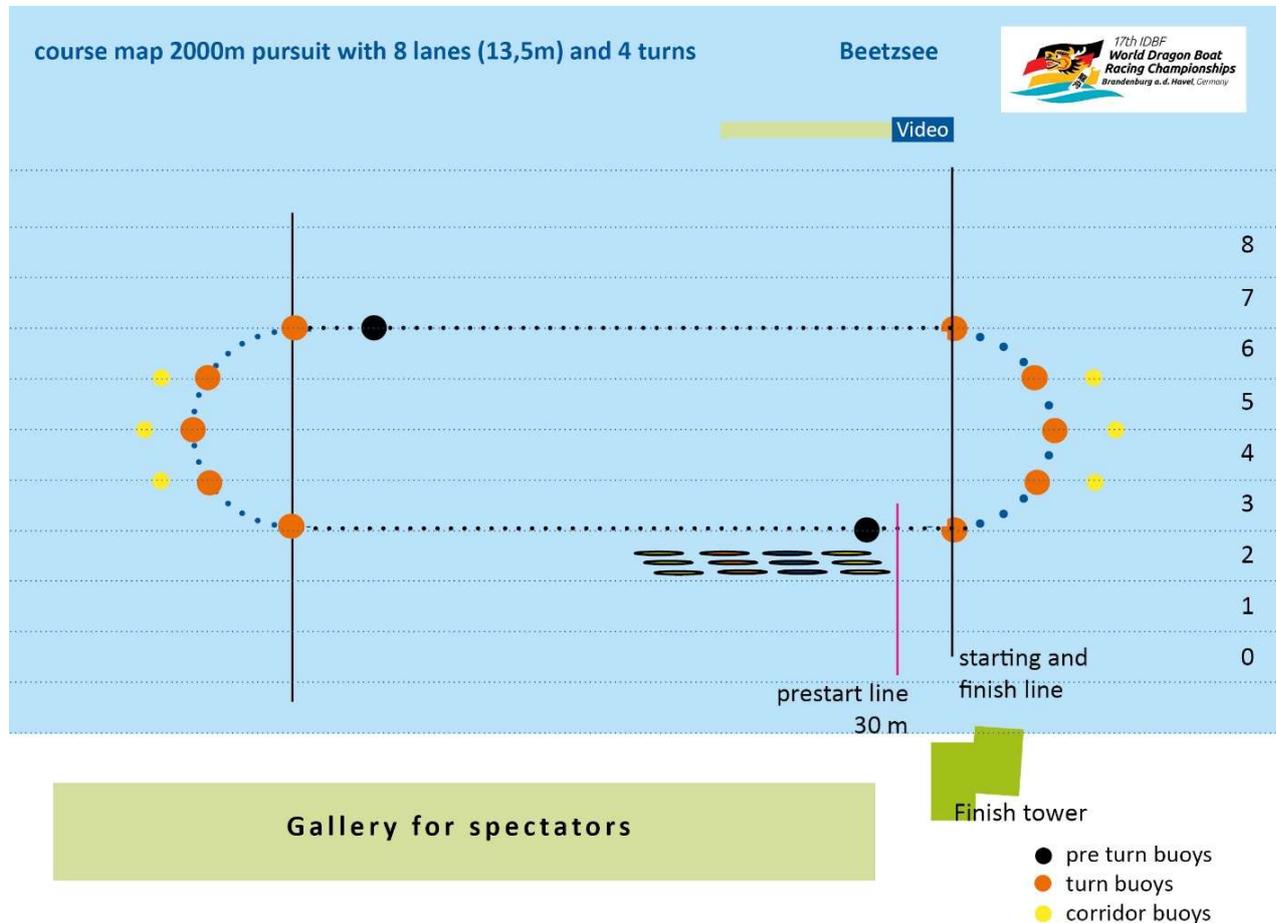
- a. Teams have been seeded based on the results from 2023 WDBRC in Thailand. Countries that did not compete in that competition class in 2023 have been randomly seeded.
- b. The racing rules for the 2000m for the four-turn course are the same as for a three-turn course except that the start will be just before the first turn (and directly in front of the grandstand).
- c. A 'countdown' indication for a start will be provided; this will be both visual and acoustic. For crews unfamiliar with this system, it will be available throughout all training sessions.
- d. The crews will start approx. 30m from the start/finish line. The time will be taken when the crews cross the start/finish line.
- e. The water umpires will indicate to the crews who has Right of Way going into the turns. The crew who is given Right of Way into the turn corridor has the lead; all following boats can either follow the boat through the corridor or travel on the outside of the corridor to complete the turn.



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Protests / appeals

The fee for the **race protests** at these Championships will be **Euro50** and **Euro100** for **appeals**. The fee will only be accepted in cash. The fee must be submitted at the time of lodgment of the race protest or appeal in accordance with Rule 9 (**R9.2 to R9.9**). Race protests and appeals must be submitted to the Race Admin office using the race protest and appeal forms. Race protests and appeals must be legibly written and include the race rule which the crew believes to be in question and as much factual detail as possible.



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Protocol – medals presentations

The title of 'World Champion' shall be awarded to the winning crew in each Competition Class where crews from at least six (6) Nations or Territories have competed.

All crews are reminded they must be dressed in national team uniform (race kit or travel kit) when being presented with their medals. Medal presentations have been scheduled 30 minutes after the final which will allow crews to move from the boats and to the medal presentation area and take into account the 15-minute protest time.

Crews are to assemble behind the grandstand. The IDBF protocol team will meet crews here and escort them to in front of the grandstand where the medal presentations will take place. Crews are encouraged to bring their national flag with them.

Team uniform

(CR1.4) All crews must compete in recognised racing colours of their nation / territory. Failure to conform to this rule may result in disqualification.

Checks on conformance to CR4 (representation and nationality)

The World Dragon Boat Racing Championships provides the highest level of participation any dragon boat athlete can currently aspire to. IDBF wishes to ensure that the Championships in Brandenburg are undertaken with the appropriate high standards of participation integrity. Therefore, to help ensure that national teams conform to the requirements of CR4, spot checks will be conducted by the IDBF during the Championships.

These checks will require participants selected by the IDBF to prove that they meet the requirements of Competition Regulation CR4 by presenting to the IDBF their passports to prove their citizenship. Where a selected participant is a citizen of a country different to the one they are representing, proof of a residency visa (conforming to CR4) will also be required.

If the check is conducted before racing, any non-conforming athlete will not be permitted to race. If the check is conducted after a non-conforming paddler has raced, then their team is likely to incur penalties (which could include disqualification). Team managers are therefore encouraged to ensure that all their participants meet the requirements of **CR4**.

Racing Vest Number (race number bibs)

Racing Vest Numbers or race number bibs (01-26 resp. 1 - 14) must be worn by all competitors in marshalling and during a race.



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<https://world-dragonboat-championships2025.de>

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