

## Metropolitan Regatta 2019

**COURSE:** Six/Seven lanes 2000m on still water.

**RACING:** Under British Rowing Rules of Racing and Row Safe. Where events are banded into Tiers refer also to Personal Ranking Reference Book.

### ENTRY FEES:

Eights .....	£150
Fours/Quads .....	£80
Pairs/Doubles .....	£55
Single Sculls .....	£35

### EVENT ORGANISATION

Events will be organised using Ranking Index. Boat Classes (the events on BROE) will be banded into Tiers. The number of crews in each Tier will be determined by the size of the entry and the spread of the Ranking Indexes.

The Tiers will be run in either, the morning session up to approximately 2pm or the afternoon session after approximately 2pm. Alternate tiers will be in different sessions, **for example:**

Morning	Championship (Tier 1), Tier 3, Tier 5
Afternoon	Tier 2, Tier 4

*Note:* the above is an example only, and the reverse may occur with even tiers in the morning and odd tiers in the afternoon.

Where crews are allocated to heats, this will take regard of Ranking Index. Lanes will be drawn randomly.

Crews may double up within the same event unless their Ranking Index places them in the Championship tier. Where a crew wishes to double up they should enter the event twice (as below) and the second entry will be placed in the next Tier up.

To enable crews to enter an event twice, each event will be listed twice on BROE. The second event should only be used for crews that are doubling up in the **same event**. A crew wishing to double up will in effect enter the same event twice.

Crews can request to be moved into a higher Tier than would be expected from their Ranking Index. This must be done before the draw takes place, by contacting the Entries Secretary. Crews may not ask to be moved to a lower Tier.

See also the section on doubling up.

Some events will not be banded into Tiers (e.g. Lightweight Singles or Junior Quads). These will be raced throughout the day.

### CHALLENGE EIGHTS

The Regatta will be offering Challenge Eights and Masters eights on Sunday. These will be run as time trials followed by side-by-side races as in previous years. Doubling up is not permitted within Challenge Eights.

Semi-finals will be held in the Challenge Eights for the top 28 crews in both Open and Women's, and we hope to offer more semi-finals depending on the number of races available in the day. There will be a complete set of finals so all eights will race at least twice, some will race three times.

Masters events will consist of a time trial followed by finals only. The results of the Masters events will be based on handicap, but crews should note that the handicap will be applied to finish times, not at the start.

In the Challenge Eights there will be prizes for the overall winner, and for Club and Academic crews. The overall winner is not eligible for the Club and Academic prizes and the following will not be eligible to enter as Club or Academic:

- Club crews containing students who have been rowing for an academic institution within 2 months of the Regatta.
- Crews from an Academic institution containing rowers who are not full-time students at that institution or have not been full time students at the institution within 2 months of the Regatta.
- Composite crews, except for parts of a larger institution such as separate colleges within the same university.

The Regatta may allow exceptions to these, but only with the express approval of the Chairman of the Race Committee. We wish to encourage genuine Club and Academic crews.

Crews should enter Challenge Eights as Open, Club or Academic. The Open category is for all crews not eligible for Club or Academic.

If there are sufficient entries, we will offer extra prizes as follows:

- If the entry is such that the event should be banded into 3, 4 or 5 tiers then prizes will be awarded in these categories.
- If there are sufficient Open J19 entries (at least 6 crews), then we will offer prizes for the fastest Open J19 crew.
- The Regatta will decide where to place the boundary between tiers, and as with other banded events this will depend on the size of the entry and the spread in Ranking Index.
- In Challenge Eights, no crew may win more than one prize.
- If we have an Open J19 event, crews in Open J19 are not eligible for other prizes.

### **OPEN COXED FOURS, WOMEN'S COXLESS FOURS, AND SATURDAY EIGHTS**

These events will have a Championship Tier, possibly a second Tier, and then lower Tiers will be split into Club and Academic. The split will depend on the size of the entry in each event.

Crews should enter as either Club or Academic. Unlike Challenge Eights, Academic crews can contain alumni if the crew is predominantly made up of students. If there is any doubt, contact the Entries Secretary.

Depending on the size of the entry, the Regatta may decide to combine Club and Academic categories.

### **SINGLE SCULLERS**

We reserve the right to apply a minimum ranking to single scullers, for instance if the Regatta is over-subscribed.

Where a single sculler believes that their Ranking Index does not reflect their ability, clubs may provide additional evidence. If the single sculling events are over-subscribed then priority will be given to scullers with higher Ranking Indexes unless clubs have provided compelling evidence.

### **CREW COMPETENCE**

All crews must be able to attach their boats to the start pontoon and get straight within a reasonable time, in all conditions, to ensure that racing runs to time. Any crew that is not capable of attaching and then getting straight will not be allowed to start. Coaches and coxes should read the document "How to attach to a stake-boat" and carry out the relevant training.

If weather conditions make it necessary the heats in some events may be replaced by time trials. The regatta reserves the right to award prizes based on the results of a time trial.

### **DOUBLING UP**

Competitors may only enter a maximum of 2 events on a day. In banded events these will be one morning and one afternoon event. Clubs should avoid entering combinations of crews that cannot be resolved into morning and afternoon. For instance, if a club enters an eight and two fours, and there are two rowers from the eight in each four and two other rowers in both fours, the Regatta will not be able to allocate the crews to different sessions.

It may be that a crew that is doubling up in a different event has to be moved into a higher tier if both end up in either the morning or afternoon sessions.

Crews that are likely to be in Tier 1 (Championship) are advised to avoid doubling up between events where Tier 1 will be in the same session (e.g. 4+ and 4-).

No competitor may enter both an Open event and a Women's event. On Sunday only, they may not enter a sweep oar and a sculling event. These restrictions also apply to coxes and boat sharing.

Competitors may compete in both Junior events and Senior events.

We anticipate that these rules will allow us to provide at least 40 minutes' gap between races for athletes that are doubling up, but as always crews double up at their own risk.

If a crew ignores these rules, we will make no allowance in the timetable. If a crew makes a substitution after the draw they no longer have to abide by these rules, but no allowance will be made if the Regatta then has to change the order of racing.

### **OVER-SUBSCRIBED EVENTS**

It may be necessary to limit the number of entries in some events.

In an oversubscribed event we will first eliminate any crews that have not provided complete entries. The regatta reserves the right to prioritise entries based on when the entry was received. The Regatta may also consider a crew's status, whether it is doubling up and whether a club has made more than one entry in the event.

Crews that have not paid in full at the time entries close will be considered to have submitted incomplete entries.

### **UNDER-SUBSCRIBED EVENTS**

The Regatta will not normally run an event with three or fewer entries. Where there are insufficient entries, we will try to contact clubs, please supply a telephone number **that will be manned over the draw weekend.**

## **ONLINE ENTRIES**

All entries must be made using the BROE system.

Please allow sufficient time to complete entries on BROE. If you are a foreign crew and have not previously entered an event using BROE you will need to contact British Rowing before you will be able to make your entry.

Crews or individuals whose experience would indicate that they should be racing in Championship (ie. ex or current international) should make this clear on their entry by selecting “championship” when prompted.

## **SUBSTITUTIONS**

All substitutions must be made on BROE before a crew race. Clubs should ensure they have a means of logging on to BROE to make substitutions. Substitutions must be in accordance with British Rowing’s Rules of Racing, and also with the latest version of British Rowing’s Personal Index Reference Book when competing for a prize on the basis of Ranking Index.

Crew names will be published in the results.

## **COMPOSITE CREWS**

Composite crews must be entered correctly. If you are unsure as to how to enter a composite crew please contact the Entries Secretary or British Rowing. Please make it clear which clubs make up the composite.

## **CONTACT DETAILS**

Please ensure that your BROE contact details are up to date as the draw information will be sent electronically.

## **OVERSEAS AND SCOTTISH CREWS**

Scottish and foreign crews will be put in the top tier unless the clubs have given us sufficient details of their status or ranking in their own country to allow us to place them in a lower tier.

All Scottish and foreign clubs are required to give the current status of each crew within their own national system (e.g. Irish status for Irish crews) on their entry – this must be done on BROE.

Foreign crews are not covered by the British Rowing’s insurance and are required to confirm that they are covered. Some national rowing associations provide cover as long as they are notified in advance. The Regatta does not need to see evidence of insurance cover.

## **E-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS**

“Anti-spam” software may result in genuine messages being filtered out. You are advised to check if no acknowledgement or reply is received.

## **PAYMENT**

All entry fees must be paid **before the close of entries**. The Regatta regrets that it cannot accept incomplete entries. The Regatta will be using the BROE payment system, or cheques should be sent to Entries Secretary, Metropolitan Regatta, c/o London Rowing Club, Embankment, Putney, London SW15 1LB to be received **before** entries close. Cheques should be made payable to “Metropolitan Amateur Regatta”. Please identify the club and crews the payment refers to on the back of the cheque. Please do **not** send payment by recorded delivery.

Clubs should note that a crew's priority (if an event is oversubscribed) depends on the date of entry, not the date of payment. You may wish to defer payment on a crew where it is likely to be withdrawn before entries close. We will refund entry fees to crews that withdraw before the draw, subject to any charges incurred by the regatta

The Regatta regrets that no refunds can be made for crews withdrawn after the draw has taken place.

**If all or part of the Regatta has to be cancelled for safety reasons, entry fees will regrettably not be fully refundable.**

### **JUNIOR CREWS**

In line with the Regatta's Welfare Policy and Plan for Juniors, any club official entering junior competitors at the Regatta must read the Metropolitan Regatta Junior Welfare Policy and Plan, even if the Junior is competing in a senior event. An on-site contact for a responsible adult, including telephone number must be provided at the time of entry for any crew containing Junior athletes.

### **CLOSE OF ENTRIES**

Entries close at 12 noon on Friday 24 May 2019

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

Competitors are requested to read the Safety Instructions and the "Other Information for Competitors" on the Regatta's web site.

Jason Gray, Entries Secretary, [entries@metregatta.org](mailto:entries@metregatta.org)