

RACE RULES  
MICHIGAN CANOE RACING ASSOCIATION

Revised 12/11/2010

1. Two contestants for each canoe. They must remain as a team for the duration of the race, in the same canoe as started with.
2. A single bladed canoe paddle of any width is the only means of propulsion each contestant may use.
3. Entrants must provide their own canoe and equipment.
4. Canoes must meet the specifications given for each division:

**EXPERT:**

1. Minimum length of the hull shall be 18'6"
2. Minimum heights, measured from the 0" waterline:  
15" Bow      10" Center      10" Stern  
The minimum-height gunwale line shall from a continuous, smooth arch-curve.
3. Minimum width:  
33" on the top, at the gunwale line  
27" wide at the 3" waterline or 3" of draft.
4. The point at which the 33" minimum top-width measurement and the 27" minimum waterline-width measurement are taking may be divided up to 14" maximum
5. The 33" minimum top-width and the 27" minimum waterline-width may be measured a maximum of 14" for or aft of the center of the canoe.
6. The cross-section(s) of the hull at the location(s) of the 33" minimum top-width and the 27" minimum waterline-width shall have no more than 1/4" concavity between the 3" waterline and the gunwale line of the hull.
7. No concave curve(s) are allowed under the 3" waterline. The imperfections from repairs will be tolerated but will have to be very minimal to conform to the regulations.
8. All of the measurements will be verified on the exterior of the hull.  
Gunwales, sponsons and keels shall not be included in the measurement, whether added to the hull or built into the hull.

**CRUISER:**

1. Cruising canoes of maximum length 18' 6".
2. Width not less than .14375 times the length of the canoe in inches, measured at a 4" waterline.

3. Minimum height: 15-1/2" Bow 11-1/2" Stern 11-1/2" Center
4. Bailers are allowed.

### **JUNIOR/FLEDGLING:**

1. Any canoe meeting Expert or Cruiser specifications.
5. Contestants shall have a Coast Guard approved P.F.D. and an Auditory Device (i.e. whistle, horn, etc.). They must be easily accessible.
6. Except for those portages specified by the race committee, canoes must remain in the river. All illegal portaging will disqualify the team. There will be checkers along the river bank at unspecified points.
7. No one is allowed to help convey a contestant or his equipment although the contestant may pick up food, water, or extra paddles during the race.
8. Commonly accepted rules of sportsmanship will prevail. Intentional capsizing or damaging an opponent's canoe will mean disqualification.
9. Prior to a race, no contestant will touch or move any other contestant's canoe or equipment without permission.
10. If any doubt exists to the physical condition of the contestants, the race committee reserves the right to demand a physical examination.
11. Under no circumstances shall any illegal drug be taken. If there is cause to believe such a drug has been taken by a canoe racer, it will be the right of the MCRA to have such laboratory test done that will prove or disprove the presence of any illegal drug in the racer's body. Any participant in a race who has a physical ailment for which it is necessary to ingest or inhale a stimulant type medication to control said ailment must bring this fact to the attention of the committee before any race shall begin.
12. No team will be allowed on the starting line unless officially registered. Those violating this rule will be disqualified. Canoes must be registered with a MCRA racing number.
13. In case of disputes, decisions will be made by the MCRA Board of Directors. All protests will be made to the board, in writing, within one half hour of the race finish accompanied by \$10.00 (non-Refundable).
14. Both members of a canoe team must be paid MCRA members for either participant to receive MCRA points and awards.

15. A C-1 Point system (USCA C-1 boat specs) will be kept for any MCRA member who paddles in a sanctioned C-1 race.

16. Any paddler that does not complete the designated race course will receive automatic disqualification from the race. The infraction is reviewable by the Michigan Canoe Racing Association Board of Directors.

**THIS IS THE END OF THE RACE RULES OF THE M.C.R.A.**