



Raingutter Regatta

Pack 372



Introduction:

The Raingutter Regatta is similar to the Pinewood Derby except that the models are miniature sail boats. Although the seas are only 10-foot lengths of raingutter filled with water, and the ships a mere 7 inches long, the race is a very exciting event. Each boy will build his own boat with supervision and help from parents and leaders. He also provides the wind for the sail with his own lung power!

The regatta boat kit has a pre-shaped balsa hull, metal keel and plastic sail. The hulls are sanded and shaped, and are colorfully painted. Hull and sail are then decorated with decal kits (available at the Scout Shop or local hobby stores). The boats race in pairs on raingutter courses propelled by the boys blowing into the sails.

Construction Rules:

- A new boat must be constructed for the current Cub Scouting year.
- The boat must use every part from the BSA Raingutter Regatta Kit. Additional parts, decals, paint, and glue are permitted.
- Standard, hydrofoil, hydroplane, outrigger, or catamaran designs are allowed, as long as modifications are made from original BSA kit materials and the overall size fits within the required dimensions.
- Maximum boat length: 7 inches (including rudder).
- Minimum boat length: 6 inches.
- Overall width shall *not exceed* 2 ¼" inches.
- Maximum mast height: no higher than 6 ½" from deck to top.
- The sail may be trimmed and shaped, but may not be larger than the material supplied. For example, "cup" type sail modifications are allowed, but only the original sail material must be used to make the cup sail.
- The keel and rudder from the kit must be used with *no modifications*. They may be glued anywhere on the boat, but cannot cause the boat to exceed 7.00 inches in overall length.
- Details such as figures, decals and paint are permissible as long as these details are securely glued or fastened to the boat. The scouts are encouraged to decorate their boat!
- Waxing the boat bottom is allowed.

Race Day Process:

The rules for the Raingutter Regatta are fairly simple. Although the directions in the package say "no cutting, only sanding", we do not care what tools you use as long as no fingers are lost.

The actual race will be divided into 2 categories by Rank: Tigers & Wolves, Bear & Webelos. The race will involve 2 water filled raingutters set on saw horses, 1 for each racer. There will be two sets of raingutters to allow Tigers & Wolves and Bears & Webelos races to occur at the same time.

Multiple heats will be run to allow the scouts to accumulate points and determine the finishing order of the contestants. If necessary, run-off heats will be run to determine the overall 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers. There will be two 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers. All Scouts will receive a Raingutter Regatta badge.

At the end of the race, the water will be removed and the raingutters will be lined with foil paper and filled with ice cream and chocolate sauce to make 40 feet of ice cream sundaes!

Race Rules:

- Cub Scouts must register their boats with the Port Authority for inspection before the races begin. Only boats that pass inspection will be allowed to race.
- Each boat must start with the back of the boat touching the end of the rain gutter; the boy must hold it there with one hand.
- When the starter says go, the boys will propel the boats by blowing on the sail.
- Boys may not use their faces, lips, hats, nose or other body parts to move the boat -- just their lung power!
- The boy may use his hand only to upright his boat or to remove an impediment (i.e. if the boat is stuck on the gutter).
- **THE BOY MAY NOT ADVANCE THE BOAT WITH HIS HAND AT ANY TIME.** If a boy does so, he will be given a warning and the race rerun if that boy wins.
- If a boat gets broken during a race, the results stand.
- The race may be rerun if the judges find a reason that merits it.
- Overall – have fun and do your best!

