

Monkton Bluefriars Small Boats Head Race

Notes for Officials involved in the SHORT Course – Divisions B and D

Race manager, raft marshals, finish team, monitors 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, umpire and timing team at midcourse Bridge, safety boats.

These notes are additions to the job descriptions issued elsewhere and take precedence over them for the Bluefriars short-course

Introduction: This page explains what is going to happen

- a. **Format:** The race for division B consists of an upstream segment of approximately 1100m followed immediately by a downstream segment over the same course in reverse. The upstream segment starts at the Saltford timing point which is the finish of the Long Course and ends at the top of the long straight. Crews will be timed over both segments. Division D is organised in the same way.
- b. **Race Management:** The short-course races (divisions B and D) will be controlled by the Race Manager, who will be on duty at the rafts. It is important that all those involved in the race (competitors, umpires, marshals, timekeepers) understand the way in which the race will be managed. The aim is to give competitors as much racing experience as possible whilst making best use of the time on the river and minimising the amount of waiting by crews taking part in the short and long races.
- c. All boats racing over the short course MUST boat from Saltford.
- d. **Launching:** Crews will launch following the published timetable. Division B boats will launch immediately after division C boats have launched, and the division D boats will launch immediately after the Division E boats have launched. The launching order will be 1x followed by 2x, then 4x. Within boat types, boats which are expected to be SLOW will be sent off FIRST, with suitable gaps. This should result in faster boats starting first in the downstream segment.
- e. **Sequence:** the sequence of events is as follows:
 - Crews will wait in the area between the boathouses until called to the raft. High numbered boats will be called first and will be directed to specific rafts.
 - Crew gets into boat at the raft. Must be ready to race. Remain at the raft.
 - The race manager will instruct crews to move off the raft.
 - **Immediately** after moving away from the raft, crews will paddle upstream and start racing just before they pass the timing point. Overtaking and stopping between the raft and the start are not allowed, even if the resulting starting order is not strictly numerical. The distance between the rafts and the start line is approximately 100m.
- f. **During the race:** Overtaking boats have right of way. There is plenty of room for passing. If you fall in, stay with your boat and swim with it to the bank.
- g. Officials at the upstream end of the course will inform crews when they finish. After finishing, wind down and continue paddling upstream. The first boat to arrive at the finish will park, facing upstream, downstream of the bottom bridge, as directed by marshals. Succeeding boats will park in the order in which they arrive. Overtaking and shuffling into a different order is not allowed between the finish and the parking area.
- h. As soon as the last boat arrives at the finish of the upstream segment, all boats will turn round and face downstream.
 - i. The downstream course will start immediately. The likely starting order is 4x, 2x, 1x.
 - j. **At the finish of the downstream segment**, competitors must paddle on to keep clear of following boats. Turn downstream of the boathouses and get off the water as soon as possible. N.B. If the stream is running fast, it may be necessary to move the finish upstream. Any change will be announced.

This page explains how you will make it happen.

Race Manager:

Responsible for the smooth running of the race.

During division C launching, get in touch with Finish team and midcourse team to make sure they're ready For division B. Liaise with safety adviser.

Decide when boats should leave the raft. Within boat types send boats expected to be SLOW boats first Leave suitable gaps between 1x,2x,4x. This will probably happen naturally.

Raft Marshall

Remind last few boats in divisions C and E that they will be followed up by the racing boats in divisions B and D. They will have seen a reminder which will have been attached to their paper numbers

High numbers of the short divisions will go on the top raft and low numbers on the bottom raft. Fill up all rafts. Explain to the competitors that when they leave the raft they paddle towards the start and go straight into the race without stopping. No overtaking during the 100m warm-up. The Race Manager is responsible for telling crews when to leave the raft.

Long Finish team (Short start upstream timing team)

One person needs to say "number X go" a few strokes downstream from the start, (long finish).

Time the crews as they race up. They may not be in numerical order. Time them on the way down as well. Remember they will be closely followed by division C.

Monitor 10

Remind long course crews to keep moving upstream because the race is following them

Monitor 7

Park the short-course boats, in their finishing order, just below the bridge as they finish upstream. Enforce the turning of boats when the starter is ready.

Monitors 8 and 9

Assist with timekeeping

When the last boat is finished coming upstream give them a breathing space of a minute or two at most before turning all the boats and timing downstream again

Mid course Time Keeping Team

Consists of Time keeper, Monitors 8 and 9 and x others, see notes for time keepers. These time the upstream short course finish.

and time and organise the downstream short course start.

Safety adviser at bottom Bridge

Before starting the downstream segment tell the long start to prepare boats for starting.

Soon after the last short-course boat has been started on its downstream segment, tell the long course that they are free to start.

Safety boat B

Move downstream to roughly half way along the long straight reach to look after the short course race, before the short course starts upstream. After the last short course downstream boat go back ßup to the bridge for the long division.