

OXFORD CITY ROYAL REGATTA

Instructions for Competitors - 2023

Key Rules

- No doubling up of competitors or equipment is allowed within each division. Competitors may race once in the morning division and once in the afternoon division. Boats may be raced once in the morning division and once in the afternoon division.
- All crews must pair on land with their opposition and report together to Race Control prior to boating.
- All crews in finals must present their British Rowing cards to Registration prior to their final. They will be given a boating certificate without which they will not be able to race.

General

- Events are held under British Rowing Rules of Racing.
- Competitors must present racing licenses at Registration before competing in any final and when requested by an official.
- The Isis is just 2000m long and in places less than 20 m wide. In the interests of safety, and to prevent overcrowding, the Marshals' instructions and Navigation Rules will be strictly adhered to. Crews should attend to the position of other crews and river users and comply swiftly with the directives of marshals and umpires.
- Competitors and supporters should be courteous to other crews, officials, and members of the public. Foul language will not be tolerated and could result in disqualification.
- Requests to reschedule or withdraw should be addressed to Race Control.
- Objections should be lodged with the Coordinating Umpire at the Finish.
- Competitors and members of the public are advised not to leave valuable belongings unattended at any time.
- The draw, timetable and results will be posted on the Regatta's web site at oxfordcityroyalregatta.co.uk/regatta.
- The regatta is declared to be a 'stern on start' and 'bows on finish'.

Parking and Trailers

A map of the area surrounding CORC is appended.

- All crew boats must be stored in the City Boathouse car park. Single sculls should be stored on the lawn in front of the Riverside Centre, see map for location.
- The road and slipway at the Riverside Centre must be left clear for ambulance access.
- Trailers should be parked in the City Boathouse car park, and towing vehicles moved to the Sea Scouts' field immediately afterwards. Scullers should carry their boat around from the trailer or briefly park next to the riverside centre before moving their vehicles to Sea Scouts. This field is privately owned and a fee of £5 per day (for a car) will be charged.
- Take extreme care turning into the City Boathouse car park with a trailer. Always operate with a banksman. With a long trailer we advise unhitching and pushing around the corner from Meadow Lane into the car park.
- Do not park on Meadow Lane itself, vehicles have been vandalised in protest before.
- Parking at the Sea Scout's field is on a first-come-first-served basis, extra parking can be found at the [Redbridge Park & Ride](#) (15-minute walk).

Oxford University / College Crews

- College crews must embark with their opposition from CORC (or Riverside for single scullers). Their boats must be transported to the regatta site before the first race of the day. Any crew failing to comply will be deemed to have withdrawn.
- Crews are reminded that they are responsible for their own safety whilst moving boats. In previous years college rowers have been observed with rucksacks or even trestles around them while transporting boats to and from the regatta. This presents a real danger in the event of a capsizing.

Registration and Boating Instructions

- The Regatta will not wait for late-running crews.
- Participating crews should pick up their racing numbers from Registration at least one hour before they are due to race.
- All crews must report to Race Control with their opposition, ready to boat, 45 minutes before the time of their race. This includes scullers, though they can leave their boat at Riverside whilst they report. Failure to do so will incur an official warning. Having reported to Race Control, crews must embark in pairs not later than 30 minutes before the time of their race.

Any crew that fails to do so will be deemed to have withdrawn. Crews will not be permitted to boat without their opposition.

- Embarking crews should use the upstream half of the landing stages and disembarking crews should use the downstream half. Single sculls should boat from the upstream end of the landing stage.
- After boating, crews, together with their opposition, must assemble on the water 30 minutes before their race, adjacent to the Pairing Marshal. The Pairing Marshal is positioned below the gut, opposite the Sea Scouts. From this point crews will be instructed to proceed to the start within the navigation channels. (See navigation rules).
- For some of the bigger events the gaps between rounds may not allow competitors to come off the water before their next race. If this is the case, they should proceed downstream through the gut and notify the Pairing Marshal opposite the Sea Scouts that they will be staying on the water. They should then carry on downstream before turning and pairing with their new opposition as normal.
- Crews will not be asked to row over if their opposition has withdrawn.
- Coxswains should obtain a weight certificate on registration, and present them to the Boat Marshal when boating.

Navigation

A map of the course showing the circulation pattern is displayed at the bottom of this document and all crews should take note of these instructions.

- Normal navigation rules apply downstream of the Gut (i.e. crews should keep to the right). Crews intending to warm up should turn opposite Riverside Centre immediately after embarking, proceed downstream, turn before Iffley Lock, and then proceed directly upstream to the Start. Allow 25 minutes to reach the Start from Iffley Lock.
- On the way to the Start, crews should not proceed through the Gut (i.e. past the Sea Scouts' landing stage, just upstream from Riverside) without their opposition. Crews should wait for their opposition by the Sea Scouts' landing stage and proceed when instructed to do so by the Pairing Marshal. Unpaired crews arriving at the Start will be sent back immediately to report to the Pairing Marshal.
- Upstream of the Gut, there is a buoyed navigation channel on the left-hand side of the river, adjacent to the Course, which must be used by all boats making way upstream as well as pleasure craft that may be making their way upstream or downstream. **On passing through the Gut crews must stop and await instructions before crossing the river to enter the navigation channel.**
- Unless instructed otherwise or for reasons of safety, crews must not stop within the navigation channel, but must keep moving up to the start area, proceeding on the right-hand side of the navigation channel. Normal navigational rules apply within the navigation channel.
- Crews must not row at firm pressure or attempt any practice starts in the navigation channel. Any crews disobeying this instruction risk receiving an official warning or disqualification.
- On crossing the finish, racing crews should wind down before the Gut and be alert to marshals' instructions. Be wary of craft approaching the Gut downstream from the navigation channel as well as craft approaching upstream towards the entrance to the navigation channel.
- Returning crews should continue ~100m downstream of the Club before turning and returning to the club when it is safe to do so. Be aware that crews may be warming up between Donnington Bridge and Haystacks corner.

Race Course

A detailed map of the racing course is appended.

- A buoy line separates the two-lane course from the navigation channel for the entire course.
- A buoy line directs the bankside (city-side) crew away from the downstream entrance to the River Cherwell and onto "Greenbanks".
- At the same time the crew in the central lane must also move to remain in their lane, to leave space for the bank-side crew. Rowing a straight course at this point will result in warnings and then disqualification.

Finals

- Finalists will need to check in with Race Control prior to boating for their final (as with all other races), and provide evidence of their British Rowing membership.

- If there is not enough time to disembark and re-boat between semi-finals and finals, you will need to highlight this to a member of Race control when boating for the semi-final.
- Winners will be presented with their prizes at the rowing club as soon as possible after their final.

Safety

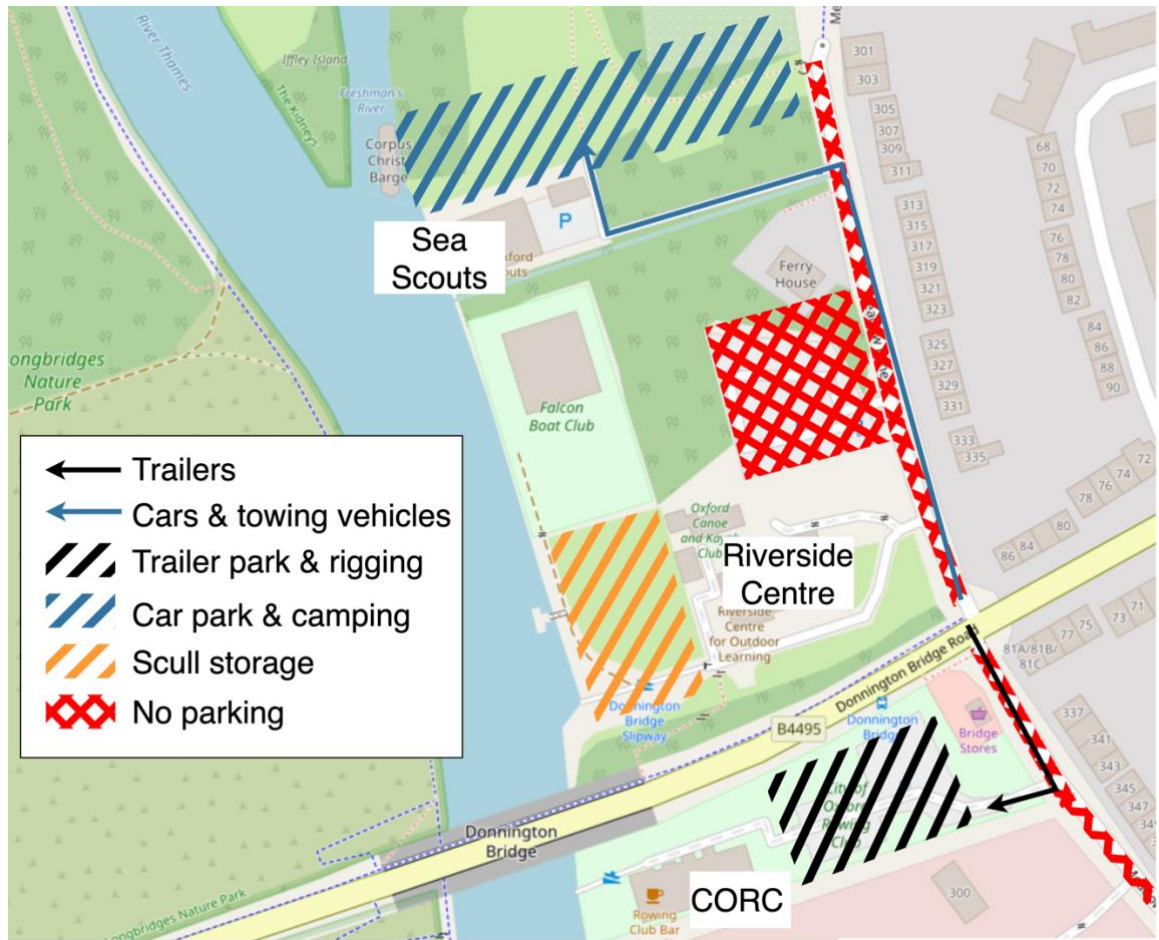
- Boats may be inspected for compliance with the safety directives of British Rowing. Boats must have suitable bow balls, heel restraints must be fitted to all shoes, and all hatches (where fitted) must be sealed.
- Coxswains must wear lifejackets or buoyancy aids.
- First aid and river rescue are provided by launches covering the course and lower river area. In the event of an accident requiring assistance attract the attention of a marshal or an umpire who will be in radio contact with the rescue boat.
- A First Aid station with qualified staff will be situated at the City Boathouse.
- Competitors who suffer from asthma and carry a prescribed inhaler should take their inhaler with them when racing.
- Coaches and / or parents responsible for junior rowers should specifically review safety requirements with the rowers in their care.
- Lifebuoys and throw lines are located at the clubhouse and in safety boats.
- Safety Boats are moored at Christ Church Boathouse (S2 on the map) and Donnington Bridge (S1)
- A defibrillator is located at the Riverside Centre, on the other side of Donnington Bridge to the CORC boathouse. There are also defibrillators located at Univ and Hertford boathouses.

Requesting assistance

- All Umpires, Regatta Launches and most Marshals have two-way radios.
- We have on-site First-Aid, please request assistance via the Officials above before calling external emergency services.
- If the emergency services have to be called, please then notify the Regatta Officials
- The following numbers may be useful:
 - Dial 999 on mobile phones for emergency services.
 - Local Police 01865 266000
 - John Radcliffe Casualty Department 01865 741166
 - General Emergency 999

Use the course map to specify a river location. The rowing club's address is City Boathouse, Meadow Lane, Donnington Bridge Road, Oxford OX4 4BL. Telephone 01865 242576.

Access and parking map



River map

