

The Rotary Club of South Queensferry  
**Network Rail Forth Bridge Raft  
Race 2009**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May, Hawes Pier, South Queensferry

<p><b>RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR 24<sup>th</sup> FORTH BRIDGE RAFT RACE</b></p>
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**Introduction:**

The object of the NETWORK RAIL Forth Bridge Raft Race is to provide fun both for participants and spectators, and to help local and national charities in the process.

**Please read these Rules and Regulations carefully before signing your entry agreement. Also ensure that all members of your Rafting Team are familiar with the Rules and Regulations of the Race.**

**1. SAFETY**

- 1.1 Buoyancy aids or life jackets must be worn. (These are provided). Sensible footwear is required (or bare feet). Boots, wellingtons or other footwear which can collect water should be avoided.
- 1.2 Alcohol is not permitted to be carried on rafts. Alcohol should not be consumed prior to participation in the event. Anyone judged by the Steersman to be intoxicated will be forbidden from taking part.
- 1.3 Sabotage or direct interference with other rafts is prohibited. However loud, friendly banter between teams is welcomed. (Remember this is a family event.)
- 1.4 Crews who get into difficulty during the race should try to reach the shoreline and/or signal for assistance. Teams must obey the instructions of the Steersman under all circumstances.
- 1.5 Team Leaders should report to Race Control as soon as possible after completing the course or retiring from the event.
- 1.6 The event will be marshalled by the RNLI and Splash White Water Rafting. Competitors should obey their instructions at all times.
- 1.7 Rafts must carry a rope of at least 5 metres long (provided).
- 1.8 Safety boats will be in attendance during the event, however participants must behave responsibly while on the water.

## **2. RAFT CREWS**

- 2.1 Teams will consist of eight paddlers, one of whom is designated Team Leader. Team Leaders will be responsible for discipline within the team and liaison with Race Control.
- 2.2 Teams will compete in rafts supplied by Splash White Water Rafting under the direction of professional Steersmen provided by the company. Teams will obey the instructions of the Steersman under all circumstances.
- 2.3 Minimum age of paddlers is 12 years on the day of the race. There is no maximum age.
- 2.4 Mixed teams must have a minimum of three ladies, otherwise they will be deemed to be a male team entry.

## **3. RACE DAY REQUIREMENTS**

- 3.1 Teams shall organise their own transport to and from the race.
- 3.2 Teams should arrive on site at 11:00am and report for registration at the Hawes Pier between 11:30am and 12:00 noon to ensure that final arrangements can be made.
- 3.3 All Teams are expected to take part, in costume, in the parade which will commence at 12:30\*. Specific details regarding the parade itself will be provided on the day. Changing facilities will be available.
- 3.4 Following the parade, Team Leaders should report to Race Control at the Hawes Pier where further instructions will be given.
- 3.5 The number of races and heats will be determined by Race Control depending on the number of entries on the day.
- 3.6 Rafts will begin the race with sterns touching Hawes Pier. They will proceed from the start to the marker buoy (approx. 250 metres to the West), manoeuvre round it anticlockwise and return to the Hawes Pier.
- 3.7 The first raft to touch the Hawes Pier after properly completing the course will be deemed to have won.
- 3.8 Prizes will be awarded as deemed fit by Race Control on the day. There will be a separate prize for originality (e.g. of theme or fancy dress) which will be judged during the pre-race parade.

\* timings may vary on the day

#### 4. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.1 Hire of rafts, including safety equipment and the services of professional Steersman, will cost £50 per team (£6.25 per rafter). Team leaders must ensure this is paid in advance or to Race Control when registering on the day.
- 4.2 Payment may be made by cash or by cheque. Cheques should be made payable to *The Rotary Club of South Queensferry*. There is an automatic teller machine in South Queensferry High Street. ***Neither Switch nor credit card payments can be accepted.***
- 4.3 Teams are urged to raise money for charity. This year the preferred charities are Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland and Queensferry Care. However, teams can raise money for charities of their choice through sponsorship. If teams elect to raise funds for charities other than the preferred choice, a donation of 25% of this sum is requested by Queensferry Rotary Club for disbursement to charities mentioned above. This may be paid on the day and must be paid within one month of the event.

#### 5. GENERAL POINTS

- 5.1 The decision of Race Control and the organising committee on any matter concerning the race is final.
- 5.2 The Rotary Club of South Queensferry, RNLI and Splash White Water Rafting ask for the co-operation and assistance of all participants in making the event an enjoyable and exciting spectacle for crews and spectators alike.