

**World Championship Bathtub Race
Nanaimo, BC
2018 Course Rules**

RULES FOR THE TUBS

All tubs must be in milling area just north of the start line which is marked by red & yellow markers at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the race. Tubs must mill in an anti-clockwise direction around the Big Tub. All tubs must remain to the east of the mud flats marked buoys P9 and P11.

No escort boats are allowed in this area after 10:30am. All escort boats must be past Gallows Point by 10:35am. Escort boats are reminded that the speed limit in Newcastle Channel is 5 mph. Anyone exceeding the speed limit in that area (between Brechin Point Marina and the mouth of channel at the Nanaimo Yacht Club) is subject to a \$500 fine and/or summary conviction. Escort vessels should travel to the area near Gallows Point by going north from the boat launch, circling around Newcastle Island and the east side of Protection Island to meet up with their tubs.

The start line will be marked by 5 red barrels from the Start Control Centre on the Nanaimo side of the Harbour to the north end of Protection Island. The chute will be marked by alternating yellow barrels and red balls.

Start Signal: watch the Start/Pace Boat & the Big Tub in the milling area.

10:30am	Sound shells and smoke flares. Escorts should be out of harbour.
10:45am	Sound shells and smoke flares.
10:50am	Sound shells and smoke flares.
10:55am	Sound shells and smoke flares. Red flag will be held up on the Start/Pace Boat and on the Big Tub in the milling area.
10:59am	White flag will be held up on the Start/Pace Boat and the Big Tub in the milling area. Start/Pace Boat will be sitting on the start line and go when at 11:00am
11:00am	Start of Great Race - Pace Boat and Big Tub will fly a green flag. Firing of cannons and fireworks.

A black flag will be held up in the Start/Pace Boat & the Big Tub if the Race is delayed. Start time is 11:00am, however if the start is delayed due to weather conditions, the new start time will be broadcast over Radio CKWV 102.3 The Wave. Delays will be in half-hour intervals, weather permitting.

The Start/Pace Boat will wait at the Start Line for the race to begin. Tubs must cross the start line BEHIND the Official Start/Pace Boat which will be the Official Starter of the Race. The Start/Pace Boat will begin its run when the traditional starting gun is fired, but the Start/Pace

Boat is the Official Starter as far as the Tubs are concerned. Breach of this Rule will result in disqualification, unless the infringing Tub(s) return and re-cross the start line.

Tubs must stay between the lines of buoys which indicate the race lane from the start line to Gallows Point. All Tubs must pass to the right of the P4 Gallows Point Starboard Hand Red) Spar Buoy and the Harbour Watch Vessel directly off Gallows Point.

Tubs must have passed Gallows Point after 30 minutes and Entrance Island 1 hour after the start of the race. If not, they will be considered non-starters and must advise Bathtub Control and return to the harbour. They must have passed Five Fingers Island 90 minutes after Race Start or they will be considered non-finishers, must report to Bathtub Control, and return to harbour.

There will be several Bathtub Race Official Boats (properly identified) in the start area, including RCMP and the Nanaimo Marine Rescue craft acting as Safety Boats. All these vessels will have full authority over starting procedures.

Pick-up Area: Any tub which sinks or stops between the Start Line and the Escort Boat pick-up area past Gallows Point, will be towed to the Float Plane Dock and the Safety Boat Network will be notified on Channel 73. Escort boats must not return to the pick-up area to assist their tub until 15 minutes after the start of the race.

The speed limit in Newcastle Channel is 5 mph. Anyone exceeding the speed limit in that area (between Brechin Point Marina and the mouth of the channel at the Nanaimo Yacht Club) is subject to a \$500 fine.

Tubs must not follow behind or in the wake of their Escort Boat or any other tub or boat. Any deliberate attempt to do so could result in automatic disqualification.

Tubs must stay within sight of their Escort Boat. In case of Escort Boat problems, Tubs must not continue without their Escort Boat, but if another boat agrees to be their Escort Boat they may continue. Bathtub Control must be advised.

Tubs must meet their escort boats between Gallows Point and Entrance Island. A team of race spotters will record all Tubs and Escort boats at each check-point, as well as ensuring that tubs pass to the right (Starboard) of the Spar Buoy and the Harbour Watch Vessel. Tubs must be in sight of their escort boats at all times. It is MANDATORY that tubs race on the official race route from the Harbour, around Entrance Island in an anti-clockwise direction, going between the red buoy and Gabriola Island. Entrance Island is the **FIRST CHECK-POINT**. The race then goes to Five Fingers Island, again leaving the island to port (left). The Vessel Stikine is the **SECOND CHECK-POINT**.

Tubs must have reached **Checkpoint Two** within 90 minutes from Race Start, or they will be considered non-finishers and must advise Bathtub Control and return to the harbour.

The Race Course now circles around Maude Island, keeping Maude Island on the port side. **Checkpoint Three** is the vessel moored to a buoy just east of Imperieuse Rock at 49 deg 15' 40" N, 124 deg 7' 14". Keep the vessel to your port (left) side as you pass. This year we expect to see two vessels at this checkpoint, the SAR27 and the sailboat Timara.

CHECK-POINT FOUR is the same vessel (Stikine) used for **Checkpoint Two** moored just northeast of Five fingers Island at 49 deg 13' 55" N and 123 deg 54' 23" W. **All Tubs and escort boats must pass the Checkpoint Vessel on your right side.** This is the **FOURTH CHECK-POINT.**

The Nimar II will be **CHECKPOINT FIVE**, and will be stationed just off Gallows Point. Tubs and Escorts must keep the Nimar II on their port (left) side as they round Gallows Point. They will then follow the buoys north to a line directly east of SwyaLana Lagoon and go around the Big Tub, keeping it on their port side and then proceed directly into the beach at Maffeo Sutton Park.

All finishing Tubbers must (under their own power and without help) proceed up the beach and ring the Finish Line Bell. Tubs must come to rest with at least part of the tub and the skeg in contact with the water. Infraction of this rule will mean race disqualification.

The Navy Vessel Egret will begin a sweep back of the course three-hours after the start of the race. If you have not reached Checkpoint Three by that time you must advise Bathtub Control and proceed directly to the Finish line.

If you do not finish the race you must report to Bathtub Control on Marine VHF 73 or cellular 250-668-6774 that you have left the race and are safely returning to shore. Failure to do so may result in launching an unnecessary & expensive search and rescue operation.

Also, if you re-enter the race you must notify Bathtub control.

10:30am	All escort boats must be past Gallows Point
10:45am	All tubs in the milling area
11:00am	Start of Great Race
11:30AM	Tubs must have passed Gallows Point (within 30 minutes)
12:00pm	Tubs must have passed Entrance Island (within 60 minutes)
12:30pm	Tubs must have reached Checkpoint Two on the Vessel Stikine (within 90 minutes)
2:00pm	Tubs must have reached Checkpoint Three at Maude Island (within 3 hours)
3:00pm	Race Secretary will call the race over. All tubs on the water at this time must advise Bathtub Control of their location and proceed directly to shore.

RULES FOR ESCORT BOATS

All escort boats must be past Gallows Point by 10:30am. Escort boats are reminded that the speed limit in Newcastle Channel is 5 mph, and anyone exceeding the speed limit in that area (between Brechin Point Marina and the mouth of the channel at the Nanaimo Yacht Club) is subject to a \$500 fine and/or summary conviction. **Escort vessels should travel to the area near Gallows Point by going north from Brechin boat launch, circling around Newcastle Island and the east side of Protection Island to meet up with their tubs when they pass Gallows Point.**

Tubs must meet their escort boats between Gallows Point and Entrance Island. A team of race spotters will record all Tubs and Escort boats at each check-point. **Tubs must be in sight of their escort boats at all times.**

It is **MANDATORY** that tubs race on the official race route from the Harbour, around Entrance Island in an anti-clockwise direction, going between the red buoy and Gabriola Island. Entrance Island is the **FIRST CHECK-POINT**. The next Checkpoint is a vessel Stikine, moored just northeast of Five Fingers Island at 49 deg 13' 55" N and 123 deg 54' 23" W. Tubs and escorts will keep the island to port (left). The Island is the **SECOND CHECK-POINT**.

CHECK-POINT THREE is S/V Timara and SAR27 moored to a buoy just east of Imperieuse Rock at 49 deg 15' 40" N, 124 deg 7' 14". Keep the vessels to your port (left) side as you pass in an anti-clockwise direction. Tubs must keep east of Imperieuse Rock.

CHECK-POINT FOUR is the same vessel Stikine as used for **Checkpoint Two** moored just northeast of Five Fingers Island at 49 deg 13' 55" N and 123 deg 54' 23" W. **All Tubs and escort boats must pass the Checkpoint Vessel on your right side.** This is the **FOURTH CHECK-POINT**.

Needs to be updated

The Nimar II will be **CHECKPOINT FIVE**, and will be stationed just off Gallows Point. Tubs and Escorts must keep the NIMAR II on their starboard (right) side as they round Gallows Point. They will then follow the buoys north to a line directly east of SwyaLana Lagoon and then proceed directly into the beach at Maffeo Sutton Park.

Each escort boat must display the Official Numbers which will be issued at Bathtub Headquarters at the time of your Tub Registration. These numbers shall be displayed on either side of the Escort Boat to be visible to an approaching craft.

All escort vessels must be equipped with a marine band VHF radio. Cellular telephones are no longer sufficient. VHF Channel 73 and channel 16 are to be

monitored at all times. Escorts must notify Bathtub Control of their DSC MISSI number.

As previously stated, in the event of an emergency where lives are at risk, immediately contact “Victoria Coast Guard Radio” on VHF Channel 16 and report your vessel name, position and nature of emergency. This information will be forwarded to the Joint Rescue Coordination Center and all vessel traffic via marine broadcast to all vessels on VHF Ch 16.

Positive control of marine VHF CH 73/9 will remain at all times with BATHTUB CONTROL. Before race start, SAFETY will act as start observer & communicate with BATHTUB CONTROL, military vessels, and helo on Marine VHF 73/9, and then relocate to “Bathtub Control” On race start, race related communications will be made by all safety and military vessels/helo on marine CH 73/9. Emergency Communications to Coast Guard S&R will be conducted on Marine VHF Channel 16. Marine VHF Channel 16 will be monitored at Bathtub Control.

All non life-threatening race communications should be conducted on the working frequencies, (**VHF Channels 73/9**), for example, race buoys out of position, vessels or spectators in inappropriate locations, race withdrawals, etc.

Distress / Emergency Communications. A distress signal indicates that a person or group of people, ship, aircraft, or other vessel is threatened by grave and imminent danger and requests immediate assistance. A tub out of fuel is not in distress. A tub sinking with no sign of the tubber is. All distress / emergencies should be reported on VHF (CH 16) to Victoria Coast Guard Radio. If you are unable to make contact with Victoria request relay assistance.

1. Here is an example of how to call.

MAYDAY. MAYDAY. MAYDAY ON VHF CH 16. THIS IS ESCORT #063. WE ARE A 24 FOOT POWER BOAT, WHITE WITH BLUE HULL. OUR POSITION IS 1 MILE EAST OF SNAKE ISLAND. OUR TUB #063 WITH 1 PERSON ABOARD HAS SUNK AND THERE IS NO SIGN OF OUR TUBBER. WE REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE TO LOCATE OUR TUBBER.

2. All stations hearing the MAYDAY call will hold all traffic on VHF Ch 16 and listen unless Victoria Coast Guard Radio requires relay. Race VHF primary channel (73) should be used for reporting if VHF (CH 16) is unworkable for any reason.

Official Escort Boats must be at least 16 ft. in length and carry an observer capable of assisting the Tubber in an emergency.

Escort Boats must be in position between Gallows Point and Entrance Island by 10:45am. After this time Escort Boats will not be allowed in the harbour, and, if they do, it will disqualify their Tub.

All Tubs and Escort Boats must be together by Entrance Island. If a tub cannot find it's Escort Boat (or vice versa) by Entrance Island, DO NOT CONTINUE. There will be craft at that point to help Tubbers who have not linked up with their Escort Boats. Any Tub beyond this point without its Official Escort will be automatically disqualified. Escort Boats should contact Bathtub Control who may have information on the status of their Tub.

If your Tub does not reach Gallows Point by 15 minutes after the start of the race, then, you may proceed back into the Harbour. **The Official Rescue Boats will return your Tub to the Float Plane Dock.** If you do not pass Entrance Island by 1 hour after race start you must notify Bathtub control and return to the harbour. If you do not reach Five Fingers Island by 1 hour and thirty minutes after race start you must notify Bathtub control and return to the harbour.

Escort boats must stay within sight of their Tubs at all times between Entrance Island and Nanaimo Harbour.

Any Escort Boat making a deliberate attempt to run in front of its Tub or any other Tub shall disqualify its Tub.

The Navy vessel Egret will begin a sweep back of the course 3 hours after the start of the race. If you have not reached Maude Island by then, you must advise Bathtub control and proceed to the shore.

If you do not finish the race you must report to Bathtub Control at VHF 73 or cellular 250-668-6774 that you have left the race and are safely returning to shore. Failure to do so may result in launching an unnecessary and expensive search and rescue operation. **If you re-enter the race you must notify Bathtub control.**