

Wycliffe Small Boats Head Entry Regulations

General and Entries

- 1.1 The race is held under British Rowing Rules of Racing, RowSafe, these Rules, the Marshalling Instructions and any other instructions published by the Committee.
- 1.2 Entries open Thursday 12th November 2009 at 9am. Entries close **Thursday 26th November 2009 at 1pm**, or after 325 entries are accepted, which ever is the earlier.
- 1.3 Entries are only accepted using **OARA**. Online payment is preferred. Entries are deemed correct when payment has been received. If cheques have to be sent then they are to be made payable to: **The Wycliffe Watermen**. Cheque are to be sent to Wycliffe Small Boats Head, c/o Phillip Clements, 64 Stonecote Ridge, Bussage, Stroud, Glos., GL6 8JY.
- 1.4 Contact details: Tel: 01453 732033, Fax: 01453 873344 email: wsbh@wycliffehead.co.uk
- 1.5 Entries are invited for the following men and women events:

Division 1 - 10am		Division 2 - 12pm		Division 3 - 2pm	
Open	Women	Open	Open	Women	Open
Elite 4-	Elite 4-	Elite 2x	Elite 4-	Elite 4-	Elite 2x
Elite 1x	Elite 1x	Elite 2-	Elite 1x	Elite 1x	Elite 2-
IM 1 4x	IM 1 1x	IM 1 1x	IM 1 4x	IM 1 1x	IM 1 1x
IM 1 2-	IM 3 4x	IM 1 4+	IM 1 2-	IM 3 4x	IM 1 4+
IM 3 4+	Nov 2x	IM 3 1x	IM 3 4+	Nov 2x	IM 3 1x
IM 3 4x	Jun 18 4x	Nov 4+	IM 3 4x	Jun 18 4x	Nov 4+
Nov 1x	Jun 18 4+	Jun 18 2x	Nov 1x	Jun 18 4+	Jun 18 2x
Jun 18 1x	Jun 16 1x	Jun 16 4x	Jun 18 1x	Jun 16 1x	Jun 16 4x
Jun 17 1x	Jun 15 2x	Jun 16 4+	Jun 17 1x	Jun 15 2x	Jun 16 4+
Jun 16 2x	Jun 14 4x+	Jun 15 1x	Jun 16 2x	Jun 14 4x+	Jun 15 1x
Jun 15 4x+		Jun 14 2x	Jun 15 4x+		Jun 14 2x
Jun 14 1x			Jun 14 1x		

Please note that events are now in specific divisions

- 1.6 Events with less than 4 entries are likely to be scratched.
- 1.7 Entry fee is £8 per rowing/sculling seat. Coxes do not pay.
- 1.8 Captains must ensure that they only enter competent crews and that their crews are properly prepared for the race. Crews should be capable of completing an 8km outing per division (2500 metres at race pace) and may be on the water for 1¼ hours for each division.
- 1.9 The Weather in December can be wet and cold. Hypothermia is a real danger. Crews should take sufficient warm clothing on the water with them. A plastic bag is useful for placing clothing in during the course of the race.
- 1.10 The Committee will determine the order of start. It will generally be in record time order with entrants in order of application and priority number (if more than one entrant from a club).
- 1.11 In the event of a serious transgression of the rules (e.g. Rowing below status, endangering other crews) the Committee may disqualify not just the crew involved but also all crews from the Club it represents and refuse entries in future years.
- 1.12 The Committee does not accept any liability for crews or their equipment.

Changes

- 2.1 Notice of scratching, in writing or email, must be received by the Entry Secretary before the race. On race day notice may be handed in at entries desk.

Notice of scratching should include a full explanation of the reasons for the scratching. Failure to provide an adequate explanation could affect the acceptance of a Club's entries in future years. There are always several 100 more entries than we can accept.

- 2.2 If you need to scratch please use the form on the SBH page which is preferred but emails may be sent at any time after you receive the draw (wsbh@wycliffehead.co.uk)
- 2.3 Any alteration in composition of a crew must be notified and updated either on-line or on the computer terminals provided. The entries Secretary must receive this on race day, at least one hour before the start of the division. Failure to comply with this rule will render a crew ineligible for any prize and may result in disqualification.
- 2.4 No crew will be allowed to change class of boat or status after the draw. Any crew unable to make its original status due to crew changes after the draw has been made may be allowed to row. It will be shown as unclassified in the results and ineligible for any prize.

Results

- 3.1 In the event of two or more crews returning the same time they will be placed at the same position and awarded the same medal if applicable.
- 3.2 A full list of provisional times will be available in the Boathouse as soon as possible after the division finishes. Final results will be posted on our website as soon as possible. Prizes will be presented approximately 30 minutes after the end of the third division. A Gold, Silver, Bronze medals will be awarded in all events with sufficient entries. Only Gold medals will be presented. The remainder will be available for collection during prize giving.

Parking

- 4.1 Only vehicles carrying boats or towing trailers will be allowed at the boating area/boathouse.
- 4.2 All crew minibuses and cars will be parked courtesy of the Pallet Company and Mack Line at their factory (see map).
- 4.3 **The Club must arrive in the minimum number of vehicles.**
- 4.4 We regret that there is unlikely to be room for spectators' vehicles.
- 4.5 Large contingents coming in coaches should be aware that there is nowhere at the site to park coaches. There is coach parking available in Gloucester.

Competitors Numbers

- 5.1 The card number should be attached to the back of bow's/sculler's racing kit with four safety pins at the corners. Care must be taken when removing outer layers of clothing to make sure that the number is not removed.
- 5.2 The adhesive number should be attached to the starboard (right) bowside of the saxboard above the waterline and as far forward as possible.
- 5.3 It is acceptable to use Empacher slot cards to display the adhesive number. If used, the number must be visible on the starboard side.
- 5.4 Old numbers must be removed in other divisions.
- 5.5 We cannot guarantee to produce a time for crews that fail to comply with these instructions.

Start Positions

- 6.1 These are based on records for the various categories of boats over many years and though no system is fool proof it usually works out satisfactorily. We are aware that there may be certain anomalies.
- 6.2 The starters will be prepared to hold up boats at the start if particularly slow boats are ahead.

Getting Afloat

- 7.1 The Boating map shows the location of the temporary landing stages. Those crews who find themselves at the boathouse end of the car park may opt to boat from Wycliffe's landing stage. These crews must go down the car park side of the boathouse
- 7.2 It is dangerous on this water to start the races before all crews have reached the start. Allow at least 30 minutes to get to the start and to get under Parkend Bridge once you are afloat. Younger crews may need to allow longer times.
- 7.3 Bear in mind that there will be queues to get afloat and so leave plenty of time.
- 7.4 Crews who hold up the start of divisions may be liable to time penalties or disqualification with no refund.
- 7.5 Bow balls, heel restraints and buoyancy hatches must be checked before arriving at the control commission.
- 7.5 Oars & Sculls must be taken to the stages before the boat.
- 7.6 Crews must adjust away from the stages.

Marshalling at the Start

- 8.1 Crews will marshal on the towpath/boathouse side of the canal above Parkend Bridge (see map of course) with their bows towards the finish and with the lowest numbers nearest to the bridge.
- 8.2 There are zone markers (**A**, **B** etc.) on the bank to show the area in which to marshal. These are marked on the Divisional Lists, Official Entry Summaries and on the card numbers.
- 8.3 It will be necessary to duck when negotiating Parkend Bridge.

The Race

- 9.1 On the instruction of the marshals move back down towards Parkend Bridge and as soon as you are clear of the bridge, go firm.
- 9.2 The start is well marked and is about 10m from the bridge.
- 9.3 To ensure fair racing there will be no coaching from the bank during the races. However, steering advice may be given to coxless boats to avoid accidents.
- 9.4 Umpires and Race Monitors are positioned on the course to issue directions as required.

Overtaking

- 10.1 Crews being overtaken must give way to overtaking crews and if necessary give audible warning as to which way they are moving. Overtaking crews may do so on either side
- 10.2 Crews disobeying the overtaking instructions will be disqualified or given a time penalty.

After The Race

- 11.1 Do not 'easy' until you have gone through the narrows after the finish.
- 11.2 The Wycliffe landing stages are not allowed to be used for landing until all crews have finished.
- 11.3 Failure to comply with this instruction could cause serious accidents and will certainly lead to time penalties and even disqualification.

Licence Cards

- 12.1 All competitors must bring their British Rowing (formerly ARA) Licence Cards. Random checking will be taking place.
- 12.2 British Rowing members who do not have their Licence available, or their Licence has expired, will not be able to race. Crews withdrawn for this reason will not be refunded.

General Advice

- 13.1 The Wycliffe Small Boats Head is run for the benefit of the competitors. It endeavours to provide an enjoyable and fair race for all. The Marshals are all experienced people and are there to assist you and ensure the safe and smooth running of the race. **Please obey their instructions at all times.** This does not negate your responsibility for the safe navigation of your craft.
- 13.2 With over 100 crews on the canal an atmosphere of mutual tolerance is most conducive to the safe running of the race. Crude abuse to other crews or marshals is unlikely to solve any problems and may lead to further problems. Remember also that you are on public show and such behaviour gives the sport a poor image.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

1. All boats may be checked by a member of the Control Commission before being allowed to go afloat.
 - Please make sure before approaching the stages that all boats:
 - have an approved ball securely attached to the bow
 - have secure hatches/bungs for all buoyancy compartments
 - have no holes in the canvases
 - have secure heel restraints for all rowing/sculling shoes
 - meet the British Rowing RowSafe Guide
 - All coxswains should be wearing an approved lifejacket or buoyancy aid.
 - Coxswains of front loading boats must wear a lifejacket which will not inflate or provide buoyancy until the wearer is clear of the boat.
 - All members of the crew must be adequately dressed for winter conditions.

2. Any crew, which does not comply with the above, will not be allowed to go afloat.

*Crews that are withdrawn on the day for this reason will be **NOT** be refunded.*
3. Please make sure that your boat and its coxswain are fit to go afloat before approaching the landing stages.
4. Coaches, please make sure that all your crews are competent to race on the day, i.e. can cope with the weather, water & racing conditions pertaining.

Crews that are withdrawn on the day for this reason will be refunded by post
5. The Safety Advisor, in consultation with the Chief Umpire or Chairman of the Race Committee and the Control Commission, reserves the right to deny permission to race to any crew which is, in his opinion, not competent to race and may be a hazard to itself and other competitors.

Crews that are denied permission will be refunded by post less a small administration fee.
6. In the short days of December, lack of light and exposure may pose a safety hazard so it is very important that races start on time and that competitors are not kept waiting long at the start.
7. Please get on the water in good time and do not hold up the races.
8. During the race the whole course will be within sight of a number of Race Monitors who are in radio communication with safety launches. Should you be unfortunate enough to fall in or get into other difficulties, please make every effort to get your boat to the side whilst awaiting the arrival of a launch.
9. Remember that your boat will float even when capsized so **STAY WITH IT** and be prepared to shout warnings to oncoming crews.
10. The launch will tow you to the bank where you can get into it and be taken quickly to the boathouse.
11. All competitors must comply with the requests of the race monitors. Failure to do so could risk lives and may lead to disqualification.

ARA Water Safety Code 1.11.12 states “All boats where ‘fitted shoes’ are employed, must have effective heel restraints. These must be properly adjusted and in working order. Likewise the foot release from any other type of fitment that may be used must be self-acting and not require the intervention of the athlete or a rescuer”