

Dragon Boat Sprint @ The Kallang 2026: Night Race, Schools Competition And A Weekend On The Water

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One of Singaporeâ??s most exhilarating sporting weekends is almost here. The **Dragon Boat Sprint @ The Kallang 2026** returns on **22 and 23 May** to the Water Sports Centre at The Kallang, bringing together competitive racing, a spectacular night event, and community paddling sessions that welcome complete beginners. Whether you are a die-hard dragon boat fan or simply looking for something different to do this weekend, this is an event worth putting in your diary.

What Is The Dragon Boat Sprint @ The Kallang?

Organised by the **Singapore Dragon Boat Association (SDBA)**, the Dragon Boat Sprint @ The Kallang is a high-intensity sprint format competition held on **Kallang Basin**. Unlike the traditional 500m open-water races that most people associate with dragon boating, the sprint format condenses the action into shorter, faster heats that keep both participants and spectators at the edge of their seats throughout the day.



Dragon boat teams battle it out on Kallang Basin â?? the stunning venue for the Dragon Boat Sprint @ The Kallang 2026. Â© Singapore Dragon Boat Association

The event sits within a broader calendar of exciting sporting spectacles in Singapore this year. Paddling enthusiasts who want more of the same should also look out for the IVF Vaâ??a World Sprints Singapore 2026: Marina Bay Fan Guide, which brings the worldâ??s best outrigger canoe paddlers to Marina Bay later in 2026.

Highlights: Night Race And National Inter-School Competition

Two moments stand out as must-sees across the weekend. On **Friday 22 May**, the **National Inter-School Dragon Boat Competition** takes centre stage, with secondary schools and junior colleges from across Singapore competing for national glory on Kallang Basin. This is where the next generation of Singapore paddlers first make their names, and the atmosphere during school races is unlike anything else in Singapore sport â?? raw, passionate, and wholly free of the corporate polish of professional events.

Then there is the **Night Race** â?? a highlight of the weekend programme that transforms the competitive dynamic entirely. Racing under floodlights on Kallang Basin, with the Singapore city skyline glittering in the background, the night sessions have a cinematic quality that photographs and videos simply cannot capture. If you are attending on Saturday 23 May, staying for the evening races is very strongly recommended.



Dragon Boat Sprint @ The Kallang 2026 â?? 22 and 23 May at the Water Sports Centre, Kallang. Â© The Kallang

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Community Paddling Sessions: Try It Yourself

Not content with being a spectator sport alone, the Dragon Boat Sprint @ The Kallang 2026 also offers **community paddling sessions on Sunday 24 May** at just **$10.90 per person**. These guided sessions on the water are designed for anyone curious about dragon boating â?? no experience required, and all equipment is provided.

Dragon boating is one of Singaporeâ??s most accessible water sports, deeply tied to the Chinese cultural tradition of the Dragon Boat Festival but long since adopted by teams of every background. The community sessions at The Kallang are a genuinely low-barrier way to find out whether you might have a paddle in you.

Getting There And What To Expect

The Water Sports Centre at The Kallang is located along Stadium Road, easily accessible from Kallang MRT on the East West Line. The venue is well-served by public transport, and there is parking available nearby for those driving. Entry to watch the racing is free, making this one of the most cost-effective sporting weekends in Singaporeâ??s calendar.

Spectators are welcome along the basin edge throughout the day, and the compact nature of the venue means you are never far from the action. Bring sun protection for the daytime sessions and a light jacket for the evening â?? Kallang Basin has a breeze, and night races can feel cooler than you expect.

Singapore has been quietly building a formidable sporting weekend calendar in 2026 â?? from the Singapore Tennis Open 2026: Kallang Fan Guide to world-class paddling events, there is no shortage of live sport to take in. The Dragon Boat Sprint @ The Kallang is a reminder that some of the best of it is completely free. Keep an eye on our Sports section for a post-event round-up after the weekend.

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