



WARRINGTON ROWING CLUB

ESSENTIALS FOR COMPETITORS



GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Warrington Rowing Club welcomes you to its annual Regatta, which is run upstream on the river Mersey, featuring side by side racing over a buoyed course of approximately 620 metres. The draw can be found on the Warrington Rowing Club (WRC) website.

The club is committed to ensure that the competition is run under the **British Rowing Rules of Racing & Rowsafe** and expects all competitors to abide by these rules and procedures.

PRE-COMPETITION INFORMATION

The WRC Organising Committee has been responsible for the planning and setting up of this competition, as well as providing detailed information on the website, including directions and maps of our location and parking arrangements on and nearby to our site. If you have any queries prior to your arrival, please contact the Entries Secretary via racing@warringtonrowing.org.uk.

Be assured that we have put in place all the appropriate safety procedures as laid down in **Rowsafe**, and in return we expect that you also follow **Rowsafe** guidance, in particular the safety and maintenance of your boats and equipment (**Rowsafe 7.1**) and the health & competency of your club members (**Rowsafe 3.6 & 3.7**). A safety briefing video is available on the WRC website that all competitors **must** watch prior to racing.

TRAILER PARKING/SPECTATORS AND COMPETITORS PARKING

Parking for trailers is in the rowing club car park. Please be patient and follow all instructions given by stewards who will direct you to where to park your trailer. On approach to the club, we enforce a strict 15mph speed limit on the road directly in front of the houses as this road is also shared by pedestrians and wildlife. The final approach to the club is down a gravel track which should be in significantly better condition than in previous years. Please still do take care here. Once your trailer is parked up, you will be shown where to park your towing vehicle. A food and drink voucher will be available for towers to exchange at the catering stall. Please note this voucher can only be used once. Information regarding spectators and competitors parking can be found on our website – **parking at the rowing club is for trailers only**.

REGISTRATION DESK & RACE CONTROL

The registration desk will be situated at the front of the rowing club, in the small building next to the boat house. Here you can collect your clubs race numbers; make substitutions or scratches to any of your entries on the day; enquire about any of your entries or anything regarding the regatta (including a point of contact for any issues on the day) and collect medals for your wins. Medals will be available to collect after the end of each division and there will be opportunities to have medals presented by VIPs at various points throughout the day. Please ensure you have your British Rowing membership card (physical or digital) ready to produce upon request.

INFORMATION PRIOR TO BOATING

The WRC Race Committee are responsible for the co-ordination of activities during the day. They can be contacted on 07432 835113/07510938999, or via any competition official. Any competitors with known medical conditions which could impact their rowing ability, should notify race officials prior to boating. Any last-minute safety issues will be announced over the PA.

BOATING

The stage marshals may check boats to ensure compliance with **BR Rules of Racing & Rowsafe** guidance, and to ensure appropriate clothing is worn with long hair tied up, before crews are permitted to boat. Sometimes the river may encroach on our landing stage, therefore competitors are advised to bring wellies or other water-tolerant footwear.

Dry Robes or any garment with hoodies or open pockets are prohibited. The person at bow should display their crew number on their back. Racing will begin at 08:30. Crews should be at the landing stage ready to boat 10 minutes before their scheduled race time.

When carrying boats to and from the landing stage care should be taken in avoiding contact with other competitors or spectators. The circulation of boats on land is **clockwise** from the trailer area, down the slipway and onto the landing stage. All crews must boat downstream.

CIRCULATION PATTERN ON THE WATER

Crews must observe the circulation pattern. **BR Rules of Racing 7.1.3** outlines penalties for not doing so.

Going to the Start: All crews must boat under the control of the stage marshals, and then proceed promptly downstream along the clubhouse side of the river beyond the Regatta start to the marshalling area. They must stay in the Navigation Lane and be alert to the risk of racing crews leaving their race lane. Crews must be at the start **at least 2 minutes** before the scheduled time or face the possibility of disqualification. **Under no circumstances should crews proceed underneath the footbridge, as there is a weir beyond it.**

Launches and bank umpires are positioned along the course to ensure the smooth running of the competition and to be alert to any incidents or safety issues. All launches are equipped as required by **RowSafe 7.4.1**.

At the Finish: Crews must promptly row through the Victoria Park arch of Kingsway Bridge, following instructions from the launch in the finish area. They must not go further upstream out of sight of the bridge. They should spin and return through the Clubhouse arch to reach either the landing stage if they have no further races in the division or the Navigation Lane back to the start if they are to race again in the same division. Once back at the landing stage, follow the stage marshals' instructions, and disembark as promptly as possible. Returning boats are carried around the back of the boathouse, **clockwise**, to the trailer area.

IN CASE OF INCIDENTS

If you observe any dangerous incidents while on the course, in the first instance alert the nearest race official. **If you are involved in any safety incidents, report back to your club to enable details to be recorded on the BR Incident Report System.** Alternatively, the Club Safety Adviser, Mike Selway (0771 258 8718), can be informed, and he will enter the details.

First aid is provided at the Clubhouse under the control of Adrian Cunliffe (0755 734 3713) and there is a defibrillator in the clubhouse lobby. Accidents and emergencies will be taken to Warrington General Hospital, Lovely Lane, Warrington WA5 1QG. For any welfare issues contact the Club Welfare Adviser, Allison Wright (0798 464 0931). The club address is Howley Lane, Warrington, WA1 2DN or <https://what3words.com/jukebox.chill.noises>.

FURTHER INFORMATION

A copy of the Club Safety Policy, Club Emergency Plans and a map of the course are posted in the Clubhouse lobby.

Matt Holmes
Competition Secretary

Robin Lush
Entries Secretary

Mike Selway
Club Safety Advisor