

# IRONBRIDGE WEEKEND REGATTAS

SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup> & SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2009

## 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 read and understand the following notes.

### Competitors

These notes should be read by every crew and sculler racing at Ironbridge Regattas over the weekend. 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. Please take the time to read the following guidance notes:

- Competitors are required to report to Registration before they race, to collect their number. If you have **any changes** to the **OARA entry submitted**, **these must be declared** before collecting your number. Numbers will only be issued when all fees are paid. Day tickets are no longer available. Please ensure that plenty of time is allowed to undertake the above, especially first thing in the morning, although extra effort will be provided to make sure you can boat on time. **Random checks** will be made on ARA Racing Licences at registration. **YOU MUST ALWAYS BRING YOUR ARA RACING LICENCE TO A REGATTA IF YOU ARE RACING.** **Random checks** of the crew in the boat against photo ID will also be performed throughout the day.
- Crews must report to the Boat Marshall, **30 minutes** before the start of their race. Here, their boats will be checked for compliance with the ARA Rules of Racing and Water Safety Code, and they will be paired with their opposition before going afloat. Please note that due to the level of entries, **no row-overs will be allowed** to avoid unnecessary congestion on the river.
- 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 A.R.A. Rules of Racing). **Random checks** may be performed on crews coming into the landing stage after racing.
- All competitors are required to boat at the upstream steps. There will be IRC members to assist efficient boating. All crews are asked to boat as quickly as possible to prevent a backlog of waiting crews. Please be careful to ensure that when boating and pushing off, you do not impede a race coming down the course. **Crews are to proceed to the start on the Power Station side of the river.** At the conclusion of the race, all crews must turn well clear of the finish – around the bend - and then proceed on the regatta side of the river to the downstream steps. **DO NOT ROW BELOW** the Merrythought complex. The river is shallow and you will most probably damage your boat. If it is necessary to change a crew on the steps, the new crew must be ready to step straight into the boat.
- If the river level is above Summer Level, the central landing stage linking both sets of steps is underwater. Crews should be prepared to wade, or be equipped with Wellingtons.
- Please ensure all competitors are familiar with the attached map of the course.
- The First named crew is to row on the Power station side of the river.
- 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.

*Continued overleaf.....*

- ALL CREWS THAT REACH A FINAL should report to Registration BEFORE BOATING FOR THEIR FINAL with their racing licences. Losing crews can collect their licences after their finals, and winning crews will have their licences returned (updated) with the presentation of their prizes. **PRIZES WILL NOT BE AWARDED TO ANY CREW SHOULD ANY MEMBER FAIL TO PRODUCE THEIR RACING LICENCE.**
- 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.

## **GENERAL NOTICES**

- 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 fire lane on the camping/regatta field is to be kept clear for emergency access.**
- No camping or alcohol is permitted in Dale End Park. This is a restriction imposed by Telford & Wrekin Council. Access will only be allowed for trailers. Please take care when driving through the park. No towing vehicles are to be left in the trailer park. All vehicles and tents are to be parked on the Regatta Field located behind the Clubhouse. Please ensure that a sensible distance is left between tents for safety reasons.
- **Please note that NO BONFIRES are allowed anywhere**, this is in the interests of safety, and out of courtesy to the football club who give up the use of their pitch for the Regatta. **A schools sports day is scheduled for the DAY following the regatta and a football tournament is scheduled, for the weekend following the regatta, both of these will take place on the regatta field, so please show consideration to other sportspeople by not lighting fires on the sports pitches.**
- Please help us to keep Dale End Park clean by using the skip provided or by taking your rubbish to the nearest skip. Black plastic bags are available upon request. Please ask at Control. If you see that bins are overflowing, please inform Control.
- **Roche Medical** will be in attendance for first aid cover during the weekend and are located to the rear of the marquee. A payphone is available in the Clubhouse, which will be open between the hours of 7AM – 9PM each day. Outside these hours, the nearest public payphone is situated on the B4380 in Buildwas Village. (Turn left at the top of the track, follow the road, then turn left then right. You will then enter Buildwas Village.
- 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 clubside path from the finish up to the 500m point is very narrow, uneven and hazardous. All competitors and spectators are asked to take extra care should they chose to walk up the side of the course and are reminded that this is entirely at their own risk. The far side of the river is Power Station property and is out of bounds.

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