

PAN AM 10-Paddler *sprint series*

Welcome to the 2019 Pan Am Sprint Racing Series

The popularity of 10-paddler racing internationally and here in Florida is undeniable. At the recent IDBF World Championships held in Kunming, China, small boat entries significantly outnumbered standard boat entries. Talk of eventual Olympic Dragon Boat inclusion centers around the 10-paddler boat. Many of our festival customers in the Southeast Region are requesting 10-paddler boats for their events as an exclusive race class or as an add-on to their current standard 20-paddler boat offering. Sales of 10-paddler boats in the USA are trending to soon surpass standard boats sales.

With this evidence in hand the question for us became, how to make the Pan Am Sprint Series (PASS) relevant? After tossing around several ideas we decided that we would go big or go home. One lucky team who participates in the Pan Am 10-paddler Sprint Series will be awarded a brand new 10-paddler boat.

Of course the devil is in the details. How do we win the boat? How do we increase our odds?

Here's how to qualify:

1. Participate in at least 4 Pan Am Sprint Series events.
2. Accumulate points for your team/club based on participation and placings at PASS events
3. Redeem those points to collect ballots to win valuable prizes including a brand new 10-paddler dragon boat!
4. Watch for special promotions to gain ballot multipliers which increases your team's odds of winning prizes.
5. At the end of the season, attend or tune-in to the PASS Award Ceremony to apply your ballots to any or all available prizes
6. Hold your collective breath as we spin the drum and draw the winning ballots!!

As you've deciphered by now, we are not simply awarding prizes to the teams who accumulate the most points. Rather, we are awarding points to all participating teams with the better performing teams in the most highly contested racing classes deservedly receiving more points which will allow them to redeem those for more prize ballots. A consistently higher performing team who competes at more PASS events will have better odds of winning prizes, but every team will be in the game. Bottom line is, the more ballots a team or club has in the drum, the better odds of winning the prize offered by that draw.

We are very fortunate here in Florida that there are many growth catalysts for our sport and so many convenient options to compete with your athletic peers. We are excited to introduce our 10-paddler boat series to you in 2018. Thank you for your participation and dedication as we continue to grow dragon boat racing in the Sunshine State and beyond.

Mike Kerkmann

President

Pan American Dragon Boat Association

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FAQ

What is PASS?

PASS stands for Pan Am Sprint Series which is number of 10-paddler dragon boat races that will take place in the Southeast Region during the spring and fall racing season.

Why Create PASS?

Frankly, customers asked for it. Many clubs called or emailed Pan Am to tell us that we NEED to get into the small boat racing groove.

What makes PASS different from other small boat races?

Simply, structure & relevance. We created a points system coupled with a leader board profile for each club in each racing class which will be updated weekly. A PASS team races and collects points based on factors relevant to that event.

How do we collect points?

Here's how to accumulate points.

1. Race often
2. Place well
3. Choose events strategically

How do we collect the most points possible?

When you attend a PASS race you will be awarded points based on three factors.

1. Number of teams competing in your racing class (more teams = more points)
2. Your final placing in that racing class (higher placing = more points)
3. The X-Factor assigned to that event

What's an X-Factor?

Each PASS race is assigned an X-Factor. For each championship race teams will get points based on their finish position. That number is multiplied by the event's X-Factor to determine the total PASS points the team will be awarded.

(see *Calculating PASS Points*)

How do we find out what our point total is?

Well, you can certainly keep track yourself, but we will be updating the PASS leader board within 48 hrs after the completion of each PASS event. Just visit the PASS page on our web site.

My team race often and raced well and has a whole bunch of points. Now what?

Here comes the fun part. You can trade your points in for PASS Prize Ballots. Then you can drop those ballots in one of many prize drums. We'll get some trusty dragon boat VIP's to draw for a whole bunch of great prizes.

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What are the prizes?

Grand Prize is a brand new 10-paddler dragon boat. Pretty nice eh! Then there are complementary prizes like a canvas boat cover and aluminum boat dolly. We'll add more prizes right up until Draw Day.

When is Draw Day?

Draw Day will be held in Tampa, FL a week after the last PASS event of the season. This will be in late November or early December.

What if my team can't attend Draw Day?

No problem. We'll dump your ballots into the drum(s) of your choosing. We'll also stream the event live so you can watch the draw and find out in real time what, if any, prizes you've won.

RULES

The Pan Am 10-Paddler Sprint Series (PASS) has been developed to promote small boat dragon boat racing in Florida across all participant spectrums. These rules of racing have been developed to not only reward top performing, 10-paddler teams appropriately, but to also recognize teams who are in development who choose to participate in PASS regardless of experience or ability. Where appropriate, we have attempted to be flexible with regard to paddler eligibility; the goal being to remove any barriers which diminish full participation in the series and to permit athletes within their respective clubs to represent that club in multiple racing classes.

Paddler Eligibility

1. Any paddler participating in a PASS event must initially be registered with their designated club, by their team captain/manager, using the Pan Am Dragon Boat registration portal, prior to being invited to, and accepting to be added onto, a PASS crew roster.
2. A paddler participating in PASS may only race as a representative of their designated club. A club is defined, minimally, as one crew of 10 paddlers in one racing class... up to and including multiple crews comprised of a group of paddlers, each who may represent multiple racing classes within that one club.
3. Once initially rostered to participate in a PASS race, a paddler may, due to circumstances, receive a one-time waiver in order to migrate to another club.
4. Initially, 7 racing classes will be contested at PASS events.
PREMIER: Mixed, Women, Open; **SENIOR:** Mixed, Women, Open; **BCS**
5. The PREMIER racing classes have no age restriction. Mixed Crews are allowed a maximum of 5 paddlers of each gender. For the SENIOR racing class all paddlers must be 55 years or older in the year of competition (2019). BCS crew eligibility is self-governed under recommended IBCPC guidelines. Steerspersons can be club members, any age or gender, or assigned by the event organizer. Drummers are mandatory and can be any age or gender for all racing classes.

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Accumulating PASS Points and Purchasing PASS Ballots

1. For each PASS event all teams are eligible to receive PASS points. The number of points awarded to each team is based on its final race placing within its racing class.
2. A minimum of two teams in any given racing class must be competing at a PASS event in order for PASS points to be awarded in that racing class.
3. For all PASS races, if only one team is entered into a racing class, that team will be integrated into the Premier Racing class and will be eligible to receive points based on their placing in that division.
4. In the week following each PASS event Pan Am Dragon Boat will calculate PASS points for each participating team and update the PASS Point Totals web page available for viewing at:
<https://www.panamdragonboat.com/pass/>
5. At the end of the 2019 PASS season teams can use their PASS points to purchase an equal number of PASS Prize Ballots. Multiple prizes will be available. Teams can apply their PASS ballots to one, or multiple prize drawings as they choose.

PASS Point Structure and Special Promotions

Eligible Racing Classes:

Premier Mixed	Senior Mixed (55+)	BCS
Premier Women	Senior Women (55+)	
Premier Open	Senior Open (55+)	

Calculating PASS Points:

As described earlier, PASS points are based on performance at a particular event coupled with the depth of competition taking place in a given racing class at the event.

For each PASS event the number of PASS points available is based on the number of crews racing in the particular racing class multiplied by the X-FACTOR assigned to that event. For example: if 10 Premier Mixed crews are racing, and the X-FACTOR is 3, the number of points awarded to the 1st place team is 30. The 2nd place team receives ½ the points (15) of the 1st place team. The 3rd place team receives ½ the points (7) of the 2nd place team (rounded down). The 4th place team receives ½ the points (3) of the 3rd place team. All remaining teams receive 1 point.

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****SPECIAL Limited Availability Promotion****

Get FREE Entry into the Rocky Point Dragon Boat Festival!

First 10, PASS Eligible Teams who complete registration for the 2019 Tampa Bay International Dragon Boat Festival receive free entry into the Rocky Point Dragon Boat Festival.

BONUS! Receive 4x point multiplier **X-FACTOR** at the Rocky Point Dragon Boat Festival.

PRIZES! All prizes available to all participating teams

- 1. Brand new 2019 10-Paddler Dragon Boat**
- 2. Pan Am Dragon Boat Protective Cover**
- 3. Pan Am Aluminum Dragon Boat Dolly**
- 4. Hornet Watersport dragon boat paddles and other merchandise**