



GENERAL RULES

The Emergency Response Plan forms part of these rules and must be read by all participants

Entry forms and fees must be in the hands of the Competition Secretary not later than Waterside 'D' and if posted must be postmarked the preceding Friday to Waterside 'D'. Any late entry fees must be paid before starting. The Company reserves the right to refuse any entry.

At Devizes a numberplate will be issued to each crew and must be secured on the boat as directed. Any crew not displaying the numberplate will be deemed to have retired from the Race. Should a boat pass the finishing line in such a manner that its number plate cannot be seen by the time-keeper, it will be the responsibility of the crew's support party to inform the time-keeper of the crew's number.

Before leaving Devizes crewmembers must have an identity wristlet, which includes the emergency number, attached to their wrist by a Race Official. This must not be removed during the Race.

The course starts at Devizes Wharf, passing along the Kennet and Avon Canal to join the River Thames at Reading, continuing downstream to Teddington (B108) reaching the Finish beyond Westminster Bridge via the tidal section of the Thames (A17). In the course of the 125 miles there are 77 portages (P77). All relevant bylaws must be adhered to.

Only the navigation channels of the Kennet and Avon Canal and the River Thames may be used. All portages must take place on the towing path except where otherwise shown on the official Route Plan, Portage Diagram or as ordered by an official. No other route is permitted. ***The Route Plan and Lock Portage Diagrams form part of the Rules.***

Substitution of boats or personnel, or transport over land or by water for the purpose of shortening the course, is forbidden. If a crew is not able to paddle the course they, carrying the boat, paddles and full kit may walk it. No short cut or transport in any form is allowed.

Canoes and kayaks are referred to in these Rules as boats and must be manned by a crew of one or two persons. Propulsion shall be by means of single or double bladed paddle. (In order to qualify for the Canadian Trophy only single bladed paddles are permitted and rudders are not permitted). All boats must contain sufficient buoyancy to support their crews in the event of a capsize. Competitors must be able to swim 100 metres in canoeing dress.

Kayaks must carry spraydecks at all times and all kayak crews below Teddington Lock must use a spraydeck. Race Officials may, in addition, require spraydecks to be worn at any time on any waterway.

Race Officials, acting on the instructions of the Chief Umpire, shall have the authority to stop any crew for safety reasons; crews may claim for time lost. Competitors must be prepared for tests to be conducted to establish that their boat and equipment comply with the Rules.

Competitors are not permitted to:

- Shoot weirs
- Take pace or wash-hang from any vessel not in the race.
- Replace boats
- Remove numbers from boats during the race.
- Overtake in Bruce's Tunnel (Savernake)

Competitors must at all times during the race wear serviceable life jackets or buoyancy aids conforming to CE Regulations

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER: 0207 620 0298

Crews are permitted to receive:

1. Assistance from any source in the event of a capsize or other dangerous circumstance.
2. Food and drink at any point along the course unless otherwise directed.
3. Replacement paddles, boat fittings, clothing, spraydecks and emergency rations if used, lost or damaged.
4. Help with the repair of the boat, provided it is not moved away from or along the course by anyone other than the paddlers.
5. Medical assistance in the event of illness or injury.

The taking of drugs as defined in ICF Rules is forbidden and all competitors are liable to a drug test. Refusal to submit to such a test shall incur automatic disqualification.

If crews are compelled to retire from the race, competitors or support crews must, **WITHOUT FAIL**, inform Race Control immediately (**0207 620 0298**). Failure to do so may jeopardise future entries, as much time can be wasted by emergency services searching for missing crews who have gone home to bed.

All crews must have completed the course and vacated the finish site four hours after the Easter Monday Start time.

All crews and their supporters shall race in a fair and considerate manner and maintain a satisfactory standard of conduct throughout the Race remaining subject to these rules until the end of the Protest Committee Meeting on Easter Monday. Inappropriate behaviour by supporters may result in time penalties being imposed on either the paddlers or their teams. Failure to observe the rules or obey the instructions of any Race Official may render the crew liable to disqualification or other penalty, which may include the club, school, unit etc being barred from entering this race in future.

Any Race Official, crew member or member of a support party wishing to protest a breach of the rules shall lodge a formal complaint by telephoning Race Control (**0207 620 0298**) with confirmation in writing submitted no later than two hours prior to the umpires' daily meeting. The protest should include as much information and supporting evidence as possible.

The Umpires will meet daily at each stage finish point at (or about) 1900 hours to consider infringements of the Rules. Penalties imposed at these meetings can be appealed to the Race Protest Committee Meeting on the Monday morning. It is the responsibility of the crews to enquire either in person or by telephoning Race Control (**0207 620 0298**) to see if any protest or report has been made concerning them. Crews have the opportunity of delivering a written statement and/or being heard at the Race Protest Committee Meeting on Easter Monday.

The Race Protest Committee will meet, at Westminster, within 4 hours of the start time on Easter Monday. At this time crews reported or already penalised will be heard or their written statements presented. Any penalty, including disqualification, may be imposed. There is NO APPEAL against the decisions of the Race Protest Committee.

TEAMS:

A crew may only represent one team.

Unless otherwise stated teams competing for trophies will consist of three or four crews, with the times for the fastest three being considered. Teams competing for trophies 47 and 97 will consist of three crews, and one competing for trophy 39 will consist of two or three crews. The criteria for each trophy is listed.

All teams must be pre-nominated by the team manager who must submit a completed team entry form to the Competition Secretary, prior to any crew in the team starting. Crews will not count as a team in any other circumstances.

All civilian crewmembers making up a team must have been valid members of the club or organisation, based in one area, and have trained from that club for six months or more prior to the event.

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All crewmembers making up a team

- (a) Entered on behalf of a military unit must be on the roll of, or attached to that unit.
- (b) Entered on behalf of a club or association of military organizations other than a unit must consist of regular servicemen or women or reservists or must be on attachment to that service
- (c) Entered on behalf of commercial companies must consist of employees of that company or their families

Conduct, by either paddlers or their supporters, prejudicial to the good order and discipline of the Devizes to Westminster Race will be penalized.

The decisions of the Company on all other matters shall be final.

TROPHIES FOR WHICH ALL CREWS ARE ELIGIBLE

98. THE PFEIFFER CUP

For the crew which raises the most sponsorship

99. THE SIR LOUIS AND LADY GLUCKSTEIN TROPHY

For the crew or individual displaying the most courage and fortitude. Nominations for this trophy must be submitted to the Competition Secretary, in writing, within seven days of Easter Monday. MEDALS.

100. CERTIFICATES

Are awarded to all competitors who complete the course.

TEAM TROPHIES

6. THE DEVIZES - WESTMINSTER TEAM TROPHY

Donated by the Lancashire Regiment for the team of three crews registering the lowest aggregate time. (Team drawn from maximum of four nominated crews) **CERTIFICATES.**

24. THE ROYAL ENGINEERS TROPHY

Donated by the Corps of Royal Engineers for the Services team of three crews registering the lowest aggregate time. Teams to be drawn from a maximum of four nominated crews. Open to HM Regular Forces and Reserve Forces teams from RNR: RMFVR: R Aux AF and TAVR.

26 THE GILLINGHAM TROPHY

Donated by Gillingham Canoe Club for the fastest civilian team of three crews

34. THE JUNIOR TEAM TROPHY

Donated by the Lancashire Regiment for the team of three crews registering the lowest aggregate time, teams drawn from a maximum of four nominated crews. **CERTIFICATES.**

39. THE JUNIOR LADIES TEAM TROPHY

Donated by Kimbolton School for the fastest ladies team of two crews (2 of 3) **CERTIFICATES**

43. THE SCHOOLS TEAM TROPHY

Donated by G. Good to be awarded to the team of three crews all of whom must be pupils at the same school. Team to be drawn from a maximum of four crews.

47 THE HMS ALACRITY McKAIG CUP

Donated by the Second Sea Lord & Commander in Chief Naval Home Command for the fastest team of three Combined Cadet Force crews

56. THE SINGLES TEAM TROPHY

Donated by J.Dudderidge for the team of three crews registering the lowest aggregate time. Team drawn from a maximum of four crews. **CERTIFICATES.**

97. THE TRANS CLASS TEAM TROPHY

Awarded to the fastest team consisting of one Senior Double, one Junior Double and one Senior Single

Please Read This

DEVIZES TO WESTMINSTER CANOE RACE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

1. WHAT IS AN EMERGENCY?

For the purpose of this event an Emergency is defined as any incident

- (a) Resulting in serious injury or the loss of life of a DW Race participant or supporter or official
- (b) Requiring the rescue of a DW Race participant or supporter from a hazard on land or water;
- (c) Involving a search for a crew member missing and believed to be in danger;
- (d) Or occasion which the DW Duty Officer decides warrants the calling out of Emergency Services.

2. WHO TO CONTACT

In the event of an emergency resulting in serious injury or loss of life contact the Emergency Services tel. 999

In the event of any emergency contact D.W. Race Information Duty Officer, Tel. **0207 620 0298** or contact the nearest check point official, whichever is quicker.

3. INFORMATION TO GIVE

In the event of an emergency be prepared to provide the following information to the Duty Officer. State that the message is under the D.W. Emergency Response Plan.,

Your name and status
Race number of boat.
Confirmation of crew name(s)
Nature/time/location of the incident,
Are supporters of the crew present at the scene?
Which emergency services have already been informed?