2024 Homecoming Cardboard Boat Races

The first element in cardboard boat-building is *creativity*. The second element is *cognitive* problem solving. (Sounds like LETU yet?!) Third is *cardboard*. Simple, right?

There is no one way to build a cardboard boat. The updated rules and requirements for boat construction are listed below and will ultimately be interpreted by the judges. The main goal for every team is to work together and ***have fun*** (and try to not get too wet in the pond!).

Sign-Up when registering for Homecoming & Family Weekend at https://www.letu.edu/homecoming.

APPROVED CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

- Corrugated cardboard and pre-treated cardboard (i.e. waxed cardboard)
- Duct tape
- Water-soluble caulk or silicon sealant and water-based wood glue (must be fully dried)
- Water-soluble outdoor latex-based primer/paint (must be fully dried in advance)
- <u>Limited</u> amounts of foam, plastic and/or wood are allowed and can add to the boat's overall structure but may only equal <u>up to 25%</u> of the boat's overall volume*
- Remember this is a boat race and boats float J

There are no restrictions placed on decorative materials as long as they do not aid in the flotation or propulsion of the boat or create a safety hazard. Stay away from stuff that is toxic, either for you or for the environment. No electrical/gasoline/chemical propulsion systems are permitted.

OFFICIAL RULES: BEST DESIGN & FASTEST BOAT**

- Boats must hold at least 2 people.
- Boats may be decorated with anything, but decorations cannot aid in flotation or propulsion.
- Boats must be one unit from the time they arrive at the pond.
- All propulsion must come from the entrants <u>inside</u> the boat. Paddles or oars are permitted but no kicking/swimming/towing allowed.
- Family-friendly costumes and themes are encouraged!
- The winning teams for Best Design and Fastest Boat will each receive a cash prize of $200

SPEED BUILD CHALLENGE

- A total of four teams can participate in the Speed Build Challenge.
- There are no size or team make-up restrictions (alumni, faculty and parents can help!)
- Teams will be given equal amounts of corrugated cardboard and 6 rolls of duct tape (per team) but must bring additional supplies (box cutters, scissors, extra tape, decorations, etc.).
- Teams will have three hours to build their boat (8:00 AM until 11:00 AM)
- All construction must be done during the allotted times and on site.
- Teams will be judged on ingenuity and creativity – floating helps a lot too! Winning teams for best design and fastest boat will each receive a cash prize of $100.
- First-come, first-served to enter the Speed Built.

*In case of a dispute, impartial Alumni Advisory Council judges will make the decision on volume
**Please contact the Alumni team with any rules questions at alumni@letu.edu

JUDGES

- Judging starts at 11:00

- Two judges – Scott Shaver and Brad Erickstadt

- Judging for Best Design

  - **Pre-built winner**   Enter the winner here – team name and boat name

    _____

  - **Speed-built winner**   Enter the winner here – team name and boat name

    _____

TIMER/STARTER

- Starter = Randy Hartman (start with whistle or bullhorn or ???)

- Stop watch = Tim Belcher (stationed at the end of the race when boat "lands")

- Time recorder = Brad Erickstadt

  - Contestant 1   Pre-built or Speed-built   Time _____
  - Contestant 2   Pre-built or Speed-built   Time _____
  - Contestant 3   Pre-built or Speed-built   Time _____
  - Contestant 5   Pre-built or Speed-built   Time _____
  - Contestant 6   Pre-built or Speed-built   Time _____
  - Contestant 7   Pre-built or Speed-built   Time _____
  - Contestant 8   Pre-built or Speed-built   Time _____
  - Contestant 9   Pre-built or Speed-built   Time _____
  - Contestant 10   Pre-built or Speed-built   Time _____

- Time reporter to recorder = Scott

- Brad and Scott determine timed winners for each category. Give the information to announcer (Randy).

RACES

- Races begin at _____

- Race against a clock

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AWARDS

- Four awards:

  - 1 for best design – pre-built
  - 1 for best design – speed-built
  - 1 for fastest time – pre-built
  - 1 for fastest time – speed-built

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PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

- Randy

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