

**GROSVENOR ROWING CLUB, CHESTER  
DEE AUTUMN HEAD  
Saturday 29th October 2016  
INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPETITORS  
(INCLUDING LOCAL NAVIGATIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS)**



Grosvenor Rowing Club  
CHESTER

1. Organisation

The Event is conducted under British Rowing's Row Safe, Rules of Racing and [Adaptive Rowing Safety Guidance for Event Organisers](#).

*In the unlikely event of unsportsmanlike behaviour this will be referred to the Organising Committee and Chief Umpire. Any disciplinary action, as a consequence, will be in accordance with our Ruling Body's Rules of Racing.*

Entries; use online BROE and close in accordance with the event poster

<b>Chairman</b>	Hal Whyman	<b>Entries Secretary</b>	Brian
		<b>Event Duty Office</b>	Chapman
<b>Race Safety Advisor</b>	Colin Davies	<b>Timing</b>	Jeremy Lush
<b>Pre-race Publicity/ Sponsorship</b>	Amanda Dodd	<b>Chairman of the Race Committee</b>	Tim Williams (Chief Umpire)

Boating Time – See section 7 Boating

- Morning Division: Boat from 07:55am. Race starts 09:30 am.
- Afternoon Division: Boat from 12:20 pm. Race starts 2.00 pm.

2. Safety

During the event the Control Room will be at Grosvenor Rowing Club, tel: 01244 311231. Brian Chapman will be the Event Duty Officer on the day tel:07833544700

The event Safety Advisor is Colin Davies tel. 07919593049. Please refer to the Safety Plan, Risk Assessment and course maps for full details of safety arrangements.

THE RIVER WILL NOT BE CLOSED TO OTHER CRAFT.

We have an agreement with the large commercial boats to use the City side of the river, i.e. the Grosvenor Rowing Clubs side. Competing crews will use the Meadows side of the river. Please be aware that other river users not connected with the race may be on the water and may not know the rules.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP A LOOK OUT.

Trailer Parking & Boat Assembly

Boat trailers can be parked along the Groves, near the bandstand and along past Hickories

Bar, where the road 'Souters Lane' has been closed specifically for this purpose. Boats may be assembled along the length of the Groves, however, plenty of space should be allowed for vehicles to pass through the Groves.

PLEASE NOTE: NO PARKING OF TRAILERS OR VEHICLES ALLOWED ON COBBLES OR PAVED AREAS IN THE PUBLIC SEATING AND BANDSTAND AREA. Please avoid leaving boats opposite local business and domestic premises where vehicles have to come and go.

Access to the Trailer Park and Boat Assembly areas

**Access is via Dee Lane and exit by Souter's Lane.** Please follow instructions from Marshals when parking vehicles and assembling/moving boats. Towing vehicles must not be parked along the Groves. The nearest public car park is the NCP car park on Pepper Street multi-storey car park, however due to height restrictions this is only suitable for cars. All larger towing trucks, vans and minibuses should park at the Little Roodee Car Park.

#### 4. Visitors and Competitor Car Parking

Car parking for visitors and competitors is normally available on roadsides in Queens Park (on the Meadows side of the river, cross over the suspension footbridge to re- turn to the Groves), or within the various public car parks in Chester city centre. There is no parking provision for cars on the Groves, and only limited car parking available in Dee Lane.

Unfortunately, no competitor or members car parking at Grosvenor Rowing Club on the day as Parking is reserved for umpires and other race officials.

#### 5. Registration

Registration for ALL crews is in the main Grosvenor Rowing Club's Boat House, on the first floor gym (right at top of stairs).

On arrival, crews should immediately register with the entries secretary, pay out- standing entry fees, confirm any substitutions with British Rowing card - and collect their race numbers.

Numbers should be securely pinned to the back of the sculler or crew member in the bow seat and be clearly visible during racing. Two number stickers supplied need to be fitted to both sax boards near the bow seat.

#### 6. Safety Briefing

A briefing for all coxes and scullers will take place in the Gym at Grosvenor Rowing Club prior to boating at the following times:

First division – **07:35 a.m.** Second division – **12:00 p.m.**

Boating commences immediately after the conclusion of the briefing.

## 7. Boating

The draw indicates from where crews must boat. Crews boating in the Groves may use the two landing stages near the bandstand, or can boat directly off the promenade if the river is high enough. Blades and equipment should not be left on the promenade.

All stages will be under control of a Marshall. Although it's your responsibility; boat safety and clothing suitability checks will be made on a random basis. Bow balls, heel restraints and/or buoyancy not up to standard will stop you boating. Life jackets will also be checked.

Marshalls will be calling crews to boat at their allotted time and will be controlling the boating process. Crews dressed inappropriately for the conditions may be prevented from boating. Crews can spend a considerable time waiting to turn and go down through the start. Bring warm/waterproof clothing and use it if conditions require it.

*Coaches please advise your crews on how to identify varying levels of hyperthermia and bring this to the attention of the Marshals.*

All crews must ensure that they are boated in time to be at the start at least 5 minutes before start time. An average crew paddling at steady half pressure will take 30 minutes to paddle the Course, assuming no delays.

Boating times have been provided. It is critical that these are followed. Do not arrive at the degrading stages late, if you cause delay to other crews who have arrived at their correct time your crew may receive a time penalty.

## 8. Getting up to the start

Boats should proceed up stream on the 'Meadows Side' of the river, i.e. keep to the cox's right / sculler's left. Boats may overtake on the way up, using the centre of the river.

Respect the efforts of your fellow competitors, marshals and umpires and get to the start on time, alternatively:

- **a marshal will be positioned 1 km downstream from the start at Heron Bridge and will not allow any crew to proceed to the start who has not reached that point at least 15 minutes before the start time.**

## 9. Start Assembly

Refer to the course map. There are three start marshalling areas - A, B and C. These will be marked on the Eccleston /Meadows bank upstream of the start. Crews should refer to the race draw to find their marshalling area.

There will be start marshals both on the riverbank and in Launches to assist you. Please don't make it difficult by not knowing your number or what side of the river you are stationed. Marshall's will be allocated a section to manage, A, B, C and they will represent a

number to help you locate your position. Larger boats nearer the start and smaller boats further up river.

Crews should proceed past the start i.e the 'Motorway Bridge', remain bows pointing upstream and position themselves in numerical order in the relevant area as follows:

**- even numbers** along the Eccleston / Meadows bank (**Cox's right hand side, scullers left going upstream**)

**-odd numbers** along the Huntington bank (**Cox's left hand side, scullers right going upstream**)

Crews should not turn until instructed to do so but be prepared if you see boats turning, Tops Off, Check Equipment, Stow Kit, Hydrate, etc..

## 10. Starting

Competitors must obey the instructions of the Start Marshal at all times. When instructed to turn, boats should turn and paddle downstream lightly maintaining numerical sequence and 3 - 4 lengths of clear water. Crews will be started by the command "Number ...Go" approximately 50m from the "Motorway Bridge" start line. Timing will commence as each boat passes under the 'Motorway' bridge.

Overtaking is only allowed once boats have passed the Motorway Bridge start.

## 11. Racing

All crews must comply with instructions of umpires.

Heron Bridge Bend (ref course map) requires caution, for those boats equipped for straight line racing, may require a combination of both rudder and pressure to maintain the racing line.

However, the Starter will attempt to ensure that there is adequate space between boats at this stage of the race. Please also listen out for instructions from the Umpires and Marshals.

Boats being overtaken must give way in good time to allow faster boats to follow their proper racing course. Failure to obey this and other instructions from Umpires may result in penalty or disqualification. Time bonuses will not be awarded, penalties may. Complaints of interference must be registered with the Chief Umpire.

*Coaches please instruct your coxes and scullers on Port and Starboard side manoeuvres.*

Crews should be aware of other river traffic not involved in the race. Once crews have passed the Red House pub (large glass-fronted building (refer to course map), all crews must race on the Meadows (cox's left hand, scullers right hand) side of the river, and overtake using the middle of the river.

We have an agreement with larger commercial boats that they will use the City side of the river. Please be aware that other river users not connected with the race may be on the water and may not know the rules.

## 12. After the race

**KEEP TO THE MEADOW'S RACING LINE TO AVOID MOORINGS ON THE CITY SIDE JUST AFTER THE FINISH**

**The MARKED race finish** is by the stone steps at the bottom of Dee Lane. **There will be no signal.** As soon as a boat has passed the finish line, competitors should wind down to light pressure and continue paddling. **DO NOT STOP.**

Returning to the landing stages

Boats should continue on the Meadows (cox's left / scullers right) side of the river from this point, down towards the Turning Buoy and Suspension Bridge.

**Unless instructed NOT to do so:**

Crews returning upstream to Kings RC, Grosvenor RC, Royal Chester RC and Queens Park High School turn clockwise around the Buoy, and proceed back to their stages on the City/ Grosvenor side of the river. Crews returning to QPHS should follow the boating pattern and cross over to their stage as and when it is safe to do so avoiding finishing crews.

Crews returning to the Groves/Bandstand should turn and paddle to the landing stage as they pass under the Suspension Bridge approaching the landing stages upstream, crew members should disembark immediately and move the boat alongside the stage to allow following boats to do the same.

Failure to comply with the above rules may put other boats at risk and will render crews liable to disqualification or penalty, including a time penalty, as may be deemed appropriate.

## 13. Results and Medals

Provisional results will be posted outside Grosvenor Rowing Club as soon as possible and copies will be distributed as soon as possible. Results will also be posted on the Internet at [www.deehead.org.uk](http://www.deehead.org.uk) within 24 hours of the race.

Appeals with respect to timings must be made to the chief timekeeper immediately after publication of results.

Medals may be collected from the Entries desk immediately after the results have been published.

**ALL BOATS MUST HAVE A CREW ID ON THEIR BOATS, IF NO ID IS VISIBLE THEN AN AUTOMATIC TIME PENALTY WILL BE PLACED ON THE CREW.**

**Note Changes on the River for those familiar with the DEE.**

**Some leisure boat moorings have moved from opposite Grosvenor Rowing Club, on the meadows side, to the City side near Royal Chester Rowing Club and just after the**

**finish. Please make a note of this change when passing the finish on your way up to the start.**

**Also the Boat House Pub has a Barge now attached to it, partially restricting visibility of traffic coming up river on the City Side.**

**Remember – we've never had an incident but:**

**Below the Suspension Bridge we have a weir, highlighted by three yellow buoys, keep clear of this area and the large moorings, gauge the stream and once under the suspension bridge turn, do not leave it too late as you may drift towards these hazards.**

**BE SAFE AND HAVE AN ENJOYABLE AND SUCCESSFUL EVENT**