



29th STRATFORD ROTARY DRAGONBOAT FESTIVAL: SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

Team Entry fee: \$1,200.00

Held on Lake Victoria in Stratford, the one day festival will have over 40 teams participate in the recreational Hong Kong style races, including a 2000 metre finale featuring the top 8 teams. The Grand Champion and Community Division Champions are honoured with trophies at the closing ceremony. There will be 100 metre sprints for the top 4 teams in each of the women's division and breast cancer survivor teams. Over 2,000 will attend to participate and watch the races and enjoy the food, refreshments, entertainment and Kid's Tent. Proceeds from the event support Rotary community activities with over \$1,000,000 raised to date! Please check our Sponsorship page and follow us on Facebook.

Directions to Stratford

- Ottawa and Toronto teams will take Hwy. 401 west to interchange #278 at Kitchener. Follow Hwy 8 west through Kitchener, then join Hwy 7/8 west to Stratford. Once in Stratford, Hwy 7/8 becomes Ontario Street upon reaching the city limits. After the second set of lights (2 blocks) turn right on Queen St. and proceed to the river. Teams can unload at The Festival parking lot at the end of Queen St. on left side of street until 10 a.m.
- For London teams, Hwy 7 becomes Erie Street. Once in Stratford continue until you reach Ontario Street. Turn right and at the second street past the third set of traffic lights turn left on Queen St. Proceed straight to the river. Teams can unload at The Festival parking lot at the end of Queen St. on left side of street until 10 a.m. All teams must check in at the registration desk at the tent upon arriving with waivers signed and roster lists.

Teams may set up tents Friday afternoon or early Saturday. Check in with Rotary Personnel on Friday for a place to set up.

Parking

YOUR CAR WILL NOT BE ALLOWED AT THE DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL!

There is no on-site parking. We have now secured three off-site parking areas. You may drop off team gear at the corner of Queen Street and Lakeside Drive. Then, you can park your vehicle at:

1. The Zehrs parking lot at 865 Ontario Street, OR
2. The River Garden Retirement Residence at Romeo and Delamere, OR
3. The overflow parking behind the Festival Marketplace Mall, just east of Zehrs.

There will be Stratford Transit bus shuttles running every 20 minutes, from 6:30am to 7:00pm between parking and the site. The shuttle goes to the Festival Theatre parking lot on Lakeside Drive. (Parking and shuttle maps will be posted closer to the date.)

Food / Beverages

There will be a licensed beer/food area open to all.

Food Trucks:

...TO BE ANNOUNCED ...

Breakfast and coffee will be available from 7:30 am.

Entertainment

The Opening Ceremony will take place in the morning with the traditional dotting of the eye and the breast cancer survivor ceremonies.

Local bands will entertain from the main stage.

Accommodations

Please go to on line travel sites or www.visitstratford.ca to book accommodations. Book your rooms early.

Site Regulations.

No unauthorized vendors permitted.

No raffle or ticket sales (other than Rotary) at the Dragon Boat Festival.

No vehicles permitted on the dragon boat site.

No alcohol permitted outside licensed area.

Race Format

A one-day recreational Hong Kong style dragon boat races for awards.

Racecourse Length - 500 metres or 1640.4 feet

Number of lanes - 4

Lane width - 10 metres or 33 feet

Number of boats – 8

Race Classes

Mixed Division –

- Mixed teams must have 16 to 20 paddlers, with not less than half the paddlers identifying as female.

Breast Cancer –

- A Breast Cancer team consists of 20 Breast Cancer Survivor paddlers and a female drummer. The steersperson may be male and does not have to be a Breast Cancer Survivor. There may be two BCS supporters on each team.

Women Division –

- A Women's team consists of an all-female team. The drummer must be female, and the steersperson may be male.

Awards

	PLACEMENT	AWARD
DIVISION A	Winner	Trophy + 25 Gold Medals
	2nd	25 Silver Medals
	3rd	25 Bronze Medals
	Consolation	25 Gold Medals
DIVISION B	Winner	25 Gold Medals
	2nd	25 Silver Medals
	3rd	25 Bronze Medals
	Consolation	25 Gold Medals
DIVISION C	Winner	25 Gold Medals
	2nd	25 Silver Medals
	3rd	25 Bronze Medals
DIVISION D	Winner	25 Gold Medals
	Consolation	25 Gold Medals
DIVISION E	Winner	25 Gold Medals
	Consolation	25 Gold Medals
DIVISION F	Winner	25 Gold Medals
	Consolation	25 Gold Medals
DIVISION G	Winner	25 Gold Medals
	Consolation	25 Gold Medals
DIVISION H	Winner	25 Gold Medals
	Consolation	25 Gold Medals
Breast Cancer	Winner	Trophy+ 25 Gold Medals
Community	Winner	Trophy + 25 Gold Medals
Women's	Winner	Trophy+ 25 Gold Medals
100 Metre Mixed sprint	Winner	25 Gold Medals
100 Metre Women's sprint	Winner	25 Gold Medals
100 Metre Breast Cancer sprint	Winner	25 Gold Medals
2,000 Metre Race	Winner	25 Gold Medals