

Pack 142

2009 Raingutter Regatta



Ahoy, mates! This could be the sailing regatta of the century! Although the seas are only 10-foot lengths of raingutter filled with water, and the ships a mere 6 inches long, the race is a very exciting event. Each boy builds his own boat with supervision and help from parents or other family members. He also provides the wind for the sail with his own lung power.

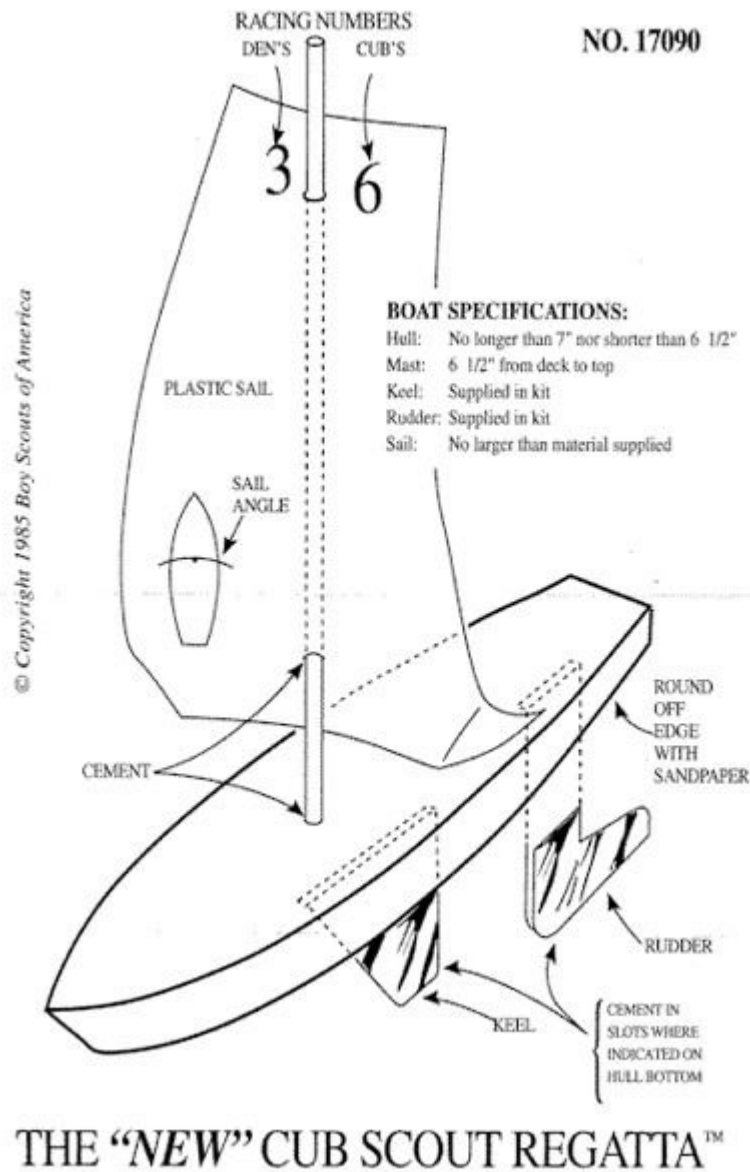
The regatta boat kit, available from the Scout Shop, has a pre-shaped balsa hull, metal keel and plastic sail. The hulls are sanded and shaped, and painted. Hull and sail are then decorated. The boats race in pairs on raingutter courses, propelled by the boys blowing into the sails with a drinking straw.



Remember the cub scout motto, “DO YOUR BEST”!!!



Boat Specifications:



Hull: No longer than 7" or shorter than 6 1/2" Mast: 6 1/2" from deck to top

Keel: Supplied in kit

Rudder: Supplied in kit

Sail: Supplied in kit

The actual race will be divided into rank categories: Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos. Each rank group will first race each other. The race will involve sets of two raingutters on saw horses. We have several sets of raingutters ready to speed the races. The boys blow air through straws on the boats to move them through the water. Hands may only be used to upright a turned over boat and may not be used to advance the boat. Boys may not use their faces, lips, hats, nose or other body parts to move the boat -- just their lung power!

Elimination heats will be run to narrow down the field for each rank. At least double elimination will be used. The final heats from each age group will determine the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers for that rank. Trophies will be awarded for speed and for design as follows:

Speed: Medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd places for each rank (Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos)

Design: Awards will be given for creative designs.



Rules:

1. The boat must be newly built for the current Cub Scouting year. As much as practical, the boat should be substantially built by the Scout with parental supervision. The boat should use every part from the BSA Raingutter Regatta Kit. Additional parts, decals, paint, and glue are permitted.
2. Overall width shall not exceed 2 1/2 inches (not including sail).
3. Overall length from bow to stern (including rudder) shall not exceed 7.00 inches, nor shorter than 6.50 inches.
4. The mast must be upright and can be no taller than 6.50 inches from the deck surface.

5. The sail may be trimmed and shaped, but may not be larger than the material supplied.
6. The keel and rudder may be glued anywhere on the boat, but cannot cause the boat to exceed 7.00 inches in overall length.
7. 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, as they will also be judged for design.
8. You can add material and items to the boats, but keep in mind that lighter boats will generally be faster.
9. Do your best!



Decorating Tips:

1. LET THE BOY DO IT !!!
2. An area to show off your decorations is on the sail. This is an excellent place for decals and stickers...boys love both. The sail provided in the BSA kit has a glossy side and a dull side. The dull side can be lightly spray painted to compliment the color of the boat. Use caution when painting a sail, too much paint will just peel and crack when the sail is placed on the mast.
3. Flags: A small flag can be made with a straight pin mast and attached to the deck or even on top of the mast. This ia a cool decorating idea. The American, or your State flag are some ideas...or, just a wild colored one.
4. A great site for instructions on how to make your boat fast
<http://www.lastufka.net/lab/boats/html/index.htm>

