

Chicago River Flatwater Classic Paddle and Pedal Boat Class Guidelines



Use these handy descriptions to figure out what kind of boat you have and which classes you can enter.

C-1 Canoe Class

Solo (one paddler) canoe, no passengers

C-2 Canoe Class

Tandem (two paddlers) canoe, no passengers

C-2 Touring (Standard) Class

Minimum 50 lb. weight limit. Canoes made of wood, plastic, fiberglass, or weighted Kevlar will be allowed.

Touring - A canoe that is a product of a regular manufacturer (home built canoes that meet the spirit of these rules are allowed) and is intended for recreational (not racing) use. Minimum width at the 4" water line is .15 times the length. No graphite materials allowed. The canoe can not be modified from the original configuration except that the middle thwart can be replaced with a carrying yoke of identical length. Seats and foot braces can be added but no seats can be removed. USCA standard boats not allowed.

C-2 Competition Cruising Class

Cruising - A canoe of any material with a maximum length of 18' 6" and a minimum width at the 4" water line of .14375 times the length. The minimum bow height is 15.5 inches and the minimum height of the remainder of the canoe is 11.5 inches. A minimum of 25 pounds of buoyancy must be provided. USCA Cruisers and Standard canoes meet the specifications for this class.

Aluminum Class

Aluminum - A canoe that is the product of a regular manufacturer and is intended for recreational (not racing) use. No modifications are allowed except bulkheads and seats may be removed, flotation can be moved but not reduced and new seats and foot braces can be added. Any holes drilled must be filled. Maximum length is 18'6."

K-1 Downriver Kayak Class

Downriver Kayak - A kayak of any material with a maximum length of 4.5 meter (14 feet 9.17 inches) and a minimum width of 60 centimeter (23.62 inches). These are "whitewater" or "recreational" kayaks. No skegs or rudders are permitted.

K-1 Sea Kayak Class

Solo (one person) kayak conforming to any sea kayak design. No Olympic or training kayaks allowed.

Open Racing Class

Anything Goes! (Anything seaworthy and paddle powered, that is) - ICF canoes, K-2 kayaks, ice canoes, voyageur canoes, safari canoes, dragon boats, etc.)

No Contest ("The Friendly Float")

Non competitive. Unlimited number of participants per boat (within rated capacity); any seaworthy, paddle-powered boat may enter. Everyone in the boat must be registered and have signed a waiver.

