

UTRC Fours and Small Boats Head

Competitor Instructions, Safety Information & Circulation Pattern

11.00 am Division

2.00 pm Division

ALL BOATS MUST COMPLY WITH THE UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS OF THE THAMES REGIONAL ROWING COUNCIL. ANY BOAT FAILING TO DO SO WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RACE

Boating Area – By kind permission of Henley Royal Regatta, is in the field downstream of Leander Club. Car parking is also located at this point as well as registration, toilets and first aid.

Registration – Registration for both divisions will open at 9.15am. All fees must be paid before numbers will be issued. All unregistered competitors will be required to pay £15.00 for a day registration ticket. Boats without a number will not be timed. Please secure all 4 corners with pins to improve visibility for timing purposes, one number on the coxes back & one on the racing strip of bow. Two adhesive labels on either side of the boat.

Refreshments – will be available in the boating area, or at UTRC after racing has finished.

Results & Prizes – will be presented at UTRC as soon as practicable after the second division. Full results will be sent to each competing club and will be published on the UTRC website - www.utrc.org.uk

Victor Ludorum – the Truman Victor Ludorum Cup will be presented to the most successful club, according to the points scoring system available at registration

Boating – Crews will boat under instruction from marshals, from 10.00am for crews competing in the first division and from 1.00pm in the second division. It may take 15 – 30 minutes to get to your starting position – please leave enough time. Please note – boating from Leander rafts is not permitted. Crews should boat with bows pointing downstream towards Temple Island unless instructed otherwise by marshals.

Timing – Crews will start at 10 second intervals. The timing point will be approximately 50 m upstream from the Start Marshall. Crews will race upstream on the Berks (Leander / UTRC) bank.

Circulation Pattern & Marshalling – Between 10.00am and 16.00pm Crews should proceed to the start on the Bucks (Henley town) side of the river. The Environment Agency require a navigation channel in the centre of the river. **Crews should be aware of other river users using this channel.** Crews will be marshalled close to the Bucks bank by the Henley Management College. Crews will race upstream on the Berks (Leander / UTRC) side of the river. Crews should be in the marshalling area 15 minutes before the start and will then be under Marshall's instructions. **Crews that are not in the marshalling area 15 minutes before the start will be turned back and will not be allowed to race.** Crews who fail to observe Marshall's directions are liable to be disqualified.

Before 10.00am normal river circulation pattern applies i.e. river traffic goes downstream on the Berks side (Leander/ UTRC) and upstream on the Bucks (Henley town) side. Any crews on the water prior to 10.00am need to adhere to the normal river rules.

Warm up – Crews can warm up in the direction of the stream on the way to the start. No crew is permitted to turn to warm up upstream. Cool down past the finish is limited and crews are requested to return immediately to the boating rafts.

On finishing – Cool down past the finish is limited and crews should continue paddling after they cross the finishing line returning directly to the boating rafts to disembark. Any crew who passes the finishing time a second time will be disqualified. Only crews boating from Henley Rowing Club are permitted to continue through Henley Bridge. Crews who boated from UTRC should turn well above the finish on the Bucks side of the river, with due regard for other river craft & return downstream on the Bucks side. They must wait until the course is clear before proceeding to cross the course opposite UTRC. Any such crew found to be impeding a racing crew will be disqualified.

Umpires – will be stationed along the course to report any interference, which may occur. Boats being overtaken are to give way to be centre of the river. Failure to observe Umpires instructions may result in disqualification.

Coaching – Crews may be coached during the race but coaches are not permitted to use loud hailers, radio equipment or launches.

Liability – the organising committee accepts no liability for damage, loss of property or personal injury howsoever caused in connection with the event.

Cancellation – In the event of cancellation due to factors beyond its immediate control, the Event Committee is not obliged to give a full refund of fees.

Race Organiser – can be contacted at UTRC during the event.

UPPER THAMES FOURS AND SMALL BOATS HEAD

SAFETY INFORMATION

Safety is the first priority, and all competitors must have regard for the safety of themselves and other competitors and river users.

In the interests of safety please familiarise yourself with the safety information and the circulation pattern.

Competitors should perform their own risk assessment on the day of the race to decide whether they are competent to race and navigate safely in the conditions.

Crews must follow the race circulation plan at all times. The circulation pattern will apply from 10.00am until 16.00pm. Outside of those times Normal River Rules apply. Please review both the Circulation Plan diagram and the notes regarding circulation in the Competitors Instructions.

Points of danger:

- Crews are advised to turn well above Hambledon Weir, which is a few hundred metres below the start.
- Crews should not turn in the 200m stretch upstream of Temple Island
- Crews should be observant of other river craft, notably coming downstream through Henley bridge or progressing upstream in the navigation channel
- River craft moored on the Berks (Leander / UTRC bank)
- Other river users may be using a channel in the centre of the river

Medical and First Aid facilities can be found in the boating area and at Upper Thames Rowing Club (500m before the finish)

Safety launches will be operating on the course, one between the finish and Temple Island, the other between Temple Island and the start

In the event of an accident on the water any casualties should be taken to Upper Thames Rowing Club or the landing stages whichever is the nearest. This decision should be relayed to the Safety Officer by the nearest official

Pre-existing medical complaints that may have a bearing on safety should be declared at registration.

There are radios located at the following points which can be used to summon assistance: registration, finish, start, safety boats, UTRC, boating area, first aid point, umpires.

Emergency telephones are located at UTRC and on Henley bridge with mobile phones at registration & UTRC

All coxes must wear approved life jackets. Racing crews are advised to wear clothing appropriate to the weather conditions and forecast.

The Amateur Rowing Association's (ARA) Water Safety Code must be complied with.

Coaches or other adults should take responsibility for the capability and safety of junior competitors.

A full copy of the safety plan and risk assessment are available for inspection at registration and on the internet at www.utrc.org.uk