

BRITISH 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.paddleuk.org.uk>
- b) If the registered Team Leader is unable to attend a regatta, nominate and provide contact details for a Temporary Team Leader for that regatta while making the online entries for the regatta, via Regatta.entries@vol.paddleuk.org.uk

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 Safety restrictions which may be in place.
- c) Paddlers can perform basic capsize drills and have been 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 Personal Floatation Device that conforms to the BS EN ISO 12402-5 standard.
- g) Personal Floatation Devices must be worn whenever paddling on the course by Paddle-Ability, Mini Sprint, and Junior D, kayak and canoe ability classes.
- h) Paddlers are aware that the Competition Committee may at their discretion, cancel or postpone racing, or insist on the wearing of PFD. Whenever personal floatation devices 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.paddleuk.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 their club's Regatta entry tickets. Payment must be made** either by a direct bank transfer, by phone to the Paddle UK Office (using a credit or debit card) or by posting a cheque to arrive at least **seven days** before the regatta to the Paddle UK Office.
- c) A late payment surcharge, additional £5 per competitor, can be charged if the Club's payment, (as 5.b above) is not received, a week prior to the regatta.
- d) Telephone entries will not be accepted.

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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 the Regatta Entry Tickets 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.entries@vol.paddleuk.org.uk for a password for logging in to the Online Entry System, or for technical queries with the system; or
regatta.chiefofficial@vol.paddleuk.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, Seniors (over 18), and Juniors (under 18yrs), They are then further divided into age groups, or ability classes as shown on the Standards for Racing (page A11).
- b) Masters; the first year a paddler can compete in a Masters' age group British National Championship event, is the year of their thirty fifth birthday (35th).
- 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 Racing (page A11).
Note: When appropriate, Canoe paddlers will be merged with the most suitable kayak ability or age group category, such as Womens or Girls Kayak.
- 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 A12 for more information on how promotions are calculated. **Promotions** once ratified by the Sprint Racing Committee Ranking Officer are 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 British National Regatta the paddler attends.
- e) When applying for registration, submit a recorded 500m time from a race or time trial, so that new paddlers can be classified in the class best suited to their ability. Beginners **do not** automatically start in the "D" ability group.
- f) The charts 'Standards for Racing' on page A11 demonstrate the way in which the subdivision bands are made up according to speed, with the fastest and slowest times for each class. Times in between indicate how times can be changed depending on the Handicap applied to allow for the weather conditions.
Note: Penalty Points may be awarded if the minimum standards time for British 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. (contact via james.train@paddleuk.or.uk)

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6. Notes on Classes Cont'd

i) Competitors can only 'race up' in crew boats in a 'Standards for Racing time band' above their designated K1/C1 ability class or an age group. The crew boat must have at least one paddler of the designated class and should be competitive within that designated class.

Note: The racing-up classes for combined crew boat events that include two or more ability or age group classes are Standards for Racing time bands below the event's lowest designated class. The following exceptions apply: -

- i) Men or Boys may not paddle in Women or Girls races
- ii) Seniors or Master's may not paddle in Junior races
- iii) Seniors or Juniors may not paddle in Masters Championship age group races

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

7. Open and British National Championships:

Age classes	Born between	Age class abbreviations
Junior paddlers will race in the following Age Classes		
Under 14	2011 or later	BU14 GU14 CBU14 CGU14
Under 16	2009-2010	BU16 GU16 CBU16 CGU16
Under 18	2007-2008	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	2002-2004	MU23 WU23 CMU23 CWU23
Senior	2001 or earlier	MOK WOK CMO CWO
Master's paddlers will race in the following Age Classes		
Over 34	1981-1990	MO34 / WO34
Over 44	1971-1980	MO44 / WO44
Over 54	1961-1970	MO54 / WO54
Over 64	1960 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 VWVL1 VWVL2 VWVL3

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 for all races in each class are scheduled to give a minimum rest period of 40 minutes between races. Any competitor entering crew boats above their designated class, or in two designated classes i.e. kayak and canoe or selection and ability events, the programme can't accommodate.

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 nominated Club Team Leaders can submit online deletions (N.B. no refunds will be made) or crew changes of pre-paid regatta participants before or during the Team Leaders Meeting.

c) The Team Leader is responsible for full payment of all the club Regatta entry costs. Failure to pay all the club's entry costs a week before the regatta can incur a late payment surcharge of an additional £5 per competitor.

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8. Before the Team Leaders meeting cont'd

d) Procedure for Team Leaders Meeting:

- if) 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) The Chief Official will announce Health & Safety restrictions and technical information
- iv) If there are any objections to the programmed order of events, these must be raised by Team Leaders at this stage. 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 and crew name changes of pre-paid regatta participants 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 can confirm their crew changes are accepted and actioned. A Team Leaders with a query, should indicate they wish to speak via the 'raised hand' function. When their name is called to speak, clearly state the race number, lane number, club and the competitor's name(s) of the entry they wish to question.
- iv) A Team Leader with unfilled crew boat seats when entries close, must complete the crew boat during the Team Leaders' meeting or the boat will be deleted from the event.

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 after completing a LD number request form for all the numbers the club requires that day and a **deposit of £10 will be charged**. If any numbers are lost or not returned £5 per board will be charged.

11. Crew Names

a) Notification of late deletions, or if allowed changes to crew names, of pre-paid regatta participants, must be submitted 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 '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) Younger 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.

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12. K4/C4 Hire Cont'd

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.

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 cannot be guaranteed, crews may be required to 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 be allocated to Senior or Junior A (or combined A/B) class events, 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 (or Appeals) to the Competition Committee (Jury) must be made by the Club's Team Leader (or previously notified deputy) within the permitted 20-minute 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 might become frustrated by what could be seems to be an arbitrary system of justice.

14. British National Regatta Draws and Results

The lane draws for Finals, following the publication of the heats' unofficial results, are available online during the regatta from www.regattaresults.org.uk.

Wait at least 15 mins after the last heat before checking for details of lane draws for the 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

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**.

a) Team Leaders **MUST** take an active part to ensure their club members observe any vehicle parking instruction that maybe applied.

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 always park their vehicles as directed by the Parking Stewards within the designated parking areas, responsibly, safely and without causing an obstruction.

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.

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16. System for junior club associate membership of a Paddle UK Affiliated Club

a) A junior club associate member need not be a full member of Paddle UK to race in the Mini Sprint Series and Junior D Classes provided they are a member of a PUK 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 Paddle UK in their own right. **Team Leaders are responsible for ensuring that newly promoted junior C paddlers become a Paddle UK 'On the Water' member and update the Online Entry System database with the junior's new PUK membership 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 One. These awards can be collected from the Information Desk. Also, available, to purchase, are small wooden board on which the self-adhesive counters can be mounted for posterity!

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

Paddle UK British 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 Paddle UK 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 Paddle Scotland, Paddle Cymru, Paddle Northern Ireland or an On the Water Paddle UK member, except for juniors ranked in Girls D, Boys D and MINI-A or MINI-B who can compete as Club Associate members of PUK 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 Personal Flotation Device. 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.