SMALL BOATS HEAD - NOTES FOR COMPETITORS
SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2024

PARKING

Car and trailer parking is available in the centre of Worcester Racecourse which is accessed via Pitchcroft Car Park off Severn Terrace, Worcester, WR2 2WD. There is a height barrier which will be manned between 7am and 9am to allow trailers to arrive before division 1 and again after division 2 to allow trailers to leave. If you need access at other times please contact me on 07809 897645.

SAFETY BRIEFING

There will be two safety briefings, one before each division. The first will be at 8:30am and the second will be at 12:30pm

REGISTRATION

All crews should report to Registration after the safety briefing for the issue of crew numbers. There will be one number for the back of bow, and another for the Empacher slot. Please return numbers to the same place after racing, any missing numbers will be charged.

Please bring your British Rowing racing licence with you. Random checks may be made to ensure that the crew members entered are those who actually get in the boat.

We will not be weighing coxes but each crew is responsible for ensuring that their cox meets the minimum weight.

CIRCULATION PATTERN

Crews will be boating on in number order. Please could the first half in each division paddle downstream initially before heading up to the marshalling area at the start. This should help to minimise time sitting still. Please ensure that you allow plenty of time to get up to the start. Late arrivals may be awarded a time penalty. Take care – the river is not closed to other users.

Crews should make their way to the rowing club car park and onto the landing stages after boat checking in plenty of time to meet their latest boating time. Crews will not be allowed to boat with less than 20 minutes to the start of the race. Note that the river is not closed to other traffic, and cruisers and narrow boats are common on this stretch.

Marshalling at the start will be on the west bank as usual, with the lowest numbered crews furthest upstream near The Camp Inn, and the higher numbers downstream. In the event that we have to relocate the start we will revise the marshalling plans accordingly. These will be available at the safety briefing.

Regardless of the start location it is important that marshalling crews keep tucked in as close to the bank as possible, especially on the bend nearest to the start. Whilst we can penalise crews who impede others with a time penalty, we can't give time back to the innocent crew. That crew could be you, so please be considerate.

During racing overtaking crews have stream priority.

It is important that crews observe the rules with regard to the railway and road bridges. Unless directed otherwise by marshals crews should use of the arch to the right hand side of the railway bridge as you approach it. Time penalties may be awarded to crews using the incorrect arches.

After racing, crews should turn downstream of the finish as directed by the marshals, and then proceed upstream to the landing stages keeping tucked well in to the clubside bank. On the return upstream crews should use the club side arch of the railway bridge.

ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Members of the Severn Area Rescue Association (SARA) are on duty in the boat yard for the duration of racing, and will provide first aid and accident emergency cover.

In an emergency, 999 calls only can be made from the telephone in the Boathouse, next to which can be found local services information.

If you are a junior crew Registration will take an emergency contact number, this must be the number of somebody who will be on site during the event and will only be used in the case of an emergency.