



# IRONBRIDGE WEEKEND REGATTAS

**SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> & SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

## **Notes for Clubs and Competitors**

Thank you for choosing to race at Ironbridge Regattas. Our aim is to make the event enjoyable and safe for all, and therefore we ask that you please take the time to read and understand the following notes.

### **Competitors**

These notes should be read by all competitors racing at Ironbridge Regattas and their coaches. Whilst Ironbridge Rowing Club will do its best to ensure the safety of all competitors during racing, this does not absolve individuals from exercising a duty of care to third parties and to themselves.

- Competitors are required to **report to Registration** before they race, to collect their number. If you have any changes to the BROE entry submitted, **these must be declared** before collecting your number. Remember that you cannot change more than 50% of the original crew you entered. In the case of single scullers, the sculler named on the entry form cannot be substituted. Please ensure that plenty of time is allowed to undertake the above especially first thing in the morning, although every effort will be provided to make sure you can boat on time. Random checks may be made on Racing Licences at registration. **YOU MUST ALWAYS BRING YOUR RACING LICENCE TO THE REGATTA IF YOU ARE RACING.** Random checks of the crew in the boat against photo ID may also be performed throughout the day.
- Crews should, if possible, find their opposition and **report to the Boat Marshal, 30 minutes** before the start of their race. Boats and equipment may be checked for compliance with the British Rowing Rules of Racing and 'RowSafe' and only crews paired with their opposition will be sent to boat-on. Crews are responsible for checking their own boats.
- If a boat fails a safety check, the **Control Commission Umpire** will complete a failure form. A copy of this will be given to you on request.
- **Coxswains** will be weighed in at the boat marshalling point **each day** and given a weight certificate that must be carried at all times. They should have with them any dead weight required (which must comply with the British Rowing Rules of Racing). Random weight checks may be performed on coxswains coming into the landing stage after racing.
- All competitors are required to boat-on at the steps furthest from the trailer park in front of the boathouse. All crews are asked to boat-on as quickly as possible to prevent a backlog of waiting crews. Please be careful and ensure that when boating-on and pushing off you do not impede a race coming down the course. Marshals will be there to assist.
- The **first named** crew in the programme is to row on the **far** side of the river.
- **Crews are to proceed to the start on the far side of the river.** Practice starts are **NOT** permitted when rowing up the course.
- At the end of the race, all crews must turn at the buoy as soon as it is safe and practical to do so and then proceed to the nearest set of steps on the club side of the river. **DO NOT ROW AROUND THE BEND.** The river can be shallow and fast moving.
- If the river level is above optimum Summer Level, the central landing stage linking both sets of steps can be underwater. Crews should be prepared to wade and preferably should be equipped with Wellington boots.
- Please ensure all competitors are familiar with the map of the course.
- Crew numbers are to be worn on the backs of Scullers, Bows and Coxswains where they can be clearly seen. Please be sure to wear the correct number for the event you are racing in.
- Winning crews should report to Registration. Crews will need to present their racing licences before they can collect their prizes.

- Safety Boat cover is only provided during the hours of racing and whilst crews are welcome to practice outside of these hours they do so at their own risk. Please stay within the confines of the Regatta course when practising out of hours and see the attached map for obstacles and shallow water.
- The Regatta Committee reserve the right to amend the course distance as required by river conditions. If river conditions are deemed too hazardous for inexperienced rowers, we reserve the right to withdraw some novice and junior categories in the interests of safety on the day of the event.
- In the interest of safety, any competitor that falls into the river, under any circumstances, will not be allowed to race again until BR's capsize procedure has been followed (showering, dry kit has been obtained) and the designated First Aid representative has given authorisation.
- Note: there will be no announcement on the start of "two minutes to race time" in accordance with rule 7-3-1c of the 2024 British Rowing Rules of Racing.

### **General Notices**

- Crews must listen out carefully for and obey all instructions given by Umpires and race officials.
- **In an emergency on the water**, all racing will be stopped.
  - Crews must follow instructions given by Umpires for their own safety and that of their fellow competitors. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
  - Capsized crews should stay with their boat. Crew Captains should take charge until the Safety Boat arrives.
  - All involved in the incident must be checked by a qualified First Aider from the designated on-site team (ACE Medical Solutions).
  - Race commentary will be suspended unless it is required to help the emergency
- **In a land-based emergency**, announcements will be made via the PA system to instruct all competitors and spectators to evacuate and move to muster points as required.
  - Marshals will assist in safely directing people.
  - Race Control/Regatta Safety Advisors will call and liaise with emergency services as required.
  - Competitors on the water will be instructed by Umpires and Marshals along the course. All racing will cease, and crews may be asked to boat off at a safe location or to stay on the water if it is safer.
- **A First Aid team** (ACE Medical Solutions) will be in attendance providing cover during racing on both days and will be located at the front of the Boathouse.
- The Organising Committee accepts no responsibility for competitors' or spectators' personal property. We would remind anyone camping not to leave valuable items in their tents.
- **Please note that the access road and the fire lane on the camping/Regatta field are to be kept clear at all times for emergency access.**
- When parking trailers in Dale End Park please ensure that the trailers and boats do not overhang the path to keep access clear for the emergency services.
- No camping or alcohol is permitted in Dale End Park; this is a restriction imposed by Telford & Wrekin Council. Please take care when driving through the park; access will be allowed only for trailers, and towing vehicles CANNOT be left in the trailer park.
- All vehicles and tents are to be parked / pitched on the Regatta Field behind the Clubhouse. For safety reasons, please ensure that a safe distance is left between tents and park vehicles sensibly without taking up too much space; the field car park can get very crowded. The access lane through the middle **MUST** be left clear at all times to allow access for emergency vehicles.
- **Vehicles are not permitted into the camping area and must be parked in the designated car parking area. Separate areas are defined for Campervan and Caravan areas where tents may be pitched however normal vehicles will not be permitted in these areas.**
  - Any competitor, supporter, or coach who moves a vehicle into the camping area will be asked to move the vehicle into the parking area for safety reasons. Should this be refused we reserve the right to refuse camping on the land to the competitor, supporter, or coach and access to the club facilities.
  - Any incidents will be raised with the club responsible for the competitor, supporter, or coach.
- **Please note that BONFIRES or BARBECUES are NOT allowed anywhere**, this is in the interests of safety and out of courtesy to the football and baseball clubs who give up the use of their pitch for the Regatta. **Please show consideration to other people by not lighting fires or leaving litter on the pitches.**

- Please help us to keep Dale End Park and the regatta field clean by using the bins provided or by taking your rubbish to the nearest skip. Black plastic bags for rubbish are available upon request; please ask at Control. If you see that bins are overflowing please inform Control.
- Mobile coverage is generally poor in Ironbridge Gorge; a better signal for mobiles can be obtained at the top of the track from the main road down to the club.
- Due to bank erosion, the club-side path has been partially closed and cannot be accessed past the Water Rat public house. Up to this point it remains very narrow, uneven and hazardous, and competitors and spectators are asked to take extra care should they choose to walk up the course. Please be reminded that this is entirely at your own risk and IRC cannot accept any liability for injury incurred. The far side of the river is Power Station property and is out of bound as is Albert Edward Bridge. Any competitors found on Albert Edward bridge may be disqualified from the regatta with immediate effect with no refund.

If you have any queries not covered by this document, please do not hesitate to ask at Registration or Control.

And finally; if you have any feedback or comments on the Regatta, please email the Regatta Committee at [ircregatta@gmail.com](mailto:ircregatta@gmail.com)