



# PLYWOOD REGATTA

building boating's future... today!

## Objectives

**Event Objectives:** To introduce young marine enthusiasts and the community to the craft of boat building and the excitement of recreational boating.

**Crew Objectives:** To design, build and race a sea-worthy vessel and paddles in two days using limited materials.

**Event Beneficiaries:** A portion of Plywood Regatta proceeds benefit South Florida Marine Industry Education Programs and the Plywood Regatta Scholarship Fund.

## Crew Classes

**Division I – Mate:** Middle school students participating in a marine magnet program or interested in the marine industry.

**Division II – Captain:** High school freshmen or sophomores interested in the marine industry or participating in the Marine Magnet Program.

**Division III – Admiral:** High school juniors or seniors interested in the marine industry or participating in the Marine Magnet Program.

## Awards

### **RPM Diesel Engine Company Cup Overall Champion**

The overall winning team of the final inter-division race

### **Fort Lauderdale Mariners Club Award (Best All Around)**

This award goes to the best overall team. The winning team should demonstrate good teamwork, team spirit, a clean work site, and have a boat that is well decorated and actually works!

### **Division Awards**

For top three teams from each racing division

### **Most Spirited Team**

For the team that works together well and shows the most Plywood Regatta enthusiasm

### **Best Decorated Boat**

The one that looks the coolest

### **Most Innovative Design**

Most creative design, whether or not it functions!

### **Future Yacht Broker Award**

This is for the one that sinks. “Those who can’t build, sell!”

### **Courage & Perseverance**

For the kids that put their whole heart into it but their boat won’t quite do the same...

### **Best Leader by Example**

This award goes to a mentor who shows exemplary leadership

# Materials

## The following materials will be supplied:

- 3 sheets of 4' x 8' 1/4" Luan plywood
- 2 pieces of 2" x 2" x 8' wood
- 4 pieces of 1" x 2" x 8' wood
- 120 zip ties
- 3 cartridges of 3M 5200- Fast Cure caulk
- Interlux paints of various colors
- Protective eyewear
- 2 life jackets & visibility vests

## Your team may supply & use the following:

- Protective eyewear (i.e. goggles or glasses) is MANDATORY during use of power tools
- 1 electric jigsaw
- 1 electric/battery drill **NO OTHER POWER TOOLS ALLOWED!**
- 1 extension cord/power strip
- Caulking guns
- Sawhorses
- Clamps
- Decals for decorative purposes
- Drill bits
- Jigsaw blades
- Miscellaneous hand tools
- Hand files
- Sandpaper
- Foam cushions to be used for knee protection during race

### **Please Note:**

You may NOT use your boat in the water after the event. ANY individual OR team that chooses to keep their boat after the event must immediately remove it away from the event area. Otherwise, they are subject to possible school/organization forfeiture from future Plywood Regatta events.

# Rules

ONE team captain must be chosen (no mentors or volunteers, students only).

- This team captain will be responsible for overall team behavior and is the responsible party for thank-you card submission and supply pickup.
- Please list this Team Captain on the registration form PRIOR to Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Building Rules

- Only the items listed on the Materials List can be used to build
- Glasses/ safety goggles MUST be worn while using power tools

- Only 6-8 participants per team
- Mentors can only be involved on a limited basis. They should GUIDE, ENABLE, and maintain a safe working environment
- No **full-size** patterns, templates, or drawings may be used
- No motors, sails, or surfboards
- Decoration of boats must be completed on Saturday
- **All zip ties must be completely covered with caulk or removed prior to racing  
(NO EXPOSED SHARP EDGES!)**
- **Paint and caulking must be used in an appropriate manner. Any team member seen applying paint or caulk on anything other than their team boat will be carded, resulting in a delayed penalty during the initial heat. Penalties are as follows:**
  - **First offense will be yellow card placed on boat- one boat length penalty at start**
  - **Second offense will be red card placed on boat- two boat lengths penalty at start**

### Racing Rules

- Series of Qualifying Heats & Final Races
- The fastest boat per class moves on to the next heat
- Two paddlers from each team per boat, PLUS one pusher
- No misuse of paddles, including intimidation, hitting, or pushing off other boats or people
- **Life jackets and visibility vests MUST be worn during the race**
- The judges' decisions are final
- Judges have the authority to disqualify a team if they see necessary

### Conduct Rules

- Appropriate dress IS REQUIRED. Swimsuits may be worn UNDER your clothing, however, shirts and shorts MUST be worn over swimwear at all times on Saturday, and shorts must be worn over swimwear at all times on Sunday.
- Closed-toe shoes required. Water shoes are HIGHLY recommended for racing on Sunday.
- No cursing or foul language permitted.
- Paint is meant for the boats, NOT for your skin.  
**Any team member seen applying paint or caulk on anything other than their team boat will be carded, resulting in a delay penalty during the initial heat. Penalties are as follows:**
  - **First offense will be yellow card placed on boat- one boat length penalty at start**
  - **Second offense will be red card placed on boat- two boat lengths penalty at start**
- No stereos or iPod speakers. You may bring personal stereos or MP3 players with headphones.
- NO alcoholic beverages allowed in the Plywood Regatta Boatyard or Race Area.
- Unsafe practices and unsportsmanlike conduct will be stopped by the judges.
- Judges have the authority to disqualify a team if they see necessary.
- **DO NOT use the public restrooms. Port-A-Potties and a designated cleanup station are available.**
- Please park ONLY in designated areas or face disqualification.

# General Schedule

## Saturday – Build Day

**7:00-8:00 am** Staging and unloading of supplies.

- *It is very important that you arrive early if you are the vehicle carrying your team's supplies. You will be limited in the time you have to unload your equipment, so we must work together to be successful.*

**8:00-8:10 am** Mentor's meeting

**8:10-8:30 am** Supply distribution and team meeting

**8:30 am** Start of build

**5:30 pm** Final touches and clean-up

**6:00 pm** End of build day

**DECORATION OF YOUR BOAT MUST BE COMPLETED AT THE END OF THE DAY ON SATURDAY!**

## Sunday – Race Day

**8:00 am** Teams arrive at their boats and complete any additional cleanup that was missed.

**8:30 am** Team photos and boat line up

**9:30 am** Race heats begin

**12:45 pm** Group photo of all Plywood Regatta participants

**1:00 pm** Awards Ceremony

- *We give Five Spirit Awards in addition to Division Places and Overall Places. Everyone has a chance to win, so stick around to CELEBRATE!*

**Please remember to bring lunch and snacks or money for the food truck.  
Carpooling is encouraged!**

**For additional information on registering, volunteering or becoming a sponsor, contact the Marine Industries Association of South Florida at 954-524-2733 or email [info@miasf.org](mailto:info@miasf.org).**