



Rotary Club Magnetic Island

A CONSTRUCTOR'S GUIDE

To building a 'can' or 'milk container' boat for the Magnetic Island Beer Can Regatta.

INTRODUCTION

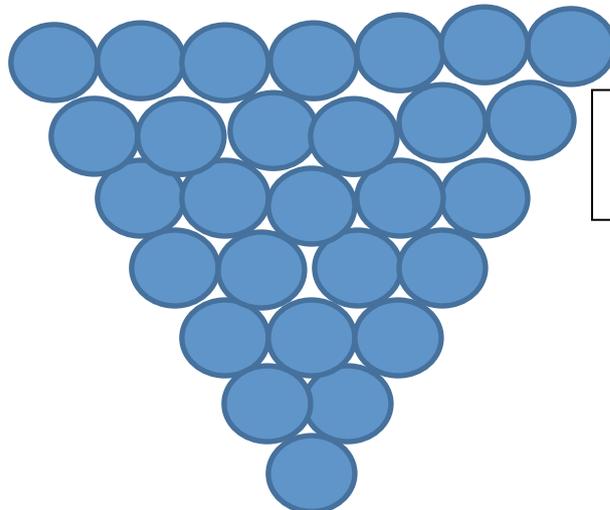
The main aim of the Magnetic Island Rotary Beer Can Regatta is to have fun and raise funds for nominated charities.

The advice in this booklet is intended as a guide only, to give construction ideas and methods.

Imagination, allied with enthusiasm and hard work and the methods shown and ordinary common-sense are the main ingredients, although perseverance and assistance can help a lot, particularly with a larger craft.

The rules have been known to be slightly bent by the scrutineers, usually in direct proportion to the effort put into construction, so long as safety is not impaired.

From experience the simplest boats are the best. The easiest one consists of layers or rows of beer cans – one row on the bottom, building up in a V shape to 8 rows high. Depending on the weight of your rowers you could get away with 7 rows.



If you intend to sit in the boat, I would suggest 9 rows high

After you have determined the length of the boat, I suggest you make each row of cans separately, start upside down and literally build a pyramid of rows, taping every second row. Note your bottom 3 rows need to be longer so that you can bring them around to form a bow. I suggest you actually raise them slowly up so you don't stress the tape.



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Once you have constructed one boat you need to duplicate it so that you can make a catamaran or if you have a long enough boat to seat 4 people, have essentially an outrigger float to give the boat stability.

With the catamaran, a piece of ply is good to sit on and you can use bamboo to lash the catamaran together. You will need around 1200 cans for this type of boat. If you do this style you can seat two people each side comfortably.

When joining cans together, cloth based gaffer style tape is best – it tears easier.

If you wish to make a Dragon style boat you will need a thin piece of rod to act as a brace and to give the neck shape.

You can wrap your boat in plastic but be aware, water will always find a way in and then acts as an extra weight on your boat,

NOTE: you must have a small length of rope attached to the front so you can be rescued if need be and towed back to shore.

If we have enough boats we will have a Henley on Maggie race up and down the beach where the teams will carry their boats so bear that in mind when constructing your craft.

One final piece of advice – you need to ensure you have decent oars or paddles.

Regardless of how the day goes - ***Have fun!!!!!!***