



NATIONAL SPRINT REGATTA TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

1. **Team Leader Appointment**

Clubs are to register the name of the Club's Team Leader (and if you wish, a nominated Deputy), in the online database, accessible via <http://canoesprint.britishcanoeing.org.uk>

If the registered Team Leader is unable to attend a regatta then he/she must inform the Chief Official and nominate their Deputy as early as possible before the regatta.

2. **Communication**

The Organising and Competition Committees will only communicate with the Team Leaders (or their nominated deputies).

3. **Safety**

The Team Leaders are responsible for the safety of their club members and should ensure that: -

- a) Paddlers are suitably dressed for the weather, water and race conditions.
- b) Paddlers are able to perform basic capsizing drills and are briefed on what to do when approached by an umpire boat.
- c) Paddlers are able to swim at least 50 metres in clothing without a personal flotation device.
- d) Boats must have sufficient buoyancy to float level with the water while 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.
- e) All competitors are in possession of a lifejacket or buoyancy aid that conforms to the standard of the ICF or EN 393 & 395.
- f) 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 flag pole by the Finish tower.
- g) In the event of an electrical storm paddlers will be required to leave the course immediately. A public address announcement will be made and umpire boats will ring a bell. Racing will not recommence until deemed safe by the Competition Committee.

4. **Club Colours**

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



- a) Crew boats where more than one club is represented, paddlers must wear the club colours for the club in whose name they are registered.
- b) Clubs racing for the **first time at a National Regatta** may request exemption by applying to the Club Colours Official on regatta.clubcolours@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 its colours within this limited period.

5. Entries

More information on how to make an entry can be found on the SRC website link <http://canoeracing.org.uk/sprint/how-to-enter-a-sprint-regatta/>. If you require assistance, please contact the Chief Official on regatta.chiefofficial@britishcanoeing.org.uk

- a) Club Team Leaders must complete and submit their club's on-line entries before the entry deadline.
- b) Payments for entries, are to be made when the entries are submitted. Either direct transfer to the bank account or by phone to the BC office using a credit or debit card or post a cheque to the BC Office.
- c) Telephone entries are not accepted.
- d) The entry closing date is normally the Friday 2 weeks before the event.
- e) No entries are accepted after the deadline other than at the Team Leaders meeting if there are spare lanes available; Team Leaders may be able to place 'Late' entries.
- f) Entries made without the correct fee(s) being paid can be charged as 'Late' Entries.
- g) No refund of race fees will be made in the event of cancellation of part of or the whole of the competition for whatever reason

6. Notes on Classes

- a) Kayak competitors are divided into Men & Women; these two subdivisions are then further divided by age into groups Senior, Masters (over 34yrs) and Junior (under 18yrs), they are then further divided into age and/or ability classes, as shown on the Standards for Sprint Racing as printed on page D1 of the Racing Handbook..
- 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 already ranked in Mens 'A' or Womens 'A' who, irrespective of their age, cannot compete in Masters events.
- c) Canoe paddlers are divided into Men and Women. These two subdivisions being further divided into two age groups Junior and Senior. They are then divided into ability groups as shown in the Standards for Sprint Racing.

N.B. - all Canoe races, except when there are sufficient numbers of entries for National Championship events, will be in combined mixed classes, (i.e. include male, female, senior and junior). Athletes will be seeded from regatta to regatta and placed in the appropriate seeded finals, or when there are 27 or more entries for an event, into seeded heats progressing by time to 2 Finals. Fastest Men/Boys Final (Final M). Fastest Woman/Girls Final (Final W).

- d) Promotions/Demotions within classes will be based on improvement/decline in standard of performance. Once ratified by the SRC nominee, these take affect at the next regatta.

- e) When applying for registration the time submitted is the time recorded for a 500m test/race, in order that new paddlers can be classified correctly. Beginners do not automatically start in the "D" group.
- f) The chart 'Standards for Sprint Racing' on page D1 of the Racing Handbook demonstrates 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 intermediate times shown indicate how the times might change depending on the Handicap applied to allow for the weather conditions. Penalty Points may be awarded if the minimum standards for National Regattas are not achieved in classes where paddlers cannot be demoted.
- g) Combined Events - To facilitate programming, we reserve the right to combine classes in any distance at any regatta.
- h) **Paddlers, must race ONLY in their designated class for singles events (K1 and C1).** Exceptions may be made by national coaches wishing to enter paddlers in a different class.

Competitors may race in a Standards for Sprint Racing time band above their designated class in crew boats only, with the following exceptions: -

- 1) Men or Boys may not paddle in Women or Girls races
- 2) Seniors or Masters may not paddle in Junior races
- 3) Seniors or Juniors may not paddle in Masters races



i) National & Open Championships:

Age classes	Born between	Age class abbreviations
Junior paddlers will race in the following Age Classes		
Under 12	2006 or later	BU12 GU12
Under 14	2004-2005	BU14 GU14 CBU14 CGU14
Under 16	2002-2003	BU16 GU16 CBU16 CGU16
Under 18	2000-2001	BU18 GU18 CBU18 CGU18
A junior paddler who has been promoted to Senior status on ability may for the National Championships, race in his/her junior age group		
Senior paddlers will race in the following Age Classes		
Under 23	1995-1999	MU23 WU23 CMU23 CWU23
Senior Open	1994 or earlier	MOK WOK CMO CWO
Masters Men paddlers will race in the following Age Classes		
Over 34	1974-1983	MO34
Over 44	1964-1973	MO44
Over 54	1954-1963	MO54
Over 64	1953 or earlier	MO64
Masters Women paddlers will race in the following Age Classes		
Over 34	1974-1983	WO34
Over 44	1973 or earlier	WO44
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

7. Before Team Leaders meeting: Check your Programme

- a) On receipt of the Regatta Programme, Team Leaders are to verify their club's entries in order to raise any issues for correction at the Team Leaders Meeting.

Note: You may find it useful to print a copy of your entry 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 above their designated class in crew boats or in two designated classes i.e. both kayak and canoe, cannot expect the programme to accommodate this situation.

8. Team Leaders' Meeting

- a) There will be one meeting per regatta, at 0800am Saturday morning (unless otherwise stated) at the regatta course. If the meeting cannot be completed in a



reasonable time it will be adjourned and the time of the reconvened meeting announced.

- b) Each club's nominated Team Leader will deal with alterations and late entries at the meeting.
- c) The Team Leader will be responsible for all the money owed for all entries placed. **This money must be paid by 4.00pm on Saturday.** Failure to pay on time will incur a £20.00 surcharge that must be paid by the end of racing on Saturday. Failure to meet this deadline will result in all paddlers from that club being disqualified from Sunday's racing.
- d) **Procedure for Team Leaders Meeting**
 - a) Team Leader signs in on arrival.
 - b) Meeting commences promptly at 8.00 a.m.
 - c) Technical announcements.
 - d) If there are any objections to the programmed order of events they must be raised at this stage.
 - e) Late entry provision: -
 - i. Events will be dealt with in race order.
 - ii. The Chief Official will call out in order each set of heats (or finals, if there are no heats). Team Leaders needs to scratch any competitors not intending to race, or make suitable changes. They should call out the lane number first then the club followed by the competitors name(s).
 - iii. If there are any vacant lanes the Chief Official will then ask Team Leaders to raise one hand for each late entry they wish to make. If there are more late entries required than there are vacant lanes available, a draw will take place.
 - iv. It is not permitted to return to an event that has been concluded.
 - v. Late entries will be accepted for long distance events (5 km.), up to one hour before the race, on payment of the standard late entry fee. Entries can be made on the form available from the regatta secretary's desk.

9. **Additional Late Entries (after the Team Leaders' Meeting)**

Extra late entries after the Team Leaders meeting for laned races will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Competition Committee. **Any such entries will be charged a double entry fee.**

10. **Lane Numbers**

- a) All boats must be fitted with a Number slot on the centre aft line of the boat and the correct number displayed in all races.
- b) Races of 1000m or less require a Lane number. Sets of numbers 1-9, are available for sale at £25 from the Regatta Secretary's desk.
- c) For races over 1000m in length, long distance races. Numbers must be obtained from the regatta secretary's 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 deletions, additions or changes to crew names must be made at the Regatta Secretary's desk **at least 60 minutes before the race.**
- b) Any crew which has not notified the full set of names will 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 substitution notification being made will be allocated 1 penalty point each and the boat disqualified from the event.

12. **K4/C4 Hire**

- a) K4s for hire will be stored on racks outside the boathouse.
- b) K4s must not be put down on the ground & crews must not sit in the K4s 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 their Boathouse Official to refuse the 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, please report the fact to the Official, so that you are not held accountable for any loss or damage.
- e) K4/C4s can be booked for any race during the course of the day as soon as the boathouse is open and the Boathouse Official is present.
- f) Crews must supply their own wing-nuts and toggles when they report to collect the boat they have booked.
- g) Crews must use the boat allocated or risk disqualification from the race.
- h) The Plastex K4s will only be allocated to Senior or Junior A, or combined A/B, class races.

13. **Protests and Disqualifications**

- a) Notification of disqualification will only be made to the Team Leader or his nominated deputy.
- b) Any protest or appeal can only be made by a Team Leader.

Note: Team Leaders should realise that it is impossible to adequately umpire all races in every regatta. Where infringements are observed these will be reported to the Chief Official who will, if necessary, inform the offending paddler's Team Leader. Not all infringements may not be observed by Officials, Team Leaders should realise that they have a responsibility to explain the situation to young paddlers who could easily become frustrated by what might seem to be an arbitrary system of justice.

14. **National Regatta Results**

Unofficial Results are available on-line during the regatta from www.regattaresults.org.uk.

The Official Results including promotions will be available as soon as possible after the event from www.canoeracing.org.uk/sprint/

15. **Car Parking**

- a) Team Leaders **MUST** take an active part to see that club members observe the car parking lines. **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 seating side of the tower is a No Parking Area.

- b) Parked cars 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 marked designated parking areas, responsibly, safely and without causing 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.

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

- a) A junior club member need not be a full member of the BC in order to race in the Mini Sprint Series, U12 or Junior D Classes provided they are a member of a BC affiliated club with a Registered Youth Section. The membership number used for sprint registrations will be the club's affiliation number followed by his (her) own individual club number.
- b) When promoted to class 'C' or above, the junior must become a full member of the British Canoeing in their own right. **Team Leaders will need to update the On-line Paddler Database with the junior's new BC number as soon as possible.**

17. **'Tiddly Winks' and Boards**

Coloured counters (known affectionately as Tiddly Winks) are awarded for the first three places in all Final 1's in the junior classes. These awards can be collected from the Regatta Secretary's desk. Also, available, at a cost of approximately £5, 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 Terms and Conditions of Participation.