

The Metropolitan Amateur Regatta

London Rowing Club, Embankment, Putney, SW15 1LB

www.metregatta.org

@metregatta

30th May 2018

FAO Club Entries Secretaries / Single Scullers

RE: Women's and Open Single Sculling Events at the Metropolitan Amateur Regatta 2018

After careful consideration the Regatta Committee, with agreement from the Race Committee, have decided to **re-draw the Women's and Open Single Sculls on both Saturday and Sunday.**

We want to make sure that all our competitors have good and fair racing and try to be responsive to issues raised. We continue to work to implement the British Rowing Competition Framework and must adhere to its principles. It is clear however that the information available to us is was not sufficient to properly rank single scullers. The current draw would result in some of the quickest athletes racing in the lower tiers. This is as a result of RIs gained from major events this season and the effect of racing a greater or fewer number of times on the CRI Max.

For this reason we will be **re-drawing the singles sculls events** on both days of the event. We have not taken this decision lightly and we know that this will have an impact on a number of our competitors. We hope that you agree this is a reasonable step to take to ensure fair racing.

We know that there are other competitors in other events who do not feel they are racing in the correct tier. The reason for only re-drawing scullers and not other events is that the PRI system in its current format has a particularly acute effect on singles. The committee must balance implementing the new system, competitors requests and our entry rules to ensure that the system is applied fairly. On the balance of the information the committee has we believe that it is proportionate to re-draw all single sculling events. We do not believe this is the case in any other boat category.

We know that every race is important to every athlete, coach and club and we are working hard to make the event of a good standard, enjoyable and worthwhile. Thankyou for your patience.

Please see below a few explanatory notes regarding this:

How will we do the re-draw?

We will look at the CRI and CRI Max. Where an athlete has a large number of "old" status points we will use this information and speak to the athlete/ coach if possible. We will include the information sent to us prior and subsequent to the original draw. We will rank the scullers based on this information and divide them into tiers. As per the original draw we cannot allow scullers to race "down" below their CRI. On balance we believe that by racing people up based on the information now provided to us and their status points the event will be fair.

How do we decide what tiers we use?

The Tiers we use are relative to the entry the size and standard. Each Tier is not fixed and it is altered by both the size and quality of the entry but also by the number of doubling up requests made which we facilitate where possible. We look at the entry and use the clear gaps in the RI to determine appropriate boundaries for each tier. We will go through this process again during the re-draw.

When will the draw be published?

A revised draw will be published by 2000hrs on Thursday 31st May 2018.

Why won't we re-draw other events?

Completing the draw including all doubling up takes approximately two days. We do not believe that there is sufficient evidence that the issues present in the sculling events are present in other events to warrant re-draws more widely. The onus must be on those making entries to present information which is not included in the ranking index with the entry, it is not feasible or appropriate for the regatta to research individual athletes. Prior to the draw we are happy for crews to make representation to race "up" however we cannot facilitate racing "down". Where specific issues have been identified in other events we have looked at these circumstances individually.

A doubling up entry no longer works?

If as a result of our re-drawing of Women's and Open Singles a doubling up entry you had already made is no longer possible we will refund the entry fee for the single. Please note we will only refund single sculls entries for this specific reason and not larger boat types.

What rule are we using to do this?

Rule 1-2 states "The purposes of these rules are to: provide a basis for safe, fair and equal racing". Rule 8-1c states "Race Committees and umpires may decide on any situation not covered in these rules. A report on such cases shall be sent to the National Competition Committee within five days." We believe that to enable us to run a fair race the only option is to re-draw. When taken together these rules provide us with the framework needed to re-draw a specific event. We will be making a full report to the NCC after the event.

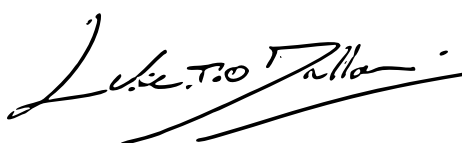
Will this happen again next year?

No. We do a considerable amount of data analysis each year to inform how we arrange the events in subsequent years. We will be updating our entry rules and guidance to assist us and you with this for subsequent years and will have the benefit of increased data within the Ranking Index.

Do you listen to competitor feedback?

We work hard to accommodate feedback and welcome feedback during or after the event. The secretary can be contacted using secretary@metregatta.org.

On Behalf of the Committee:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luke Dillon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Luke Dillon (Hon Secretary)