

NATIONAL SPRINT REGATTAS

Terms/Conditions of Participation

1. Team Leader Appointment

- a) Clubs need to register in advance the name of their Team Leader (and if you wish, a nominated Deputy or Assistant), to receive a password for the Online Entry System, accessible via <https://canoesprint.britishcanoeing.org.uk>
- b) If the registered Team Leader is unable to attend a regatta, they should nominate and provide contact details for a Temporary Team Leader for that regatta to the Chief Official, while making the online entries for the regatta.

2. Communication

The Organising and Competition Committees will only communicate with Team Leaders (or their nominated deputies/temporary team leader). Unauthorised persons must not enter any official's area unless invited by the Competition Committee or the Jury.

3. Safety

3.1 Team Leaders are responsible for the safety of their club members and should ensure:

- a) Paddlers are suitably dressed for the weather, water and race conditions.
- b) All attendees from their club, comply with all Health and Safety and COVID-19 restrictions which may be in place.
- c) Paddlers can perform basic capsizing drills and are briefed on what to do when approached by an umpire boat.
- d) Paddlers can swim at least 50 metres in clothing without a personal floatation device.
- e) Boats must have sufficient buoyancy to float level with the surface of the water whilst supporting the crew when capsized. Boats inherent buoyancy must be supplemented by additional and visible fixed flotation material or by the provision of sealed bulkheads.
- f) All competitors are in possession of a lifejacket or buoyancy aid that conforms to the standard BS EN ISO 12402-5.
- g) Paddlers are aware that the Competition Committee may at their discretion cancel or postpone racing or insist on the wearing of buoyancy aids. Whenever buoyancy aids are compulsory (for defined classes of paddlers, or all), an **orange flag** will be displayed on the flagpole by the finish tower.

3.2 In the event of an electrical storm paddlers must leave the course immediately.

A public address announcement will be made, and umpire boats will ring a bell or a klaxon. Racing will not recommence until deemed safe by the Competition Committee.

4. Club Colours

4.1. The Paddler's registered club colours must be worn and be visible when competing.

- a) For crew boats where more than one club is represented, paddlers must wear the club colours for the club they are registered with.
- b) Clubs racing for the **first time at a National Regatta** may request exemption by applying to the Club Colours Official on Regatta.ClubColours@vol.Britishcanoeing.org.uk to arrange a limited period when the club's competitors can wear a plain white shirt with no markings. The club must register colours within this limited period.

5. Entries.

- a) Team Leaders must submit online entries before the entry deadline.
- b) Team Leaders are responsible for the **prompt payment of entry fees. Payment must be made** either by a bank direct transfer, by phone to the BC Office (using a credit or debit card) or by posting a cheque to the BC Office, payments to arrive at least seven days before the regatta.
- c) Entries made without the correct fees being paid before the regatta can be charged an additional £5 per seat as a late payment surcharge.
- d) Telephone entries will not be accepted.

NATIONAL SPRINT REGATTAS

Terms/Conditions of Participation

5. Entries Cont'd

- e) Unless advised otherwise, the Entry Closing Date is 10 pm on the Friday, two weeks before the event, as detailed on page B1 and the Event Schedule.
- f) Entries will not be accepted after the Entry Closing Date.
- g) No refund of race fees will be made in the event of cancellation of part or the whole of the competition, for whatever reason.

If you require more information or assistance, please email either:

regatta.chair@vol.britishcanoeing.org.uk for a password for logging in to the Online Entry System, or for technical queries with the system; or regatta.chiefofficial@vol.britishcanoeing.org.uk for queries regarding the rules or the events.

6. Notes on Classes

a) Kayak competitors are divided into Men and Women; these two subdivisions are then further divided by age into groups Masters (over 34yrs), Seniors, and Juniors (under 18yrs), They are then further divided into age and/or ability classes, as shown on the Standards for Sprint Racing (pages A11 to A12).

b) Masters; the first year a paddler can compete in a Masters' event is the year of their thirty fifth birthday (35th) providing they are **not** currently ranked in Mens A or Womens A in which case, irrespective of their age, they cannot compete in Masters events. On a regatta-by-regatta basis a Master may elect to race as a Senior.

c) Canoe paddlers are divided into Men and Women. These two subdivisions being further divided into two age groups Senior and Junior. They are then divided into age and/or ability classes as shown on the Standards for Sprint Racing (pages A11 to A12).

Note: Canoe races: Athletes will be seeded from regatta to regatta and placed in the most appropriate seeded finals, separated by gender. Juniors and Seniors will be combined in seeded Finals, except when there are Canoe National Championship events or for international selections. The genders may be combined when entries are low.

d) Promotions/Demotions within ability classes will be based on improvement/decline in standard of performance during the regatta while allowing for any changing weather conditions. **Note:** See page A13 for more information on how promotions are calculated. **Promotions** once ratified by the SRC Ranking Officer will be notified as part of the Official Results published after the regatta and will take effect at the next regatta. **Demotions** once ratified by the SRC Ranking Officer will be notified to the paddler's Team Leader. Team Leaders must respond immediately to the demotion notification if they wish to request a deferral due to mitigating circumstance with a reassessment at the next National Regatta the paddler attends.

e) When applying for registration, the time submitted is the time recorded for a 500m test/race, so that new paddlers can be classified in the class best suited to their ability. Beginners **do not** automatically start in the "D" group.

f) The charts 'Standards for Sprint Racing' on pages A11 & A12 demonstrate the way in which the subdivision bands are made according to speed. The ability classes shown together in a band have the same fastest and slowest standard times. The times in between indicate how the times might change depending on the Handicap applied to allow for the weather conditions. In classes where paddlers cannot be demoted, Penalty Points may be awarded if the minimum standards for National Regattas are not achieved.

g) Combined Events - To facilitate programming, the Organising Committee reserves the right to combine classes in any distance at any regatta.

h) Paddlers can ONLY race in their designated class for all single (K1 and C1) events. Exceptions may be made only at the request of a national coach.

NATIONAL SPRINT REGATTAS

Terms/Conditions of Participation

6. Notes on Classes Cont'd

i) Competitors may only race in a 'Standards for Sprint Racing time band' above their designated K1/C1 class (racing up) in crew boats, but only when at least 50% of the crew boat is of the designated class. The following exceptions apply: -

- i) Men or Boys may not paddle in Women or Girls races
- ii) Seniors or Masters may not paddle in Junior races
- iii) Seniors or Juniors may not paddle in Masters races

The timetabling of races cannot allow for racing out of class in crew boats.

7. Open and National Championships:

Age classes	Born between	Age class abbreviations
Junior paddlers will race in the following Age Classes		
Under 14	2010 or later	BU14 GU14 CBU14 CGU14
Under 16	2008-2009	BU16 GU16 CBU16 CGU16
Under 18	2006-2007	BU18 GU18 CBU18 CGU18
A junior paddler promoted to Senior status on ability may for National Championships and selection events, race in his/her junior age group.		
Senior paddlers will race in the following Age Classes		
Under 23	2001-2005	MU23 WU23 CMU23 CWU23
Senior	2000 or earlier	MOK WOK CMO CWO
Masters paddlers will race in the following Age Classes		
Over 34	1980-1989	MO34 / WO34
Over 44	1970-1979	MO44 / WO44
Over 54	1960-1969	MO54 / WO54
Over 64	1959 or earlier	MO64 / WO64
Paracanoe paddlers will race in the following classification groups		
Paracanoe	Kayak	KMKL1 KMKL2 KMKL3 KWKL1 KWKL2 KWKL3
Paracanoe	Va'a	VMVL1 VMVL2 VMVL3 VVVL1 VVVL2 VVVL3

8. Before the Team Leaders meeting: Check your Programme

a) Team Leaders should check the digital version of the Regatta Programme, as soon as it is published, to identify any issues that require resolution at or before the Team Leaders Meeting.

Note. You may find it useful to print a copy of your entries for this purpose as the meeting goes very quickly and leaves no time for hesitation.

b) The Organising Committee will do its best to arrange the programme so that all races in each class are scheduled to give a minimum rest period of 40 minutes between races. Any competitor racing in crew boats above their designated class or in two designated classes i.e. both kayak and canoe, cannot expect the programme to accommodate this situation.

9. Team Leaders Meeting

a) The Team Leaders Meeting will be a virtual meeting on the Tuesday evening before the regatta. If the meeting cannot be completed in a reasonable time it will be adjourned and the time of the reconvened meeting announced.

b) Only a club's nominated Team Leader can submit deletions (fees of deleted entries are not refundable) or crew changes online before or during the Team Leaders Meeting.

c) The Team Leader is responsible for payment of all entry fees relating to their club. Failure to pay on time could incur a surcharge of an additional £5 per seat.

NATIONAL SPRINT REGATTAS

Terms/Conditions of Participation

8. Before the Team Leaders meeting cont'd

d) Procedure for Team Leaders Meeting:

- i) Team Leader must sign in virtually on arrival using the chat function for the meeting.
- ii) Meeting will commence promptly at the announced time.
- iii) Health & Safety, or COVID-19 restrictions and any technical announcements will be made by the Chief Official.
- iv) If there are any objections to the programmed order of events, these must be raised at this stage by a Team Leader. Team Leaders should indicate they wish to speak via the 'raised hand' function, then wait until their name is called.

e) Deletions and crew changes:

- i) Deletions (fees of deleted entries are not refundable) and crew changes can be submitted electronically before the meeting.
- ii) The Chief Judge will call out in order each set of heats (or finals if there are no heats). Events will be dealt with in race order.
- iii) Team Leaders who have submitted amendments are then able to confirm their crew changes have been allowed and deletions actioned. Any queries, Team Leaders should indicate they wish to speak via the 'raised hand' function, then wait until their name is called. They should then clearly state the race number, lane number, club and the competitor's name(s) of the entry they wish to question.

10. Lane Numbers

a) All boats must be fitted with a number slot on the centre aft line of the boat and the correct lane number board must be displayed in all races.

b) Races of 1000m or less require a lane number. Sets of numbers 1-9, are available for sale from the Information Desk.

c) For races over 1000m in length, long distance race number boards are obtained from the Information desk by Team Leaders. A deposit of £10 will be charged and £5 deducted from the deposit for any numbers lost or not returned.

11. Crew Names

a) Notification of any late deletions, or if allowed changes to crew names, must be made using the online form at least 60 minutes before the event.

b) Crew boats without notification of a full set of names may be allowed to start the race but will not appear in the results, nor will they go forward to the next round of the competition.

c) Paddlers who take the place of other paddlers without the proper 'change of crew' online notification being accepted, will incur one penalty point for each paddler in the boat and the boat may be disqualified from the event.

12. K4/C4 Hire

a) K4s/C4s for hire will be stored on racks outside the boathouse at the end of the course.

b) K4s/C4s must not be put down on the ground and crews must not sit in the K4s/C4s except when they are on the water.

c) Young paddlers must be supervised by a responsible adult when launching and recovering the boats. The Organising Committee reserves the right for the Boathouse Official to refuse a boat to any youth crew that is not accompanied by an adult.

d) Check your boat before you use it. If it is not in order or damaged, please report the fact to the Official so that you are not accountable for any loss or damage.

NATIONAL SPRINT REGATTAS

Terms/Conditions of Participation

12. K4/C4 Hire Cont'd

e) C4s/K4s can be booked for any race during the day as soon as the boathouse is open, and the Boathouse Official is present.

f) The fixings for the K4 seats are not supplied, crews must supply their own wingnuts and toggles when they report to collect the boat they have booked.

g) Crews must use the allocated boat or risk disqualification from the race.

h) Plastex or Nelo K4s will only be allocated to Senior or Junior A classes, or combined A/B classes, or for international selection races.

13. Protests & Disqualifications

a) Notification of disqualification will only be made to the Club's Team Leader or his/her nominated deputy. Failure to notify a disqualification does not invalidate the disqualification.

b) Protests and appeals to the Competition Committee can only be made by the Club's named Team Leader (or previously notified deputy) within the permitted time limits.

Note: While every effort is taken to do so it is impossible to adequately umpire all races in every regatta. Where infringements are observed these will be reported to the Competition Committee who will, when necessary, inform the offending paddler's Team Leader. Not all infringements may be observed by Officials, Team Leaders have a responsibility to explain this situation to paddlers who could become frustrated by what might seem to be an arbitrary system of justice.

14. National Regatta Draws and Results

The lane draws for Finals, following the publication of the heats' unofficial results, available online during the regatta from www.regattaresults.org.uk. Please wait at least 15 mins after the last heat before checking details of lane draws for resultant finals.

The Official Results, including promotions, will be available as soon as possible after the event from <https://canoesprint.org.uk/>

15. Car Parking

a) Team Leaders MUST take an active part to see that club members observe the vehicle parking lines and any COVID-19 social distancing rules for vehicles, that may be applied.

Access for emergency vehicles must NOT be impeded.

Particular attention should be paid to the access road in the vicinity of the Centre Buildings.

Note: The access road and pontoon on the seating side of the tower is a **No Parking Area**.

b) Parked cars or trailers must not obstruct the launching access for K4s to the concrete pontoons in front of the boathouses.

c) Owners should park their vehicles within the designated parking areas, responsibly, safely and without causing an obstruction at all times.

d) At certain times during a competition it may become necessary for safety reasons to restrict movement of vehicles on all, or parts of the access roads around the course. Notice will be given if this is required.

NATIONAL SPRINT REGATTAS

Terms/Conditions of Participation

16. System for junior club associate membership of a British Canoeing Affiliated Club

a) A junior club associate member need not be a full member of BC in order to race in the Mini Sprint Series, Intermediate Series and Junior D Classes provided they are a member of a BC affiliated club. The membership number used for sprint registrations is the paddler's club associate number.

b) When promoted to class 'C' or above, the junior must become an 'On The Water' member of British Canoeing in their own right. **Team Leaders are responsible for ensuring that newly promoted junior C paddlers become a BC 'On The Water' member and update the Online Entry System database with the junior's new BC number before submitting any further entries for that paddler.**

17. 'Tiddly Winks' and Boards

Coloured counters (known affectionately as Tiddly Winks) are awarded for the first three places in all Final 1s in the Junior, Mini Sprint and Intermediate classes. These awards can be collected from the Information desk. Also, available, at a cost of £6.50, is a small wooden board on which the self-adhesive counters can be mounted for posterity!

18. All National Regattas are held in accordance with British Canoeing Sprint Racing Competition Rules and these National Regatta Terms/Conditions of Participation.

British Canoeing Sprint Regatta "Liability" Statement

Canoeing and Kayaking are assumed-risk water-contact sports. Participation in these sports carries an inherent risk of injury to competitors and damage to property.

Participants should be aware of the risks involved in these sports and are responsible for their own actions and their involvement in these sports. **In all cases competitors compete entirely at their own risk.**

The Regatta Organisation, the Sprint Racing Committee, and British Canoeing exclude liability for any loss or damage that may occur to competitors or property during participation in canoeing and kayaking to the fullest extent permitted by law.

All competitors must be current full members of SCA, CW, CANI or an On The Water British Canoeing member, except for juniors ranked in Girls D, Boys D, Girls Intermediate or Boys Intermediate and MINI-A or MINI-B who can compete as Club Associate members of BC affiliated clubs. Regatta Entries are accepted on the basis that each competitor and Parent / Guardian of a junior, is aware of and has accepted the above conditions. Team Leaders are to ensure that all their club competitors are aware of and accept the above statements.

In the event of unsuitable weather conditions, the organisers may at their discretion cancel or postpone races or insist on the wearing of buoyancy aids. An Orange flag will be displayed on the flagpole by the Finish Tower to indicate that buoyancy aids are compulsory for any (or all) classes of paddlers.