

## RULES FOR BOAT RACING.

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2. (a) Course details & number of crews abreast.  
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## Rules for Boat Racing.

1. -(a) The course shall be not less than 1½ miles or more than 2 miles unless a shorter or longer course shall have been approved by the Executive Committee or an Emergency Committee. All buoys or marks shall be turned on the starboard side and shall be of a type approved by the Executive Committee. They shall be set evenly spaced not less than 60ft. apart and it is the responsibility of the regatta committee to ensure that they remain in a proper line throughout the regatta and that sufficient buoys are provided to provide one buoy for each crew in each race. If the umpire is not satisfied with the position of the buoys he shall have power to suspend racing until they have been rectified, or before the start or in the case of a row off or re-row he can direct crews which individual buoys they must take, any crew disobeying his instructions shall be liable to disqualification.

(b) Umpires may disqualify without protest any boat turning a wrong buoy or otherwise infringing the Rules and a turn means that the whole boat should be seen to have turned round the turning buoy.

2. - (a) The Regatta committee shall publish full particulars of the course in their programme and it is a recommendation to them where ever possible that not more than 8 crews race abreast.

(b) Any objection or protest against the fairness of the course shall be made before the race is started and shall be dealt with by the Regatta Committee.

3. - Each boat shall keep its own water throughout the race. A boats own water is its due course parallel with the course of other competing boats from its station at the start to the finish to enable it to reach the finish line in the shortest possible time but providing it allows at least one length of clear water may cross the path of another competitor to enable it to reach the winning post in the shortest possible time but any boat failing to keep its own water does so at its own risk in the event of a foul or interference occurring.

4. - It shall be considered a foul when after a race has started any competitor by his oar, boat, scull or person comes into contact with the oar, boat, scull or person of another competitor unless in the opinion of the Umpire it does not influence the result of a race.

5. - The Umpire may caution any competitors when he considers there is a possibility of a foul occurring and may give warnings of any obstructions on the course but the Umpire shall not otherwise during the race direct the course of a competitor.

6. - The umpire shall have power to disqualify a boat committing a foul or otherwise deliberately interfering with the proper course of other competitors and he shall be the sole judge of a boat's proper course during the race.

7. - Every boat shall abide by its accidents but if during a race a boat shall be fouled or interfered with or the course otherwise obstructed the umpire shall have the power to

(a) disqualify the offending crew and allow the race to continue.

(b) stop the race and order the crews other than any he disqualifies to return to the start to re-row at a time determined by the regatta committee.

(c) If he is unable to reach an immediate decision allow the race to continue and consider any representations made to him at its end when he may exercise his power to disqualify and order a re-row but he should always reach his decision as quickly as possible and avoid deferring his decision where possible.

8. - Any Crew disqualified by the starter or umpire shall immediately leave the course and deliberate failure to do so shall be a disciplinary offence reportable to the Association.

9. - During the race crews must not be paced by other boats or receive any outside instructions other than by the umpire under rule 5 and any crew receiving any extraneous assistance may be disqualified. Extraneous assistance shall include help given to the crew once the race has started to empty out or re-launch their boat or replace equipment other than handing over spares or tools to carry out any repairs.

10. - (a) The whole course must be completed by a competitor before he can be held to have won a heat or final unless prevented by damage resulting from a foul when the umpire shall have discretion to deem him to have completed the course. Boats shall have completed the course when the bow reaches the finishing line. Crews may also be deemed to have completed the course during heats, at the discretion of the officials, if the format of the race is such that all crews competing will qualify for the final.

(b) A dead heat for first place in a final shall be decided by a re-row between the dead heat crews on the same day over the same course at a time to be laid down by the regatta committee and any competitor or crew refusing to re-row shall be adjudged to have lost the re-row. Providing the regatta committee and the dead heat crews agree the row-off can be deferred to take place on another date over a different course but again any competitor or crew refusing or failing to re-row shall be adjudged to have lost the race. If the dead heat crews fail to agree on the re-row date or course the re-row must take place on the same day over the same course and if both crews decline to re-row the prize shall be shared but the point shall be forfeited.

(c) If a competitor other than a coxswain falls out of a boat the crew may still be placed but if the coxswain leaves the boat the crew shall be deemed not to have completed the course.

11. - The jurisdiction of the umpire shall extend over the whole race from start to finish and his decision shall not be over-ruled but he may re-consider his decision following representations being made but once he has announced his decision on such representations it is absolutely final and without further appeal. He may if he thinks proper reserve his decision providing in every case such decision is given as quickly as possible and before the presentation of prizes on regatta day and no decision can be challenged after prize giving.

12. - The judges shall decide the order the boats cross the finishing line and such decision shall be final and without appeal but they may reserve or reconsider their opinion in the same manner as umpires.

13. - If the umpire has disqualified a crew or is otherwise dissatisfied with the proper conduct of a race he shall hoist a red flag in which case the judges shall make no announcement of the result until the decision of the umpires has been notified to them.

14. - A crew wishing to protest regarding an incident during the course of the race shall notify the umpire immediately at the conclusion of the race before going ashore or if this is not possible the stroke accompanied by the club captain or other senior official of the club concerned shall immediately notify the judge who shall communicate the same to the umpire for his decision. Any protest made by a race competitor or accompanied by abusive language or other improper conduct will be rejected without consideration, the names of individuals and crews responsible will be reported to the Hants & Dorset Executive Officers who will automatically impose a fine of £10 on the Club they represent without appeal. The Executive committee shall also have the power to exclude crews from racing in future Regattas.

14B. - The Executive Committee shall automatically impose a fine of £10 on a Club if it is reported to the Executive Officers that a registered member of that Club, or a known supporter of that Club has:

1. Continued to use abusive language or threatening behaviour whilst addressing a racing official carrying out his/her official duties at a Regatta after being warned that his/her conduct is unacceptable.
2. Physically or verbally abused or threatened another competitor, regatta helper or member of the public.
3. Conducted themselves in a way considered to be Unsportsmanlike or bringing the good name of our sport into disrepute.

15. - Any other protest shall be considered by the judges who may refer it to the umpires and/or regatta committee or emergency committee as appropriate who may make decisions but only subject to Rules 11

and 12 that the decisions of the umpires and judges are final and cannot be over-ruled. Any dispute not satisfactorily resolved may be referred to a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association who cannot interfere with the result of the race yet who may withhold Championship points.

#### The Start.

16. -(a) The starter shall raise a red flag to notify crews to come under starters orders and any boat not at the start at the signal being given shall be liable to be disqualified or the race started in its absence. Any boat taking up a position other than as advertised in the programme or direction by the starter or umpire shall be liable to be disqualified.

(b) When the starter is ready he shall lower the red flag and replace it by raising a yellow flag measuring at least 2' x 2' and the race shall be started by the dropping of the yellow flag which may be accompanied by a verbal "Set" - pause - "Go" the "Go" to coincide with the dropping of the flag which is the overriding signal.

(c) Any boat failing to obey an instruction to get back behind the starting line from the starter or umpire or starting over the line or starting to row before the dropping of the white flag shall be liable to disqualification.

(d) The starter shall have control of the start with the power to disqualify and if he considers the start false he shall at once recall the boats to their stations and any boat refusing to start again shall be liable to disqualification.

(e) Once the race has started to the satisfaction of the starter the control of the race shall pass to the umpire or umpires.

(f) If after the yellow flag has been raised the line shall become unsatisfactory or an obstruction shall appear on the course the red flag will be re-hoisted and the yellow lowered to indicate that the start is delayed and crews must obey any instructions given by the starter or umpire or may be liable to disqualification.

(g) The raising of an arm by a crew member or coxswain on the start is an indication to the starter that the crew considers it is not ready to start for some reason but the decision when to start rests entirely with the starter.

17. - Coxswains must wear life-jackets of approved type (current BS standard) and the manual inflation toggle if fitted must be visible during the course of a race and must be able to swim and clubs shall be responsible for ensuring that they are capable of performing their duties adequately and with safety.

18. - Boats competing in races in which championship points are awarded shall be restricted to 30ft. for fours and 22ft. 6ins. for pairs and sculls.

19. - Numbers not less than 6ins. in size on a 9in. x 9in. background shall be worn on the bows of all competing boats. The numbers to be fluorescent Yellow on a black background. Any crew starting without identification numbers shall be disqualified.

20. - Within 7 days of each regatta clubs shall forward to the Association the names of their winning crews in order to claim championship points and failing to do so may result in the loss of such points at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

21. - Regatta secretaries shall forward to the Association a full list of racing results of all open events and a marked copy of the programme incorporating any name and other changes shall be sufficient for this

purpose. The names of the winning crew plus the name of the Clubs who finish in the first three places in each event are required. For sculling events the names of the first three scullers to finish plus their clubs is required.

22. - All Association Championship trophies shall be under the control of the Association who shall govern the conditions subject to any overriding conditions laid down by the donor of the trophy.

23. - Entrance fees for championship races shall not exceed the scale last laid down by the Association at an Annual General Meeting including in the case of a late entry any additional penalty payable.

24. - Clubs representing the Association must reside within the boundaries of Hampshire, Dorset, the Isle of Wight or Channel Islands.

25. - Crews reaching the final of an event and then failing to appear without adequate explanation may be disqualified from the following Regatta.

26. Regattas and Heads staging events outside the area of the Association wishing to hold events or divisions of events for members of the Association (and other Coastal Clubs) may apply to the Association for a permit paying with their application a fee of £20 at least two months before the event and if granted may advertise the event as being held under the rules of the Association in which case the rules of the Association shall be observed and the Association shall use its best endeavours to provide its own officials or the organiser will ensure that their officials shall enforce the Associations rules if six or more coastal crews compete but if less than six coastal crews take part such events shall be classified as non-status invitation race without effecting status.