



# HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

ESTABLISHED 1839

## QUALIFICATION AND GENERAL RULES

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March 2026

# HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

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**Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING**

## Stewards:

- THE MAYOR OF HENLEY  
§ M. A. SWEENEY, C.B.E.  
J. A. STEPHENSON  
P. G. R. DELAFIELD, OLY  
R. C. LESTER, OLY  
DR. I. REID  
C. L. BAILLIEU, M.B.E., OLY  
J. K. MULLARD  
J. C. LUKER  
DR. P. L. THOMAS, OLY  
F. J. SMALLBONE, OLY  
DR. R. G. M. BUDGETT, O.B.E., OLY  
† PROFESSOR N. B. RANKOV  
M. D. WILLIAMS, O.B.E.  
M. B. BALDWIN  
J. F. BOULTBEE, A.M.  
MAJOR THE RT. HON. THE LORD WIGRAM, M.V.O.  
SIR STEVE REDGRAVE, C.B.E.  
R. C. STANHOPE  
\* R. C. PHELPS, OLY  
C. J. RODRIGUES, C.B.E.  
J. A. FRIEND  
G. B. STEWART  
† SIR MATTHEW PINSENT, C.B.E.  
DR. J. G. MICHELS  
A. PHELPS, C.B.E., OLY  
J. W. C. SEARLE, M.B.E.  
G. W. HAMMOND  
† F. B. HUNT-DAVIS, M.B.E., OLY  
C. L. RICHMOND  
B. M. EDWARDS  
G. M. P. SEARLE, M.B.E., OLY  
DR. DAME KATHERINE GRAINGER, D.B.E.  
J. G. HEDGER  
J. W. KOVEN, OLY  
P. T. CUSACK
- G. BATTEN  
SIR DAVID WOOTTON  
† A. P. S. CRAWFORD  
N. CHUGANI  
† S. K. WINCKLESS, M.B.E.  
F. K. DENNIS  
M. J. HUNTER, M.B.E., OLY  
† T. W. JAMES, M.B.E.  
M. J. BRITTON, C.B.E.  
DR. LADY REDGRAVE, OLY  
M. B. D. HELM, OLY  
M. LUKE, M.B.E., OLY  
J. R. M. HARLOW  
R. C. D. MURRAY  
DR. C. J. BISHOP, OLY  
S. H. M. HOSKING, M.B.E., OLY  
† A. L. FAIERS  
† S. A. P. COOK, OLY  
† L. T. O. DILLON  
D. K. BRUWER, OLY  
A. H. ABDULLAH, OLY  
† J. J. EDDIE  
A. FREEMAN-PASK  
B. C. WILSON  
R. M. W. WILLIAMS, M.B.E.  
H. M. STANNING, O.B.E., OLY  
E. K. TWIGG, M.N.Z.M., OLY  
M. K. SBIHI, M.B.E.  
G. EGGENKAMP  
DR. C. F. NICHOL  
G. E. PRENDERGAST, M.N.Z.M., OLY  
E. M. SHERWELL, OLY  
THE RT. HON. THE LORD CAMOYS  
DR. A. R. WATKINS, M.B.E., OLY  
M. P. EVANS

D. G. M. GRIST, *Secretary*

§ *President of the Regatta*

\* *Chair of the Committee*

† *Member of the Committee*

## **HISTORY OF HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA'S CONSTITUTION**

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On the 6th of December 2016, at a meeting of the Stewards, it was agreed that the Regatta should be incorporated by creating a new incorporated entity, into which all the activities and assets of Henley Royal Regatta would be transferred, in order to modernise the Regatta's governance to ensure that the Regatta entered the next phase of its history with a robust structure fit for purpose in the years to come.

Pursuant to that meeting and with effect from 1st of November 2017, the assets and liabilities of the hitherto unincorporated association known as Henley Royal Regatta were assigned to a company limited by guarantee known as Henley Royal Regatta, whose Articles of Association were drafted to reflect much of the culture, ethos and governance which had served the Regatta so well over the previous 132 years. In doing so the Regatta obtained special dispensation from the Cabinet Office and the Registrar of Companies to the use of the word "Royal" and the omission of the word "Limited" in the name of the new company. This enabled it to retain the same name as the unincorporated association, despite being a limited company.

The incorporation of Henley Royal Regatta as a company limited by guarantee replaced the constitution and bye-laws established on the 9th April 1885, at a meeting of the Stewards, when certain resolutions and bye-laws were agreed. As subsequently amended from time to time, these resolutions and bye-laws, set out overleaf, constituted the framework that governed the stewardship of Henley Royal Regatta from 1885 to incorporation in 2017. The new Articles of Association have replaced these resolutions and bye-laws.

# CONSTITUTION

## 1885 TO 2017

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On the 9th April, 1885, at a meeting of the Stewards, certain resolutions were agreed to, and, as subsequently amended, are as follows:

- I. That the Stewards of Henley Royal Regatta shall constitute a council for the general control of the affairs of the Regatta.
- II. That the Stewards shall at each general meeting elect a Chairman to take the chair at that meeting.
- III. That the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- IV. That twenty shall form a quorum at the general meetings.
- V. That two ordinary general meetings shall be held in each year, one in the month of June and another in the month of December.
- VI. That other general meetings shall be summoned by the Secretary at the request of any two Stewards in writing, provided that not less than fourteen days' notice shall be given of any such meeting.
- VII. That the Stewards shall elect annually, at the meeting in December, from their own body, a Committee of Management.
- VIII. That the number of the Committee shall not exceed twelve, of whom three shall form a quorum.
- IX. That the Committee shall elect one of their own body to act as Chairman.
- X. That the Committee be empowered to manage and exercise control over all matters connected with the Regatta, excepting such as shall involve the alteration of any of the published Rules of the Regatta.
- XI. That the Committee shall present a report, together with a statement of accounts, to the Stewards, annually, at the December meeting in each year.
- XII. That ordinary meetings of the Committee shall be summoned by the Secretary when ordered by the Chairman, or at the request of any two members of the Committee in writing, provided that not less than one week's notice be given of any such meeting. Emergency meetings of the Committee may be held between the draw and the end of the Regatta on such notice as may be found practicable.
- XIII. That the Committee shall have power to make and publish bye-laws respecting any matter connected with the management of the Regatta not already determined in the published Rules.

- XIV. That the income and property of the Regatta shall be applied solely to such purposes as the Stewards consider to be for the general benefit of the Regatta or for the sport of rowing. No part of the income or property of the Regatta (save in respect of the indemnity referred to in Resolution XVI) shall be distributed among the Stewards, and in the event of the Regatta being dissolved the assets shall be devoted to such sporting, philanthropic or charitable purposes as the Stewards may determine.
- XV. That no alteration shall be made in any of the foregoing resolutions, or in any of the published Rules of the Regatta, except at a general meeting specially convened for that purpose, of which twenty-one days' notice shall be given, such notice to state the alterations proposed; and unless the alterations be carried by a majority of two-thirds. No amendment to the alterations proposed to be considered at the meeting shall be moved unless notice of such amendment shall have been given to the Secretary at least ten days before the date of the meeting.
- XVI. That any Steward whether Chairman of or Member of the Committee of Management or otherwise, acting in good faith in the discharge of any instructions from the Committee of Management, or of a general meeting of the Stewards, who shall incur any costs, losses and expenses in pursuance of those instructions, including the proper discharge of his duties at the Regatta, shall be entitled to be indemnified from the assets of the Regatta for any such costs, losses and expenses.
- XVII. That a proposal that the Regatta distributes its assets and undertaking by way of a scheme of reconstruction to a limited company with similar objects to the Regatta and then dissolve, shall be passed at a general meeting specially convened for that purpose, of which twenty-one days' notice shall be given, if carried by a majority of two-thirds or more of those Stewards who are present and, being entitled to do so, vote.

## **BYE-LAWS**

### **1885 to 2017**

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On the 9th April, 1885, at a meeting of the Stewards, certain bye-laws were confirmed and, as subsequently amended, are as follows:

- 1st. – That the election of any new Steward shall be by ballot, and one black ball in four shall exclude.
- 2nd. – That a ballot shall not take place unless twenty Stewards are present, nor unless the name of the proposed new Steward, together with the name of the proposer and seconder, shall have been sent to each Steward with the circular convening the meeting.
- 3rd. – That any Steward wishing to bring forward any matter for discussion must give notice thereof to the Secretary, and the Secretary shall state the matter to be discussed in the circular convening the meeting.

# QUALIFICATION RULES

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**The six Premier Open events, catering for crews of Senior International standard:**

## **THE GRAND CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR EIGHT OARS WITH COXSWAIN

Open to eligible members of any club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries.

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## **THE STEWARDS' CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR FOUR OARS

The same rules apply as for The Grand Challenge Cup.

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## **THE QUEEN MOTHER CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR QUADRUPLE SCULLS

The same rules apply as for The Grand Challenge Cup.

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## **THE SILVER GOBLETS AND NICKALLS' CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR PAIR OARS

The same rules apply as for The Grand Challenge Cup.

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## **THE DOUBLE SCULLS CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR DOUBLE SCULLS

The same rules apply as for The Grand Challenge Cup.

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## **THE DIAMOND CHALLENGE SCULLS**

FOR SINGLE SCULLS

The same rules apply as for The Grand Challenge Cup.

**The six Premier events for Women, catering for crews of Senior International standard:**

## **THE REMENHAM CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR EIGHT OARS WITH COXSWAIN

Open to eligible members of any club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries.

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## **THE TOWN CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR FOUR OARS

The same rules apply as for The Remenham Challenge Cup.

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## **THE PRINCESS GRACE CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR QUADRUPLE SCULLS

The same rules apply as for The Remenham Challenge Cup.

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## **THE HAMBLEDEN PAIRS CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR PAIR OARS

The same rules apply as for The Remenham Challenge Cup.

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## **THE STONOR CHALLENGE TROPHY**

FOR DOUBLE SCULLS

The same rules apply as for The Remenham Challenge Cup.

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## **THE PRINCESS ROYAL CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR SINGLE SCULLS

The same rules apply as for The Remenham Challenge Cup.

**The three Intermediate Open events, catering for the best club and student crews below the Premier level:**

## **THE LADIES' CHALLENGE PLATE**

FOR EIGHT OARS WITH COXSWAIN

1. Any crew of eligible members of any club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries may contend for this prize, subject to the following:  
No heavyweight World Rowing Senior national crew may contend for this prize.
2. No one (coxswains excepted) shall compete in this event and in any other eight-oared event at the same Regatta.

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## **THE VISITORS' CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR FOUR OARS

1. Any crew of eligible members of any club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries may contend for this prize, subject to the following:  
No World Rowing Senior national crew, heavyweight or lightweight, may contend for this prize.
2. No one shall compete in this event and in any other four-oared event at the same Regatta.

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## **THE PRINCE OF WALES CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR QUADRUPLE SCULLS

1. Any crew of eligible members of any club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries may contend for this prize, subject to the following:  
No heavyweight World Rowing Senior national crew may contend for this prize.
2. No one shall compete in this event and in any other sculling event at the same Regatta.

**The two Intermediate events for Women, catering for the best club and student crews below the Premier level:**

## **THE BRIDGE CHALLENGE PLATE**

FOR EIGHT OARS WITH COXSWAIN

1. Any crew of eligible members of any club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
    - (a) No heavyweight World Rowing Senior national crew may contend for this prize.
  2. No one (coxswains excepted) shall compete in this event and in any other eight-oared event at the same Regatta.
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## **THE PRINCESS OF WALES CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR QUADRUPLE SCULLS

1. Any crew of eligible members of any club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) No heavyweight World Rowing Senior national crew may contend for this prize.
2. No one shall compete in this event and in any other sculling event at the same Regatta.

**The three Club Open events, catering for crews below the Intermediate level:**

## **THE THAMES CHALLENGE CUP**

### **FOR EIGHT OARS WITH COXSWAIN**

1. Any crew of eligible members of any one club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) No crew of a boat club of any university, college or secondary school shall be qualified to contend for this prize.
  - (b) No current national squad member, heavyweight or lightweight, shall compete in this event.
  - (c) No World Rowing Under 23 national crew may contend for this prize.
  - (d) No one shall compete in this event who has rowed, sculled or coxed in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta or a World Rowing Senior World Championships or Senior European Championships.
  - (e) No one shall compete in this event who has won a medal at a World Rowing Under 23 Championships.
  - (f) No rower shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Temple, The Prince Albert, The Princess Elizabeth or The Fawley Challenge Cups, save that, subject to Rule (g) below, any crew, other than one representing the current holders of The Thames or The Wyfold Challenge Cups, may contain up to two rowers who have in a previous year won The Thames, The Wyfold or The Britannia Challenge Cups.
  - (g) No coxswain shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Thames, The Wargrave, The Temple, The Island, The Britannia, The Prince Albert or The Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cups, or The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy; where a coxswain has in a previous year won The Thames, The Wargrave or The Britannia Challenge Cups, the crew may contain only one rower who has in a previous year won The Thames, The Wyfold or The Britannia Challenge Cups: a coxswain who is a current holder of The Thames or The Wargrave Challenge Cups shall not compete in this event representing the same club.
  - (h) The Committee may, on application and at its absolute discretion, grant exemptions for individual competitors from the eligibility restrictions in 1(d) to 1(g) above after five calendar years have elapsed following the event in question. The Committee will not normally grant more than two such exemptions for any one crew.
  - (i) No crew of an alumni boat club of a university or college shall be qualified to contend for this prize if the crew contains any current-year students from the associated university or college.
2. No one (coxswains excepted) shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

# THE WYFOLD CHALLENGE CUP

## FOR FOUR OARS

1. Any crew of eligible members of any one club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) No crew of a boat club of any university, college or secondary school shall be qualified to contend for this prize.
  - (b) No current national squad member, heavyweight or lightweight, shall compete in this event.
  - (c) No World Rowing Under 23 national crew may contend for this prize.
  - (d) No one shall compete in this event who has rowed or sculled in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta or a World Rowing Senior World Championships or Senior European Championships.
  - (e) No one shall compete in this event who has won a medal at a World Rowing Under 23 Championships.
  - (f) No one shall compete in this event who has previously won an event at the Regatta, other than The Temple, The Prince Albert, The Princess Elizabeth or The Fawley Challenge Cups, save that any crew, other than one representing the current holders of The Thames or The Wyfold Challenge Cups, may contain up to one member who has previously won The Thames, The Wyfold or The Britannia Challenge Cups.
  - (g) The Committee may, on application and at its absolute discretion, grant exemptions for individual competitors from the eligibility restrictions in 1(d) to 1(f) above after five calendar years have elapsed following the event in question. The Committee will not normally grant more than one such exemption for any one crew.
  - (h) No crew of an alumni boat club of a university or college shall be qualified to contend for this prize if the crew contains any current-year students from the associated university or college.
2. No one shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

# THE BRITANNIA CHALLENGE CUP

## FOR FOUR OARS WITH COXSWAIN

1. Any crew of eligible members of any one club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) No crew of a boat club of any university, college or secondary school shall be qualified to contend for this prize.
  - (b) No current national squad member, heavyweight or lightweight, shall compete in this event.
  - (c) No World Rowing Under 23 national crew may contend for this prize.
  - (d) No one shall compete in this event who has rowed, sculled or coxed in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta or a World Rowing Senior World Championships or Senior European Championships or Under 23 World Championships.
  - (e) No one shall compete in this event who is a “Blue” or has rowed or coxed in an analogous crew, including, for example, in the United States of America, Heavyweight Varsity crews competing in the Eastern Sprints or in the Pac-12 Championships.
  - (f) No rower shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Temple, The Prince Albert, The Princess Elizabeth or The Fawley Challenge Cups.
  - (g) No coxswain shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Temple, The Island, The Prince Albert or The Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cups, or The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy.
  - (h) The Committee may, on application and at its absolute discretion, grant exemptions for individual competitors from the eligibility restrictions in 1(d) to 1(g) above after five calendar years have elapsed following the event in question. The Committee will not normally grant more than one such exemption for any one crew.
  - (i) No crew of an alumni boat club of a university or college shall be qualified to contend for this prize if the crew contains any current-year students from the associated university or college.
2. No one (coxswains excepted) shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

**The two Club events for Women, catering for crews below the Intermediate level:**

## **THE WARGRAVE CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR EIGHT OARS WITH COXSWAIN

1. Any crew of eligible members of any one club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) No crew of a boat club of any university, college or secondary school shall be qualified to contend for this prize.
  - (b) No current national squad member, heavyweight or lightweight, shall compete in this event.
  - (c) No World Rowing Under 23 national crew may contend for this prize.
  - (d) No one shall compete in this event who has rowed, sculled or coxed in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta or a World Rowing Senior World Championships or Senior European Championships.
  - (e) No one shall compete in this event who has won a medal at a World Rowing Under 23 Championships.
  - (f) No rower shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Island Challenge Cup, The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy or The Diamond Jubilee Challenge Cup, save that, subject to Rule (g) below, any crew may contain up to two rowers who have in a previous year won The Wargrave Challenge Cup.
  - (g) No coxswain shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Thames, The Wargrave, The Temple, The Island, The Britannia, The Prince Albert or The Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cups, or The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy; where a coxswain has in a previous year won The Thames, The Wargrave or The Britannia Challenge Cups, the crew may contain only one rower who has in a previous year won The Wargrave Challenge Cup.
  - (h) The Committee may, on application and at its absolute discretion, grant exemptions for individual competitors from the eligibility restrictions in 1(d) to 1(g) above after five calendar years have elapsed following the event in question. The Committee will not normally grant more than two such exemptions for any one crew.
  - (i) No crew of an alumni boat club of a university or college shall be qualified to contend for this prize if the crew contains any current-year students from the associated university or college.
2. No one (coxswains excepted) shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

# THE DANESFIELD CHALLENGE CUP

## FOR QUADRUPLE SCULLS

1. Any crew of eligible members of any one club established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) No crew of a boat club of any university, college or secondary school shall be qualified to contend for this prize.
  - (b) No current national squad member, heavyweight or lightweight, shall compete in this event.
  - (c) No World Rowing Under 23 national crew may contend for this prize.
  - (d) No one shall compete in this event who has rowed or sculled in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta or a World Rowing Senior World Championships or Senior European Championships.
  - (e) No one shall compete in this event who has won a medal at a World Rowing Under 23 Championships.
  - (f) No one shall compete in this event who has previously won an event at the Regatta, other than The Island, The Queen Victoria or The Diamond Jubilee Challenge Cups, or The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy, save that any crew, other than one representing the current holders of The Wargrave or The Danesfield Challenge Cups, may contain up to one member who has previously won The Wargrave or The Danesfield Challenge Cups.
  - (g) The Committee may, on application and at its absolute discretion, grant exemptions for individual competitors from the eligibility restrictions in 1(d) to 1(f) above after five calendar years have elapsed following the event in question. The Committee will not normally grant more than one such exemption for any one crew.
  - (h) No crew of an alumni boat club of a university or college shall be qualified to contend for this prize if the crew contains any current-year students from the associated university or college.
2. No one shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

**The two Student Open events, catering for student crews below the Intermediate level:**

## **THE TEMPLE CHALLENGE CUP**

FOR EIGHT OARS WITH COXSWAIN

1. Any crew of eligible members of a boat club of any university, college or secondary school, such club being established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries, may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) Every member of a crew of a university or college boat club shall be, or shall within two months of the Closing Date for entries have been, a full-time internal student of the university or college.
  - (b) Every member of a crew of any secondary school shall at the Closing Date for entries be a *bona fide* member *in statu pupillari* of the school.
  - (c) No rower shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Thames, The Wyfold, The Britannia, The Prince Albert, The Princess Elizabeth or The Fawley Challenge Cups.
  - (d) No coxswain shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Thames, The Wargrave, The Britannia, The Prince Albert or The Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cups, or The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy.
  - (e) No current national squad member, heavyweight or lightweight, shall compete in this event.
  - (f) No one shall compete in this event who has rowed, sculled or coxed in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta or a World Rowing Senior World Championships or Senior European Championships.
  - (g) No one shall compete in this event who has won a medal at a World Rowing Under 23 Championships.
2. Combined entries may only be made by no more than two college boat clubs of any one university.
3. No one (coxswains excepted) shall compete in this event and in any other eight-oared event at the same Regatta.

# THE PRINCE ALBERT CHALLENGE CUP

## FOR FOUR OARS WITH COXSWAIN

1. Any crew of eligible members of a boat club of any university, college or secondary school, such club being established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries, may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) Every member of a crew of a university or college boat club shall be, or shall within two months of the Closing Date for entries have been, a full-time internal student of the university or college.
  - (b) Every member of a crew of any secondary school shall at the Closing Date for entries be a *bona fide* member *in statu pupillari* of the school.
  - (c) No rower shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Princess Elizabeth or The Fawley Challenge Cups.
  - (d) No coxswain shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup or The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy.
  - (e) No current national squad member, heavyweight or lightweight, shall compete in this event.
  - (f) No one shall compete in this event who has rowed, sculled or coxed in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta or a World Rowing Senior World Championships or Senior European Championships.
  - (g) No one shall compete in this event who has won a medal at a World Rowing Under 23 Championships.
  - (h) No one shall compete in this event who is a “Blue” or has rowed or coxed in an analogous crew, including, for example, in the United States of America, Heavyweight Varsity crews competing in the Eastern Sprints or in the Pac-12 Championships.
2. Combined entries may only be made by no more than two college boat clubs of any one university.
3. No one (coxswains excepted) shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

**The two Student events for Women, catering for student crews below the Intermediate level:**

## **THE ISLAND CHALLENGE CUP**

### **FOR EIGHT OARS WITH COXSWAIN**

1. Any crew of eligible members of a boat club of any university, college or secondary school, such club being established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries, may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) Every member of a crew of a university or college boat club shall be, or shall within two months of the Closing Date for entries have been, a full-time internal student of the university or college.
  - (b) Every member of a crew of any secondary school shall at the Closing Date for entries be a *bona fide* member *in statu pupillari* of the school.
  - (c) No rower shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Wargrave Challenge Cup, The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy or The Diamond Jubilee Challenge Cup.
  - (d) No coxswain shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Thames, The Wargrave, The Britannia, The Prince Albert or The Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cups, or The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy.
  - (e) No current national squad member, heavyweight or lightweight, shall compete in this event.
  - (f) No one shall compete in this event who has rowed, sculled or coxed in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta or a World Rowing Senior World Championships or Senior European Championships.
  - (g) No one shall compete in this event who has won a medal at a World Rowing Under 23 Championships.
2. Combined entries may only be made by no more than two college boat clubs of any one university.
3. No one (coxswains excepted) shall compete in this event and in any other eight-oared event at the same Regatta.

# THE QUEEN VICTORIA CHALLENGE CUP

## FOR QUADRUPLE SCULLS

1. Any crew of eligible members of a boat club of any university or college, such club being established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries, may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) Every member of a crew of a university or college boat club shall be, or shall within two months of the Closing Date for entries have been, a full-time internal student of the university or college.
  - (b) No one shall compete in this event who has in any previous year won an event at the Regatta, other than The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy or The Diamond Jubilee Challenge Cup.
  - (c) No current national squad member, heavyweight or lightweight, shall compete in this event.
  - (d) No one shall compete in this event who has rowed or sculled in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta or a World Rowing Senior World Championships or Senior European Championships.
  - (e) No one shall compete in this event who has won a medal at a World Rowing Under 23 Championships.
2. Combined entries may only be made by no more than two college boat clubs of any one university.
3. No one shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

**The two Junior Open events:**

**THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH CHALLENGE CUP**

**FOR EIGHT OARS WITH COXSWAIN**

1. Any crew of eligible members of any one club or secondary school boat club, such club being established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries, may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) Every member of the crew of any secondary school shall at the Closing Date for entries be a *bona fide* member *in statu pupillari* of such school.
  - (b) No rowers or coxswains shall compete who will have attained their nineteenth birthday by the end of the Regatta.
  - (c) Any rower who has registered as a member of a club with the Junior programme of British Rowing (or other National Federation) shall compete only for that club.
  - (d) Any rower who has represented a club or secondary school boat club at the National Schools' Regatta, or at an analogous national event elsewhere, in the current year shall compete only for that club or secondary school.
  - (e) Only one crew per club or school may enter this event.
2. No one (coxswains excepted) shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

# THE FAWLEY CHALLENGE CUP

## FOR QUADRUPLE SCULLS

1. Any crew of eligible members of any one club or secondary school boat club, such club being established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries, may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) Every member of the crew of any secondary school shall at the Closing Date for entries be a *bona fide* member *in statu pupillari* of such school.
  - (b) No scullers shall compete who will have attained their nineteenth birthday by the end of the Regatta.
  - (c) Any sculler who has registered as a member of a club with the Junior programme of British Rowing (or other National Federation) shall compete only for that club.
  - (d) Any sculler who has represented a club or secondary school boat club at the National Schools' Regatta, or at an analogous national event elsewhere, in the current year shall compete only for that club or secondary school.
2. No one shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

## The two Junior events for Women:

### THE PRINCE PHILIP CHALLENGE TROPHY

#### FOR EIGHT OARS WITH COXSWAIN

1. Any crew of eligible members of any one club or secondary school boat club, such club being established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries, may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) Every member of the crew of any secondary school shall at the Closing Date for entries be a *bona fide* member *in statu pupillari* of such school.
  - (b) No rowers or coxswains shall compete who will have attained their nineteenth birthday by the end of the Regatta.
  - (c) Any rower who has registered as a member of a club with the Junior programme of British Rowing (or other National Federation) shall compete only for that club.
  - (d) Any rower who has represented a club or secondary school boat club at the National Schools' Regatta, or at an analogous national event elsewhere, in the current year shall compete only for that club or secondary school.
  - (e) Only one crew per club or school may enter this event.
2. No one (coxswains excepted) shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

# THE DIAMOND JUBILEE CHALLENGE CUP

## FOR QUADRUPLE SCULLS

1. Any crew of eligible members of any one club or secondary school boat club, such club being established at least one year before the Closing Date for entries, may contend for this prize, subject to the following:
  - (a) Every member of the crew of any secondary school shall at the Closing Date for entries be a *bona fide* member *in statu pupillari* of such school.
  - (b) No scullers shall compete who will have attained their nineteenth birthday by the end of the Regatta.
  - (c) Any sculler who has registered as a member of a club with the Junior programme of British Rowing (or other National Federation) shall compete only for that club.
  - (d) Any sculler who has represented a club or secondary school boat club at the National Schools' Regatta, or at an analogous national event elsewhere, in the current year shall compete only for that club or secondary school.
2. No one shall compete in this event and in any other event at the same Regatta.

# GENERAL RULES

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## ELIGIBILITY

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1. No one shall be eligible to compete at the Regatta for a club who is not and has not been for at least two months before the Closing Date for entries a member of that club and that club must have been established and continuously affiliated to an appropriate National Federation for at least one year before the Closing Date.
2. Such National Federations outside the United Kingdom must have entered into an Agreement in the prescribed form with the Committee of Henley Royal Regatta.
3. The Committee shall have the power, at any time, to notify a club that an entry will not be accepted in certain events if the Committee considers such an entry to be inappropriate.

## ENTRIES

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4. Entries for the Regatta close at 14:00 British Summer Time (BST), fifteen days before the Regatta, hereinafter called ‘the Closing Date’.
5. All entries must be submitted online at [www.regattaentries.co.uk](http://www.regattaentries.co.uk) and must be received by the Closing Date complete in all respects including payment of the appropriate entry fee. Late entries cannot be accepted.
6. Each entry must be accompanied by a declaration from the Captain, Secretary or other authorised official of the club, or of each club if more than one, that the entry conforms with Rule 1.
7. Each entry representing a club from outside the United Kingdom must be validated by an authorised official of the National Federation to which the club is affiliated and which is in compliance with the terms of Rule 2.
8. For a composite crew representing more than one club (where permitted), the entry must show the name of the club being represented by each competitor. The names of the clubs so declared shall not be changed after the Closing Date. Where the combined entry is of more than two clubs then only two club names shall be shown on the List of Entries and in the programme.
9. No individual shall be entered more than once for the same event, nor for more than two events at the same Regatta. No one who has rowed in an event may row in another crew for the same event at the same Regatta.
10. Events described as Open in these Rules place no restriction on gender, while, except for coxswains, Women’s events are restricted to those assigned female at birth. For the purposes of this Rule, the Regatta will adopt the Trans and Non-Binary Inclusion Competition Policy and Procedures of British Rowing which are in effect on the Closing Date.
11. The Committee shall investigate any questionable entry irrespective of protest and shall have power to decline any entry up to the time of its first race in the Regatta without being bound to assign a reason.

## **INSURANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROPERTY**

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12. Clubs, competitors and coaches must be covered by their own third-party liability insurance with a limit of indemnity of at least £5,000,000 or currency equivalent. Henley Royal Regatta accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to boats, equipment or other articles whilst on Regatta property or elsewhere.

## **ENTRY FEES**

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13. A fee for each entry shall be paid at the time of entering, as follows:

The Grand Challenge Cup	£240.00
The Remenham Challenge Cup	£240.00
The Ladies' Challenge Plate	£240.00
The Bridge Challenge Plate	£240.00
The Thames Challenge Cup	£240.00
The Wargrave Challenge Cup	£240.00
The Temple Challenge Cup	£240.00
The Island Challenge Cup	£240.00
The Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup	£240.00
The Prince Philip Challenge Trophy	£240.00
The Stewards' Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Town Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Visitors' Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Wyfold Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Queen Mother Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Princess Grace Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Prince of Wales Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Princess of Wales Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Danesfield Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Queen Victoria Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Fawley Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Diamond Jubilee Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Britannia Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Prince Albert Challenge Cup	£120.00
The Silver Goblets and Nickalls' Challenge Cup	£80.00
The Hambleden Pairs Challenge Cup	£80.00
The Double Sculls Challenge Cup	£80.00
The Stonor Challenge Trophy	£80.00
The Diamond Challenge Sculls	£50.00
The Princess Royal Challenge Cup	£50.00

## LIST OF ENTRIES

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14. No official of the Regatta shall divulge any entry or report the state of the List of Entries until such list is published.
15. The Secretary of the Regatta shall publish the List of Entries as soon as practicable after the Closing Date. The Secretary shall also disclose the names of competitors nominated to compose crews entered in any event for eights, fours or quadruple sculls upon being requested to do so.

## SUBSTITUTION

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16. Substitution of competitors in all events save The Silver Goblets and Nickalls' Challenge Cup, The Hambleden Pairs Challenge Cup, The Double Sculls Challenge Cup, The Stonor Challenge Trophy, The Diamond Challenge Sculls and The Princess Royal Challenge Cup is subject to the following:
  - (a) The substitute shall be a member of the club (or, in the case of a composite crew, any one of the clubs declared in accordance with Rule 8) under which the entry was made, and
  - (b) The substitute shall be eligible under Rule 1, and
  - (c) The name and qualifications of the substitute, duly certified in writing by an accredited officer of the club, shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Regatta in accordance with the following:
    - (i) for eight days after the Closing Date for entries a crew shall be entitled to substitute its coxswain and up to half the number of its rowers,
    - (ii) from the ninth day after the Closing Date for entries no competitor shall be substituted without the consent of the Committee, which consent will only be granted on medical grounds (see Rule 17) or in exceptional circumstances, in which case the request shall be made at least two hours before the race concerned.
  - (d) No substitution is permitted in the following events without the consent of the Committee:
    - The Silver Goblets and Nickalls' Challenge Cup
    - The Hambleden Pairs Challenge Cup
    - The Double Sculls Challenge Cup
    - The Stonor Challenge Trophy
  - (e) No substitution is permitted in the following events:
    - The Diamond Challenge Sculls
    - The Princess Royal Challenge Cup

17. Substitution of competitors on medical grounds is subject to the following:
- (a) No person who has already rowed or steered in a heat shall be substituted for another without the consent of the Committee.
  - (b) Any application for the Committee's consent to allow a substitute to compete must be made to the Secretary of the Regatta not less than one hour before the race, and be accompanied by a doctor's certificate that the original competitor is unfit to compete.
  - (c) A competitor for whom a substitute has been introduced under this Rule shall not compete in any other event at the same Regatta without the consent of the Committee.
  - (d) A competitor who has been medically substituted may, following recovery, compete again in a later round of the same event if approved by the Committee.

## **HEATS**

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18. If there shall be more than two entries for any event, those entered shall row a heat or heats, but no more than two boats shall contend in any one heat.

## **QUALIFYING RACES**

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19. If more entries are received for any event than can be accommodated in the Regatta, the Committee shall arrange Qualifying Races in accordance with the following rules:
- (a) The Committee shall, in its absolute discretion, select which of the entrants shall compete in these races.
  - (b) The races shall take place before the Regatta and shall be held in whatever form the Committee may determine.

## **OBJECTIONS TO ENTRIES**

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20. Objections to the entry of any club or crew must be made in writing to the Secretary at least four clear days before the Regatta, when the Committee shall investigate the grounds of objection and decide thereon without delay. Objections to the qualification of a competitor must be made in writing to the Secretary at the earliest moment practicable. No protest shall be entertained unless lodged before the prizes are distributed.

## **THE COURSE**

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21. The races shall start below the Island, and finish near the upper end of Phyllis Court. Length of Course: 1 mile and 550 yards.

## **STATIONS**

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22. Stations shall be drawn by the Committee.

## **WITHDRAWALS AND ROWING OVER**

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23. If at any time after the Draw a crew should be unable to compete, then the opponent of that crew must row over the Course at the appointed time.
24. In the event of there being but one crew entered for any prize, or if more enter and all but one are unable to compete, the remaining crew must row over the Course to be entitled to such prize.

## **CLOTHING**

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25. Every competitor's clothing must consist of a vest and shorts (or equivalent) as a minimum.

## **CREW REGISTRATION**

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26. Before competing all competitors, including coxswains, must attend Crew Enquiries as specified by the Committee, to verify the composition of their crew(s).

## **COXSWAINS**

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27. There shall be no restriction on the gender of coxswains. In the Club and Student events, however, they must comply with the general eligibility requirements for that event. They may also only compete subject to the following rules and restrictions:
- (a) Coxswains shall not steer for more than one crew for the same prize.
  - (b) The minimum weight to be carried shall be 55 kg. (8st. 9lb.).
  - (c) On each day of competition coxswains shall be weighed wearing a vest and shorts (or equivalent) and their buoyancy aid, not less than one hour before their first race. The weight of additional clothing and of any other equipment which a coxswain may carry during a race shall not be included in calculating any deadweight that a coxswain shall carry to achieve the minimum weight.
  - (d) To make up the minimum weight, coxswains shall have with them throughout the race deadweight provided by the Committee. A Regatta official appointed for the purpose shall ensure that such deadweight is placed in the boat as close as possible to the coxswain before the race, and that it is removed afterwards.

- (e) All coxswains competing at the Regatta shall wear suitable life-jackets or buoyancy aids at all times when on the water. Coxswains in “front loader” positions must wear life-jackets which allow them easy escape from their position.
- (f) Any crew whose coxswain fails to comply with these rules and restrictions shall be liable to disqualification.

## **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

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- 28. The Committee shall ensure that medical and life-saving services are provided throughout the hours of racing.
- 29. Every boat shall carry securely affixed to the bow a white protective ball, minimum diameter 4cm., in rubber or similar material fitted in a safe manner unless the bow is so constructed as to afford equivalent protection.
- 30. In all boats the foot stretchers, shoes or other devices holding the feet of the rowers shall be a type which allows the rowers to get clear of the boat with no delay in an emergency. Where shoes or other devices holding the feet will remain in the boat, each shoe or device shall be independently restrained such that when the heel reaches the horizontal position the foot will be released from the shoe. In addition, where laces, Velcro or similar materials must be opened before a rower’s feet can be removed from the shoes or other device, all such materials must be able to be released immediately by the rower with a single quick hand action of pulling on one easily accessible strap. Where shoes or other devices holding the feet will not remain in the boat, each shoe or device must be able to be released by the rower without the use of hands or with a single quick hand action of pulling on one easily accessible strap or release device.
- 31. The opening of an enclosed coxswain’s seat must be at least 70cm. long and it must be as wide as the boat for at least 50cm. The inner surface of the enclosed part must be smooth and no structure of any sort shall restrict the inner width of the coxswain’s section.

## **IDENTIFICATION OF CREWS**

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- 32. Every boat shall carry a number plate to be provided by the Committee.

## **PROHIBITED ARTIFICES**

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- 33. No boat with a sliding rigger mechanism shall be used.
- 34. No crew shall make use of any substance capable of modifying the natural properties of water nor employ any substance such as prefabricated plastic film on the outer skin of its boat to improve its performance.

## **ANTI-DOPING**

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35. No competitor shall infringe the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code published by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). The Committee shall be empowered to satisfy itself by any means, including tests on competitors, that this Rule has been and is being obeyed, and in the event of an infringement to refer the matter to the relevant Results Management Authority.

## **POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

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36. All questions concerning eligibility, qualifications, programme, interpretation of the Rules or other matters not specifically provided for shall be referred to the Committee, whose decision shall be final. In exceptional circumstances the Committee shall have power to abrogate, alter or suspend any Rule, providing it is satisfied that no crew is thereby placed in a less favourable position as a result.

## **RACE OFFICIALS AND PENALTIES**

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37. The Committee shall appoint the following officials to act under these Rules:
- (a) Umpires.
  - (b) Judges at the Finish.
  - (c) Judges at the Start.
  - (d) Boat Tent Stewards.

These officials shall have the power to impose for a breach of these Rules, including acts of unsporting conduct, either of the following penalties:

- (i) Warning – as if the crew had caused a false start.
- (ii) Disqualification.

## **ADVERTISING**

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38. Advertising on boats, on oars and sculls and on clothing may be displayed whilst racing in the Regatta only in accordance with the regulations detailed in the current version of the document “Notes and Instructions for Competitors and Coaches”. Failure to comply with these regulations may lead to the imposition of a penalty for the crew’s next race.

## **TRAFFIC RULES AND TRAINING TIMES**

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39. All crews must follow the Traffic Rules as detailed in the current version of the document “Traffic Rules and Training Times” and the Navigation Rules of the Environment Agency. Failure to comply with these instructions may lead to the imposition of a penalty for the crew’s next race.

## CONDUCT OF RACES

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40. Races at the Regatta shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) Each crew must have its boat in position at the Start and ready for the bow to be aligned by the Judge at the Start two minutes before the advertised time of the race. A crew whose boat is not so positioned may be disqualified or warned by the Umpire. Such a warning shall penalise the crew as if it had caused a false start. If a crew has already received a warning before the start of the race (e.g. for a violation of the Traffic Rules) and then receives a second warning from the Umpire, that crew will be disqualified.
- (b) Races will be started as follows: The Umpire, when satisfied that the crews are ready, will give the warning command: "ATTENTION" and will then hold up a red flag. After a clear pause the Umpire will drop the flag and at the same time say: "GO".
- (c) A false start will be signalled by the ringing of a bell, and the Umpire will recall the crews to the Start by waving a red flag. The Umpire will announce the name of the crew which caused the false start and will issue a warning. A crew which refuses to start again or which has received two warnings for that race will be disqualified by the Umpire.
- (d) An Umpire who wishes to stop a race after the word "GO", will raise a red flag and give the order: "STOP". An Umpire who wishes to stop one of the crews for safety reasons will raise a white flag, name the crew and give it the order: "STOP".
- (e) A crew's proper course is such as keeps all parts of its oars, sculls, boat or persons between the buoys or booms on the side on which it started and a line halfway between the buoys or booms on either side. A crew which leaves its proper course does so at its peril and may be disqualified by the Umpire if it thereby interferes with its opponent or in the event of a foul.
- (f) The Umpire shall be the sole judge of a crew's proper course and shall decide all questions of interference with an opponent or of a foul.
- (g) It shall be considered a foul if, after a race has been started, a crew shall come into contact by its oars, sculls, boat or persons with the oars, sculls, boat or persons of its opponent.
- (h) An Umpire who considers that there is the probability of a foul, or that the crew is out of its proper course and in danger of interfering with its opponent, may warn a crew. The Umpire may also warn a crew of an obstruction in its course. The Umpire shall not in any other circumstances direct a crew's course.
- (i) In the event of a foul, a crew may claim that its opponent be disqualified. Such a claim must be made to the Umpire by a member of the crew raising an arm immediately after the finish of the race.
- (j) If the crew making the claim was in its proper course and its opponent was out of its proper course, the latter shall be disqualified unless, in the opinion of the Umpire, the foul was so slight as not to influence the race.

The Umpire may reserve this decision but will give it as soon as possible after the race.

- (k) In either of the following circumstances the Umpire may disqualify a crew out of its proper course which is involved in a foul or in interference with its opponent:
  - (i) If the crew has, in the opinion of the Umpire, wilfully encroached on the proper course of its opponent.
  - (ii) If the foul or interference is of such a nature as clearly to influence the race.
- (l) In the event of a foul, the Umpire shall have the power, if neither of the crews has been disqualified, to re-start the race according to the Umpire's discretion, or to order a re-row.
- (m) A crew shall abide by its own accidents except that, if during a race a crew shall have suffered interference from some outside agency which in the opinion of the Umpire may have influenced the outcome of the race, the Umpire shall have power to stop and re-start the race according to the Umpire's discretion, or to order a re-row. If a crew considers that it has been subject to outside interference it must make an objection to the Umpire by a member of the crew raising an arm immediately after the finish of the race.
- (n) No boat shall follow any race for the purpose of directing the course of a crew, nor shall a crew be given any advice, assistance or steering aid during a race. A crew which receives any extraneous assistance during a race may be disqualified by the Umpire. In particular, the use of any form of megaphone by supporters is forbidden.
- (o) Crews must start and finish the race with the full complement of competitors specified in the Qualification Rules for that event. A crew is judged to have completed the Course when the bow of its boat reaches the Finish Line unless prevented from doing so either by outside interference or by damage caused by a foul.
- (p) The Judge at the Finish shall decide the order in which the crews reach the Finish Line, and this decision shall be final and without appeal. If the crews reach the Finish Line simultaneously, the race shall be rowed again at a time to be arranged by the Committee. If a crew refuses to re-row, it shall be disqualified.
- (q) The Umpire's jurisdiction shall extend over the whole race from the time that it is specified to start until its end. The Umpire's decisions shall be final and without appeal.
- (r) A crew which refuses to abide by the decisions of the Umpire or the Judge, or fails to follow directions given to it by the Umpire, may be disqualified.

## UNSPORTING CONDUCT

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41. (a) The Committee shall have the power in response to acts of unsporting conduct to impose the penalties in Rule 37, and in addition to exclude competitors, crews or a club from an event or from all events at the Regatta.
- (b) Unsporting conduct means behaviour deemed by the Committee and/or race officials to be unsporting and/or likely to cause offence which is displayed before, during or after a race by competitors, crews, coaches, club members or supporters.

## DEFINITIONS

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42. In these Rules reference is made to the following organisations:
- (a) World Rowing is the international governing body of the sport of rowing.
- (b) British Rowing is the governing body of the sport of rowing in Great Britain.

## INTERPRETATION

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43. In these Rules where the context so admits:
- (a) The singular shall include the plural and *vice versa*.
- (b) Subject to the guidance in the Trans and Non-Binary Inclusion Competition Policy and Procedures of British Rowing which is in effect on the Closing Date, the masculine shall include the feminine and *vice versa*.
- (c) Rowing shall include sculling.
- (d) A single sculler shall be deemed to be a crew.
- (e) Writing shall include email, but no other form of digital messaging.