



1948-2016 - Celebrating 68 Years of Personal Endeavour

DW imposes time penalties on canoeists

The organisers of the Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race have imposed penalties on several canoeists for breaches of the rules during this year's event.

This year most of the penalties handed out were due to the actions of entrants' support crews rather than the paddlers themselves.

Guy Dresser, DW chief umpire, said: "It's regrettable that we had to penalise crews in this way but it is important for the safe and effective conduct of the event that competitors and their supporters conduct themselves properly at all times. Breaches of the rules, whether they are by canoeists or their support crews, are not tolerated."

Penalties imposed were as follows:

- A 20 minute penalty was levied on a boat in the nonstop race which ignored a marshal's instruction and portaged directly into the weir stream at Marsh, contrary to the correct route shown in the rules.
- A 30 minute penalty for a boat in the nonstop race whose support crews attended an out-of-bounds portage.
- A 30 minute penalty for a junior doubles boat in the stages race whose support crew parked far beyond a 'no access' sign at a portage.
- A 30 minute penalty for a junior doubles boat in the stages race whose support crew parked illegally at a portage and refused a race official's request to move.
- A two-hour penalty for a boat in the nonstop race whose support crew obstructed the emergency access route at Molesey lock with their vehicle for more than two hours.
- A two-hour time penalty for a junior doubles boat in the stages race whose support crew parked illegally at a stage stop for more than an hour, refused repeated requests to move and was rude to a race official.
- A three-hour time penalty was imposed on two senior doubles boats whose crews failed to adhere to clearly published DW rules and breached PLA by-laws by failing to navigate correctly on the Tideway.

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