

# Instructions to Competitors

The Chester 2015 Regatta has one of the largest entries in recent years. In order to run to time we shall strictly enforce the timing requirements set out below; crews must be at the start in good time for their race, and must be as quick as possible when embarking and disembarking from the regatta stages. Clubs are asked to provide assistance at the stages to ensure their crews are not delayed by handling of shoes or blades. Crews MAY NOT ADJUST at the regatta stages, this must be done on the water if necessary. We hope you have a great time, please help ensure that everyone else does too!

## 1. Rules

The event will be run under the British Rowing Rules of Racing and Water Safety Code. The Race Committee reserve the right to amend the order of the race programme.

## 2. Parking

Parking at the regatta site is limited and we only can accommodate trailers and vehicles for the disabled, plus some regatta vehicles. We are required by the Police and the Council to park at Bishops High School (five minutes walk from the Regatta Ground). A map of how to get to and from this School from Sandy Lane is appended. The car park will be open from 0700-1900.

Boat trailers should be parked only in the designated hard-standing area of the car park, but all boat assembly must take place in the main regatta ground. Two trailers are available for the temporary storage of boats. Access to the public slipways must not be obstructed.

## 3. Changing Facilities

Changing facilities, toilets and showers are provided in Chester Sailing and Canoeing Club at the upstream end of the Regatta ground and separate toilet facilities are located behind the control caravan.

## 4. Contact Details

All clubs must provide the name and mobile number of their nominated representative by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June to the Entries Secretary ([zoe.langmead@gmail.com](mailto:zoe.langmead@gmail.com)). Clubs boating downstream from the regatta site must have a nominated representative **at the regatta site** and also provide their name and phone details to [the Entries Secretary](#). Race Control will only deal with the nominated contact person for each club.

## 5. Registration

Only the pre nominated club representative must register all crews on arrival

Crews will be issued with two boat numbers to be applied one for each side of the boat at the bow. Two crew numbers will be provided to be worn on racing kit and on overkit used on the way to start, numbers must be clearly visible on the back of the bowman before, during and after the race. **Crews rowing in more than one event must wear only the number applicable to the event they are racing in.**

All substitutions must be notified to race control BEFORE racing. A notification slip can be obtained from race control.

British Rowing licences are required for all competitors with the exception of J13 and younger and will be required for the collection of prizes.

Coxes are responsible for meeting the minimum weights for their class and must be weighed and

certificated.

## **6. Navigation Lanes**

All competitors must familiarise themselves with the circulation pattern (see attached map) for themselves and for other traffic since the river remains open throughout the Regatta. The Time Trial and any other long start races will start at Heronbridge as indicated on the course map. All other races will start at the short start, which is by the private stage just upstream of the Red House pub. All races will finish at the Sandy Lane slipway. Marshalling for the long course will take place upstream of the Heronbridge bend. Crews proceeding to the start should keep to the enclosure side of the buoys and all racing crews should keep to the Meadows side of the buoys.

## **7. Embarkation**

**You must boat in good time or risk disqualification.** You will be provided with a boating time window. We have limited landing stage capacity at the regatta site, so you must boat as early as possible to ensure all crews can embark in good time. Crews will pair on arrival at the START. Crews who have a bye in the first round of their event should note that their opposition will probably already be on the water from their previous race and will not be expecting to disembark between races.

It is the responsibility of clubs to ensure that their equipment is safe and satisfies the British Rowing Rules. However, all junior boats will be inspected by Control Commission umpires at the embarkation stage. A sample of senior boats will be inspected. Boats failing inspection will not be permitted to race.

Stage marshals will also ensure that all coxes are wearing life jackets and carrying weights where appropriate.

Crews boating elsewhere must be inspected and approved by their coaches on the day, before boating. The regatta reserves the right to inspect a sample of such boats.

## **8. Going to the Start**

All crews, wherever boating from, should proceed in good time to the START PONTOON where they must **register with the START MARSHAL** on the pontoon before proceeding to the holding area. If their opposition is already at the START then they should find their pair in the START holding area (with the assistance of the START MARSHAL who will be in a launch).

Crews should not cross the line of buoys or stop or loiter on the way to the start because the navigation lane will be used by other river traffic going upstream.

Crews for the Time Trial or any other long races should ensure that they are in position pointing upstream of the Heronbridge corner no less than **20 minutes prior to the start** and should turn downstream to proceed to the start only when ordered to do so by the marshals. Time Trial crews will be queued in number order on both banks of the river above the Time Trial start. Eights and Singles will be on the Meadows bank (on the right as you go upstream). Fours and Doubles will be on the left bank. Observe numbers placed to assist with positioning.

Competitors wishing to practice may do so only upstream from the race Start holding areas, where there are several kilometres of open water.

## **9. The Short Start**

Crews should be registered at the start 10 minutes before their start time, and **MUST** be on the short start two minutes before the race time stated in the programme or risk disqualification.

For the short start, once in the Start holding area, having registered, Start marshals will queue paired boats above the Start ready for the Starter.

The first named crew on the programme will race on the Sandy Lane station (nearest the regatta ground). The further station is known as The Meadows station.

Competitors will be asked to wait for the minimum time necessary to run the schedule. However, they are advised to carry some water in case the weather is hot.

#### **10. The Finish**

A bell will sound at the finish of each race and the result will be announced over the PA system.

At the finish crews must not obstruct the finish line and should promptly continue downstream and circle in a clockwise direction around the finish marshal's pontoon situated in the middle of the river before returning to the incoming stage. It may be necessary to queue for disembarkation, which should be done promptly on arrival at the pontoon.

#### **11. Results**

Results will be posted online at: <http://regatta.pro-networks.co.uk> and displayed at the Control Caravan. Awards will be made on production of a winners voucher, to be collected from the Entries Secretary in the Control Caravan, and on production of your racing license.

#### **12. Medical Cover**

First aid cover will be provided by the St John Ambulance Brigade who will be situated in the Sailing Club.

The nearest hospital is the Countess of Chester, Liverpool Road, Chester, CH2 1UL. Tel 01244 365000.

#### **13. Safety**

Two safety launches will be provided, one located in the vicinity of the start designated 'Safety Launch Start' and one, designated 'Safety Launch Finish', in the vicinity of the finish line. These launches will carry radios on the regatta channel.

#### **14. Child Protection**

An experienced Club Welfare Officer from one of the local rowing clubs will be present in case of need. Contact the CWO via the CONTROL caravan.

#### **15. Contacts**

Regatta Chairman: Bonner Davies (07767 254443)

Safety Adviser: John Browne (07785 550991)

Race Control: Paul Crudge/Stuart Gillies (07817 549087)

Entries Secretary: Zoe Langmead (07929 940302) [zoe.langmead@gmail.com](mailto:zoe.langmead@gmail.com)

All will be accessible via the Control Caravan.

Regatta Secretary: Jan Chillery (07887 881187) [chesterregatta@hotmail.com](mailto:chesterregatta@hotmail.com) (Available in Trophy Area)

# Chester Regatta Course



