



Paducah Dragon Boat Festival September 11, 2021

The Paducah Dragon Boat Festival is a fundraising event to benefit the River Discovery Center's educational programs in Paducah Kentucky. The River Discovery Center hires *22Dragons* of Montreal Canada and they produce the event providing race logistics, boats and all equipment and personnel. *22Dragons* oversees events all over the U.S. and Canada. Held at Paducah's riverfront from 10am-3pm, the event uses 40 ft. long dragon boats that are canoe style vessels. There are 16 paddlers in each boat and a drummer on the front of the boat to keep the team in sync and help build team spirit. Drummers often dress in a team theme and a fun fashion show of the drummers is held during the lunch break.

Fee includes a practice session, professional steersman and all equipment.

Emceeding the event is Mark Ryan with local station 94.7 The Mix.

Races are run in heats with 3 boats racing a 250 meter course that is against the current.

Approximately 3,000-4,000 people attend the event each year

Enjoy a beer garden offering both craft and domestic beer, food vendors and a children's area which includes inflatables, face painting, putt putt, glitter braids and balloon twists.

Large trophies are presented for the top 3 winning teams and a trophy for each consolation race winner. Each paddler on the top 3 teams, receives a Gold, Silver or Bronze medal.

Special awards are given to the Best Team Area, Most Team Spirit, Best Dressed Drummer, and Best Team t-shirt.

Proceeds from the past 8 years of the event total over \$300,000 and have had a real impact on the River Discovery Center's educational programs.

Team Cost: \$2,000