

Attention all Club and Community Dragon Boat Captains:

I hope all of you and your families and friends are safe, after a very scary week enduring the wrath of Hurricane Irma. I think we are ready to be done with the 2017 Hurricane season!

The Lake Hernando Dragon Boat Festival is just around the corner, only 2 months away, Saturday, November 11th. Let's get ready! We are once again coordinating with the Elks Lodge next to Lake Hernando Park to bring back the Friday night kick-off party on November 10th. They will have a live band, dancing, food and drinks. Admission is free and there once again will be an optional Italian dinner (\$10 for adults and \$7 for kids). This event is open to the public, so bring your family, friends and team mates. We encourage all club and community teams to make a weekend of this annual festival and attend Friday night's event, starting your weekend out right. If you need to book a hotel, review to the website, <http://lakehernandodragonboatfestival.com>, and take advantage of the great rates our partners are offering registered teams. I am attaching our event flyer for the Friday night event for your review.

I am also asking all club and community teams to **register now!** There is still time to collect your payment, but please submit your registration as soon as possible. The community teams will be mixed teams, men and women, 11 or 21 persons. The club teams will have open, mixed, senior, women and BCS races for 11 and 21 person teams. Don't forget to take advantage of the multi-team discounts! We need to start getting the numbers in, so we are ready to accommodate the combinations of the 11 and 21 person boats. We are anticipating 75 total teams registering for the event this year.

This year each team will race in 3 - 300 meter race. The club teams will also have a 2000 meter, mixed 20 person, around the lily pad island race, always exciting and a great way to end the day.

We are so excited to be able to partner with the Citrus County Education Foundation, as our charity this year! What a great job they do in supporting our school system, teachers and students, pre-K to 12th grade.

The Lake Hernando Dragon Boat Race and Festival is one of the best Dragon Boat Festivals in the Southeast and we look forward to welcoming both our local club and community teams and the out of state club teams who travel a long distance to enjoy this great event. Come enjoy all of the activities we have to offer both during the Friday night event and on Saturday. We'll again have music, great food and drink, arts and craft vendors, commercial vendors and a children's play area.

So go to the website and register your team, <http://lakehernandodragonboatfestival.com/enter-team/>.

If you need more information please do not hesitate to contact me at the number listed below or email me.

Thanks for your support and we will see you at the Lake.

Andy Smith

Event Coordinator - Lake Hernando Dragon Boat Festival

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