



2026 Sun Life Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races

Co-organised by Hong Kong Tourism Board and Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association (HKCDBA)
Sanctioned by International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF)

Race Bulletin (1)
Published on 13 February 2026

Date : 27 – 28 June 2026 (Saturday and Sunday)
Venue : Off Tsim Sha Tsui East Promenade ([Map](#))
Race : Standard Boat
Distance : 500m

Race Categories:

Date	Races	Registration Fee (Per Team)
27 June 2026 (Sat)	International Open Championship	Free for all non-local teams
	International Mixed Championship	
	International Women's Championship	
	Open Championship	HK\$4,000
	Mixed Championship	
	Women's Championship	HK\$2,000
	Secondary Schools Championship cum HKCDBA Chairman Shield	
	President Shield	Not applicable <i>Open for qualified teams only, please refer the eligibility stated in Appendix I</i>
Sun Life Elite Cup	Not applicable By invitation only	
28 June 2026 (Sun)	Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races 50th Anniversary Championship (TBC)	Not applicable <i>Open for qualified teams only, please refer the eligibility stated in Appendix I</i>
	International Open Grand Championship	
	International Mixed Grand Championship	
	International Women's Grand Championship	
	International Open Silver Cup	
	International Mixed Silver Cup	HK\$4,000
	International Women's Silver Cup	
	International Cancer Survivors' Championship	HK\$2,000
	Post-Secondary Schools Championship	HK\$2,000
	Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Championship	Not applicable <i>By invitation only</i>
	18 Districts Trophy	
Disciplinary Forces Championship	Free <i>Open for teams participated in other races only.</i>	
Fancy Dress Competition		

Remarks:

If the number of registered teams exceeds the expected quota, except for those invited teams, the shortlist of individual races will be decided by drawing lots. **Races with fewer than 5 participating/qualified teams will not be held.**

Awards:

- The champion, first runner-up and second runner-up team of each individual finals will receive a trophy. Each member of the winning teams will receive a medal.
- Prize money will be awarded to respective teams in the finals of the following races:

International Open Grand Championship International Mixed Grand Championship International Women's Grand Championship Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Championship	Prize Money (USD)*
First place (Champion)	\$10,000
Second place (First Runner-up)	\$5,000
Third place (Second Runner-up)	\$3,000
Fourth place	\$2,000
Fifth place	\$1,800
Sixth place	\$1,500
Seventh place	\$1,200
Eighth place	\$900
Ninth place	\$600

Remarks:

*The prize monies are pending and will be confirmed by mid-April 2026. Teams will be awarded with prize money, after tax deduction (if applicable), by bank transfer and telegraphic/ wire transfer for local teams and non-local teams respectively. The prize money (after tax deduction, if applicable) will be paid in the resident country currency of the winning teams against the exchange rate on the date of transfer to the bank account details as provided by the team managers within 60 days after the completion of the Event.

Important Dates:

Date and Time (HK Time)	Particulars
10:00am, 25 February 2026 (Wed) - 11:59pm, 1 April 2026 (Wed)	First phase of online registration (Team registration) Team managers to 1. Register as 2026-27 HKCDBA member (membership fees will be waived for participants of non-local and invited teams). 2. Register as team manager and register for the race category(ies) (registration fees will be waived for non-local and invited teams) 3. Reserve team marquee if needed. For details, please refer to Important Notes.
10:00am, 8 April 2026 (Wed) - 11:59pm, 13 May 2026 (Wed)	Second phase of online registration (Team members registration) 1. Team members to register as 2026-27 HKCDBA member (membership fees will be waived for participants of non-local and invited teams); 2. Upon receipt of the acknowledgement email from HKCDBA, team managers are required to pay the registration fees for all qualified races category(ies) by credit card or bank transfer (registration fees will be waived for non-local and invited teams). 3. After the payment has been made, team managers are required to update the crew list and assign role (i.e. paddler, drummer or helm) for each individual member; 4. Team managers who have reserved team marquee in the first phase, are required to pay the rental fees by bank transfer or sending a crossed cheque.
3 June 2026 (Wed)	Lane Draw
12 June 2026 (Fri)	Team Managers' Meeting (For local teams only)
13 – 14 June 2026 (Sat – Sun)	Collection of race materials and reconfirmation of registration details (For local teams only)

26 June 2026 (Fri)	Team Managers' Meeting, collection of race materials and reconfirmation of registration details (For non-local teams only)
27 – 28 June 2026 (Sat – Sun)	Race days
28 June 2026 (Sun)	Celebration Dinner (Venue to be announced closer to the event dates)

Important Notes:

1. The eligibility/ entry requirements, race rules and regulations and race programme are outlined in Appendices I and II respectively.
2. Each individual team can register one team marquee on site, the rental fee is HK\$1,600 per marquee (Rental fee will be waived for non-local and invited teams). Due to space availability, marquees will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Please register during the first phase of online registration and pay the rental fee by bank transfer or sending a crossed cheque. Details will be announced via email later.

Enquiries:

Secretariat of 2026 Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races

Hotline: +852 5660 8146 / +852 3110 0079 (9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays)

Email: hkidbr@hkcdba.org

Appendix I – Eligibility/ Entry Requirements, Race Rules and Regulations

Eligibility/ Entry Requirements (Note 1):

Race Categories	Details
All categories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All participants must be aged between 12 and 70 as of 1 January 2026*. ● All participants must be able to swim at least 50m in light clothing and without buoyancy aid. ● All participants must register as 2026-27 HKCDBA members; registration fees will be waived for all non-local and invited teams. ● The maximum number of team members for each dragon boat team is 34, including 1 team manager, 1 drummer, 1 helm and 16 to 31 paddlers (the maximum number of paddlers on each standard boat is 18; for safety reason, the first row of the boat must be emptied).
All International Championships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At least 60% of team members, as shown on the crew list, are registered as holders of passports issued by countries or regions other than Hong Kong. ● HKCDBA reserves the right to collect the copies of passport for verification purpose. ● Open for dragon boat teams in any countries or regions.
International / Local Open Championship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No gender limitation.
International / Local Mixed Championship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teams must consist of at least 8 and not more than 9 paddlers of either gender. ● No gender limitation on helm and drummer.
International / Local Women's Championship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All paddlers, helm and drummer must be female.
Secondary Schools Championship cum HKCDBA Chairman Shield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Open for Secondary Schools dragon boat teams in Hong Kong. ● For teams enrolled under the name of any secondary schools, all paddlers must be FULL TIME students of the secondary schools in the year 2025-26. No limitation on helm and drummer. ● No gender limitation. ● HKCDBA reserves the right to collect the copies of student ID card for verification purpose.

Post-Secondary Schools Championship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Open for universities or post-secondary school dragon boat teams in Hong Kong. ● All paddlers must be FULL TIME students of the universities or post-secondary schools in the year 2025-26. Drummers and helms must be aged at least 12. ● No gender limitation. ● HKCDBA reserves the right to collect the copies of student ID card for verification purpose.
International Cancer Survivors' Championship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Open for cancer survivor dragon boat teams in any countries or regions. ● Excluding the helm and the drummer, the number of paddlers who are non-cancer survivors should not exceed half of the total number of paddlers in the team. HKCDBA will collect the status (cancer survivor/ non-cancer survivor) of each team members for record purpose. ● No gender limitation.
Fancy Dress Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Open for teams participated in any race. ● Teams are encouraged to dress in interesting and creative costumes during the race. Teams are required to submit the designs of outfit/ costumes/ body arts by 13 May 2026 for approval. ● Participants are prohibited from bringing aboard and wearing any banners, posters, placards, leaflets, or publicity and/or displaying materials which are considered abusive, threatening, discriminatory, religious or political. ● No gender limitation.
18 Districts Trophy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● By invitation only. ● No gender limitation.
President Shield (Note 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>The first 8 teams (Note 3)</u> with the best finish time among the qualified teams in the heats or 1st rounds of Local Championships (i.e. Open Championship, Mixed Championship and Women's Championship) to be held on the first race day (27 June 2026) will be qualified to join this race.
Sun Life Elite Cup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● By invitation only. ● No gender limitation.
Disciplinary Forces Championship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● By invitation only. ● No gender limitation.
Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Championship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● By invitation only. ● No gender limitation.
International Open Grand Championship (Note 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>The first 32 teams (Note 3)</u> with the best finish time among the qualified teams in the heats or 1st rounds of International and Local Championships (i.e. International Open Championship and Open Championship) to be held on the first race day (27 Jun 2026) will be qualified to join this race.

International Mixed Grand Championship (Note 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The first 32 teams (Note 3)</u> with the best finish time among the qualified teams in the heats or 1st rounds of International Mixed Championship and Mixed Championship to be held on the first race day (27 Jun 2026) will be qualified to join this race.
International Women's Grand Championship (Note 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The first 16 teams (Note 3)</u> with the best finish time among the qualified teams in the heats or 1st rounds of International Women's Championship and Women's Championship to be held on the first race day (27 Jun 2026) will be qualified to join this race.
Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races 50 th Anniversary Championship (TBC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champions of International Open Championship, International Mixed Championship, International Women's Championship, Open Championship, Mixed Championship, Women's Championship, Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Championship, 18 Districts Trophy and Disciplinary Forces Championship will be qualified to join this race.

Note:

1. Please contact the Secretariat if individual participant has any enquiries regarding his/her eligibility. In case of any dispute, HKCDBA has the right to make final decision.
2. If the finish time of any team (except the violating team) is affected due to collision in the heats of 1st round, the chief race official reserves the right to use the best finish time of the affected team's in the 2nd race or subsequent races as the basis for its qualification to advance in the respective race without any notice.
3. Number of qualifying teams for individual race is pending confirmation. It will be finalised closer to the race day.

Race Rules and Regulations:

- 1) There is no limitation on the number of race categories participated by each team.
- 2) Races with fewer than **5 participating/qualified teams** will not be held.
- 3) All paddlers, drummers and helms are **not allowed** to represent for more than 1 team in each race category. That is, sub-teams under the same team's name (e.g. ABC Team A and ABC Team B) are regarded as 2 teams in the same race category.
- 4) **All teams are required to report to the Marshalling Area 30 minutes in advance of each race.** Teams will be disqualified if they are found not meeting this entry requirements.
- 5) **Each team must assign a member to be the Team Manager.** Team Manager must wear the Team Manager Badge and accompany his/her team for reporting at the Marshalling Area. Team Manager will be required to stay at the Marshalling Area and under the monitoring of race officials during the race.
- 6) Pursuant to clause 4 above, teams may apply for special marshalling arrangement when they have to race back-to-back or alternate back-to-back. The chief race official has the right to make final decision on the approval. Application must be made under the same team's name by the team manager. Details will be announced at the Team Managers' Meetings.
- 7) HKCDBA shall have the right to refuse any entry into the races at its sole discretion.
- 8) Any team (including team manager, all team members and accompanying persons) who severely contravenes any race rules and regulations, or disciplinary code will be disqualified and/or not entitled for any awards.
- 9) For safety reason, HKCDBA reserves the right to alter the capacity of each dragon boat according to weather condition.
- 10) All equipment would be provided by HKCDBA. Paddlers may use their own paddles, which should meet the requirements in accordance with CR 5.2 of the "[Amendments for HKCDBA Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing](#)".
- 11) Participants may use their own Personal Floatation Device (PFD) except inflatable PFD. 200 PFDs will be provided free of charge. No advance reservation is required. PFDs with limited size and quantity will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis on site.
- 12) The latest version of IDBF's "[Competition Regulations](#)" and "[Rules of Racing](#)", and the "[Amendments for HKCDBA Competitions Regulations and Rules of Racing](#)" shall apply. All teams should abide by the race rules and regulations, "Notice to Participants/ Terms & Conditions" and instructions of race officials at all times, HKCDBA has the right to disqualify any teams who fail to do so.
- 13) If there is any inconsistency between the English version and Chinese version, the Chinese version of race rules and regulations and the "Notice to Participants/ Terms & Conditions" to be published on the online registration system shall prevail.
- 14) The HKCDBA has the right to the final decision (including the right to change without prior notice) in all matters pertaining to the races (including the race category, racecourse, race format, race programme, race venue, eligibility/ entry requirements, race rules and regulations and the "Notice to Participants/ Terms & Conditions"). Any changes for the races announced by the HKCDBA or posted on its website and/ or social media shall prevail. In case of any dispute, the decision of HKCDBA shall be final and conclusive.

Appendix II – Race Programme**2026 Sun Life Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races****Race Programme - 27 June 2026 (Saturday)****Standard Boat 500m Race**

No.	Races	Race Round
1	Mixed Championship	Heat
2	International Mixed Championship	Heat
3	Open Championship	Heat
4	International Open Championship	Heat
5	Women's Championship	Heat
6	Sun Life Elite Cup	Heat
7	International Women's Championship	Heat
8	Mixed Championship	Repechage
9	International Mixed Championship	Semi Final
10	Open Championship	Repechage
11	International Open Championship	Repechage
12	Secondary Schools Championship cum HKCDBA Chairman Shield	1 st Round Race
13	Sun Life Elite Cup	Repechage
14	Mixed Championship	Semi Final
15	International Women's Championship	Semi Final
16	Women's Championship	Semi Final
17	Open Championship	Semi Final
18	International Open Championship	Semi Final
19	Secondary Schools Championship cum HKCDBA Chairman Shield	2 nd Round Race
20	Mixed Championship	Final
21	Sun Life Elite Cup	Final
22	International Mixed Championship	Final
23	Women's Championship	Final
24	International Women's Championship	Final
25	Open Championship	Final
26	International Open Championship	Final
27	President Shield	Final

(Last updated on 11 February 2026)

Remarks: Races with fewer than 5 participating/qualified teams will not be held.

2026 Sun Life Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races
Race Programme - 28 June 2026 (Sunday)
Standard Boat 500m Race

No.	Races	Race Round
1	Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Championship	Heat
2	18 Districts Trophy	Heat
3	International Mixed Grand Championship	Heat
4	Post-Secondary Schools Championship	1 st Round Race
5	18 Districts Trophy	Semi Final
6	International Women's Grand Championship	Heat
7	International Open Grand Championship	Heat
8	International Mixed Grand Championship	Repechage
9	International Cancer Survivors' Championship	1 st Round Race
10	18 Districts Trophy	Final
11	Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Championship	Semi Final
12	International Women's Grand Championship	Semi Final
13	International Open Grand Championship	Repechage
14	Fancy Dress Competition	Special Race
15	Disciplinary Forces Championship	1 st Round Race
16	International Open Grand Championship	Semi Final
17	International Mixed Grand Championship	Semi Final
18	Disciplinary Forces Championship	2 nd Round Race
19	Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Championship	Final
20	International Women's Silver Cup	Final
21	Post-Secondary Schools Championship	2 nd Round Race
22	International Women's Grand Championship	Final
23	International Mixed Silver Cup	Final
24	International Cancer Survivors' Championship	2 nd Round Race
25	International Mixed Grand Championship	Final
26	International Open Silver Cup	Final
27	International Open Grand Championship	Final
28	Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races 50 th Anniversary Championship (TBC)	Final

(Last updated on 11 February 2026)

Remarks: Races with fewer than 5 participating/qualified teams will not be held.