



COFFIN RACE

Rules & Regulations 2026

Proud
Sponsor
of 2026
Coffin Races



Transforming Lives

CONTEST DATE: Sunday, October 11

RACE PREPARATION:

Each participating team shall provide a Coffin conforming to the attached "Coffin Specifications". Race officials will inspect all Coffins before the race. Coffins that do not pass inspection may not race. Any questions or disagreements will be forwarded to an event official. (Event Officials reserve the right to deem whether or not a coffin may compete due to safety and fairness). Coffins will be immediately disqualified if any interior motors/propelling engines/steering devices/mechanics are found during inspection! Each racing team consists of three-to-five members: two-to-four runners (or "Pushers") to propel the Coffin and one driver (or "Rider") to sit inside the Coffin. All racing team members, including "Rider", must be 16 or older. All Riders and Pushers are encouraged to wear protective gear.

The Chillicothe Halloween Festival is NOT responsible for any injuries or damage that may result in failure to control the coffin and/or "wreck." Racers assume responsibility for ALL injury and/or damage. All participating individuals are required to sign the Liability Waiver.

Every entrant and participant shall conduct themselves according to the highest standards of behavior and sportsmanship. Event Officials reserve the right to deem behavior that qualifies as "inappropriate" and/or "unsportsmanship." ALL Team members (Pushers and Rider) must be present and checked in at the Information Tent area 1 hour prior to the start of the race, to ensure that your team will be given the opportunity to participate in the race. Coffins may be stationed at this area, for inspection by officials.

RACING RULES:

Each racing team consists of three-to-five members: two-to-four runners (or "Pushers") to propel the Coffin and one driver (or "Rider") to sit inside the Coffin. Any Coffin that has less than three Pushers in direct contact with the Coffin during the race will be deemed "out of control" and will be disqualified. Pushers must hold onto the Coffin until it has crossed the finish line and stopped. Changing Pushers or Riders during the heat is prohibited. In case of injury, a race official shall have the authority to allow a substitute. Coffins will be immediately disqualified if any interior motors/propelling engines/steering devices/mechanics are found during inspection! Pushers will keep their Coffin in their own lane. Pushers and Coffins may touch the yellow, but not cross over it. Coffins that cross the yellow line, resulting in damage to the competitor's coffin or injury will be disqualified. Pushers and/or Coffins interfering with the other team as a result of leaving their lane will be disqualified. Protests can only be made by the race competitors. Protests must be directed to a race official and must be logical, reasonable, and based on sound evidence. Decisions by race officials are final. Each heat will pit two Coffin teams against each other. The Coffin with the fastest time will be the winner of that heat. In the event of a tie, Event Officials will explain the rules and specifications of the "tie breaker" round.

AWARDS:

Cash Prizes and Trophies are awarded to the Top 3 Teams based on the scores of our judges. The winning teams will be announced after all races have been completed, and scores have been tallied. Protests to score results must be directed to an Event Official; however, ALL Event Official decisions are final! In an effort to keep this event in the spirit of fun, Scores / Times will NOT be shared with contestants or made "public knowledge" during and/or after the event. Contestants will not be permitted to view scoresheets, as this may lead to "inappropriate" conduct. In the effort of maintaining the spirit of fun for this event, ALL contestants agree to the decisions of the judges as Final, and non-contesting in regards to the scores/results of each race. Protesting judges' results and/or Officials' decisions may result in the disqualification of your team.

All Teams will receive medals for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

1st Place Winner will receive \$500

2nd Place Winner will receive \$200

3rd Place Winner will receive \$100

COFFIN SPECIFICATIONS:

All coffins must meet the following specifications. Coffins will be inspected prior to the race. Coffins not meeting specifications will be disqualified at time of inspection.

COFFIN SIZE:

The coffin (measured at the widest point, including wheel base and/or handles and push bars), must be between 2' and 3' 10" wide. Length must be between 5' and 8' long, including handles and push bars. There are no height restrictions for coffins.

PROPELLMENT:

Four handles must be securely attached to the coffin. A push bar on the front or back of the coffin is optional and may be added instead of 2 of the four handles. Ropes are not permitted. Motors / Engines or any mechanisms that assist in the movement of the coffin other than pushing/pulling are prohibited. Functional steering mechanisms are prohibited.

WHEELS:

Each coffin must have four firmly attached wheels, attached in such a manner that coffin will roll on all 4 wheels when propelled down the race course. Wheels may not exceed 8.25" in diameter, including tires. Wheels must be within the overall dimensions of the coffin. Casters may be used. For safety and steering ability, wheels or casters may rotate or swivel.

DECORATIONS:

Decorations may extend UP without limitations. Decorative projections that exceed the maximum width and length of the coffin specifications are not permitted. Decorations or attachments to any coffin that extends further frontward than the approved length (mentioned within these specifications) will either be removed or the coffin/team will be disqualified.

CONSTRUCTION:

Coffins may consist of wood and plastic. Metal coffins are prohibited! The only metal that is allowed attached to the coffin is the pushing bars and wheels. Safety is #1 priority for contestants and spectators, and Event Officials reserve the right to reject any coffin they deem "unsafe" from competition.

Festival/Event Officials reserve the right to reject any coffin/team that are in violation of these rules. Officials' decisions are final.

By signing below, you are agreeing to the rules and regulations that are clearly defined in this Rules & Regulations Agreement for the Chillicothe Halloween Festival Coffin Races Event. Your signature also clearly indicates that you will be held accountable to the rules and regulations herein and that you understand immediate disqualification from the races may result in any violation of these rules. You also agree that any damage and/or injury that potentially result from failure to control your coffin, or "accidental wreck," during the event is NOT the responsibility of the Chillicothe Halloween Festival, and the Chillicothe Halloween Festival is NOT responsible for any damages that could occur. You waive your right to arbitration and/or financial restitution for any damages that may occur during this event. By signing below, you are stating in written format that you and the members of your team, will abide by the rules and regulations that have been outlined in this document.

You understand all decisions of the Event Officials are final.

Your Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Team Name: _____

Team Members: 2 3 4 5 Coffin Name: _____

Team Members' Names: _____

Team Information (statement about your team that you would like to have shared before race, on website, etc):

-----Official Use Only-----

Payment Received: Yes No Date Received: _____

Inspected By: _____ Signed Waiver: Yes No

COFFIN RACES LIABILITY WAIVER

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING.

THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND WAIVER OF CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS.

I understand that participating in the Coffin Races Event at the Chillicothe Halloween Festival involves risk, danger, and hazards that may cause serious personal injury or death and injuries are a common and ordinary occurrence. I voluntarily elect to participate in this event and I fully understand this involves running, pushing, pulling, and other physical activities that could lead to harm and I fully understand the health and safety risks associated with these types of activities. I, therefore, assume all risk of injury and/or death associated with this event. I will not hold the Chillicothe Halloween Festival, its agents, owners, volunteers, board members, or anyone affiliated with the Chillicothe Halloween Festival (CHF), liable for any circumstances of this event. I release and hold harmless and agree not to bring any action or suit against the Chillicothe Halloween Festival, its board members, officers, volunteers, agents, and anyone associated with "The Chillicothe Halloween Festival" release from any liability resulting from any personal injury to myself, including death, or damage to my property which is caused by the breach of any express or implied warranty or the negligent act or omission of any the Chillicothe Halloween Festival release in the design, location, construction, inspection, maintenance, and repair on or about the coffins being raced during the event hosted by CHF. I hereby confirm that I am in good physical condition and do not suffer from any disabilities or physical conditions that place me or others at risk or otherwise physically inhibit participation in this event. By this waiver and release, I assume any risk and take full responsibility and warranty of any and all claims of personal injury and death or damages to, but not listed, my participation in this event hosted by the Chillicothe Halloween Festival and any other activities on or near the premises on the dates the event takes place. I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and fully agree to the terms of this waiver and release and its contents. I understand and confirm that by signing this waiver and release, I have given up considerable future legal rights. I sign this waiver and release voluntarily, under no duress or threat of duress, without inducement, promise, or guarantee being communicated to me. My signature is proof of my intent to execute a complete and unconditional waiver and release of all liabilities in force under the law. I am eighteen (18) years of age or older and mentally competent to enter into this waiver. If the individual participating in the event is under 18 years of age (is a minor), I am signing as a parent or legal guardian of said minor. I represent that I have the full authority to do so, realizing that this release is binding upon the minor child as well as myself.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____