Official Rules 2014

The Raft Race Committee promotes a safe, family-orientated event. We encourage all participants to act in a responsible, sportsman-like manner, obey all safety requirements and raft race rules, assist their fellow rafters when necessary, and above all, enjoy the event.

Remember, safety comes first! Watch out for the fellow rafters, lend assistance when needed, and have fun.

1. Group I: Kayaks and Canoes (up to two people per kayak/canoe)

2. Group II: Small rafts (one (1) – four (4) people per craft)

3. Group IV: Large rafts (five (5) – ten (10) people per craft)

4. No raft can be aided by electrical or gas powered motors, devices, etc.

5. All crafts and rafts must incorporate the letters K L A Q and/or “The Q” somewhere on the vessel.

6. Each individual enters event at their own risk.

7. Anyone with health problems should not participate.

8. All participants need to sign an official KLAQ Great River Raft Race Release and Hold Harmless agreement (see official entry form).

9. The following items can be used:
- Inner tubes
- Barrels (non-toxic), milk jugs, plywood, cans
- Inflatable crafts which can withstand the river currents

10. The following items cannot be used:
- Glass
- Fiberglass
- Styrofoam
- Simple one (1) person pool rafts will not be allowed
- Empty toxic containers (anything that held chemicals and might pollute the river)

• Nothing that breaks into pieces and clog up the river system.

11. The use of nails below the deck line is prohibited.

12. The raft must be securely fastened to any frame which uses a deck. The frame should be securely fastened to the floatation devices.

13. All rafts must have a Captain, 18 years or older, to participate.

14. Age limit: Ten (10) years or older to participate. Minors must have Parent/Guardian consent and signature on waiver before entering the race (17 and younger).

15. **ALL PARTICIPANTS** ages ten (10) to twelve (12) must wear a life preserver. Life jackets are recommended for all race participants. (no “floaties” – sorry).

16. **No alcoholic beverages**.

17. Rafts may add flags, coolers (no glass); however, they must be securely fastened to the raft (no littering!).

18. Size of Raft: Must be able to go under the bridges (don’t make it too tall – you may be disqualified). Rafts should not be “oversized” (nothing over 15 feet wide by 20 feet long). Excessive sized rafts may be disqualified from event.

19. It is recommended rafters bring a garbage bag to properly hold all waste, empty cans, etc.

20. All race participants are responsible for the removal and disposal of their raft following the event (all the bits, from land and water).

21. All members shall wear water shoes, sneakers or other appropriate footwear.

22. Sun sensitive people should wear appropriate sunscreen.

23. Participants must not throw objects (eggs, water balloons, fish, hard or sharp objects) at competitors and / or spectators.

24. The organizers of this event cannot be held responsible for any damage caused or any injuries incurred. Your team should ensure that they are covered by their own personal insurance.

25. Entry fee: $20.00 per craft plus $10.00 per person participating

26. Trophies will be awarded to the following:
    - Most Racing Points

- Best Decorated Raft
- Best Looking Crew

27. Race organizers have final say on all race participants. Any craft, team, or team member can and will be removed from the event by the El Paso Sheriff's Department for actions perceived to be dangerous to fellow race participants and spectators.

28. Have fun! But be respectful of others. Help us continue to build this new tradition.

Don't trash the river. Don't trash the river levee areas.

29. Have Fun!

Cut

I hereby accept the Great River Raft Race's Rules as outlined above.

Captain's Signature: _____

Vessel Name: _____

Race Day Information

• ALL Captains must CHECK IN at the registration center, located just north of the Vinton Bridge, to pick up their Race Day Packet and "supplies". Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

• **ALL RAFTS** must be deemed "raft ready" in order to participate in the event. After you check-in at the Registration Center, a Raft Race Inspector will visit your crew and certify your craft is river approved for the event. Failure to pass inspection means you may have to forfeit your participation in the event.

• Raft Ready inspections will begin at 9:30 a.m.

• Rafts will be allowed to unload at the Vinton Bridge starting area. After drop off, all vehicles must leave the area. All rafts should plan to pick-up (or dispose) of their raft at the end of the race.

• **NO VEHICLES** will be allowed on the river levees, unless permitted by El Paso Sheriff's Department.

• Parking: Each registered craft will receive a special parking permit allowing for departure of the river levee area at the end of the race. This will be provided to the "Captain" at the Check-in Registration Center. Whoever is picking up the Crew (and craft) at the end of the race will need this special pass to park in a designated area for race participants. Large crafts will receive two (2) passes.

Schedule:

Date: Sunday, July 13th, 2014 Check-in: 9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Load-in: Vinton Bridge Race starts: 11:00* A.M. *Rafts will be launched in waves.
Start: The Vinton Bridge
End: Canutillo Bridge (Coors Light Finish Line)
Awards Ceremony at Little Bit of Texas, starts at 12:00 pm.
Course length: approximately 3+ miles