

RUTHERFORD HEAD - 12 FEBRUARY 2022

DIVISION 1 - 10:30 & DIVISION 2 - 14:15

INSTRUCTIONS TO CLUBS AND CREWS, INCLUDING LOCAL RULES

COVID

Rutherford Head will be run in compliance with all relevant British Rowing and Government regulations and guidelines. All clubs and crews should read and comply with the separate COVID compliance document that will be published on the Tyne ARC web site and sent to clubs alongside this document. It may need to be updated as race day approaches; if so it will be published widely.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

You must bring wellington boots for boating and landing; the trailer parks may also be muddy – we recommend that you wear wellies in these areas too. To speed up the boating process and debloating after the race, **take your wellies with you in the boat**; leave them on as you push off and put your feet in shoes on the water NOT on the steps.

Conditions can be windy, cold and wet and you can expect to be on the water for a long time. Ensure you have warm and waterproof clothing with you in the boat. Junior coaches should check that this is the case for their crews before reaching the steps for boating. **Crews with insufficient clothing will be refused permission to boat.**

BOATING ARRANGEMENTS

The start numbers for your crews, boating times and boating location (Tyne ARC, Tyne United RC or Newcastle University BC) will be shown in the start order covering both divisions, which will be available at www.tynerowingclub.org/pages/rutherford_head_21_in_22_274624.cfm about 5 days beforehand. Boating times will be shown on the boating plan. Your plastic bow number and paper bow-person numbers will be at your boating location for collection. There may be two envelopes for larger clubs. Ensure that both numbers are securely fixed/fastened.

You must boat at the time shown in the published start orders. When boating you must follow the instructions of the land marshals. Boats may be checked for safety and crews of those failing will not be allowed to row until the faults are rectified. **Crews not ready to boat on time may receive a time penalty of up to 30 seconds.**

Ensure you have your oars ready on the landing steps/shore and get into your boats as quickly as possible. Please move away from the landing area promptly so as not to obstruct following crews and cause delay. Crews are responsible for making their own way to the start, following normal rules of the river. Marshalling launches will be on hand to help you get in the right place.

Crews boating before 9:30am or 1:15pm may use the pre-race circulation pattern (on the website to download as *Warm Up Area* plan) above Newburn Bridge but **must be down river** of Newburn Bridge proceeding to the start **no later than 45 minutes before the start time.**

You should be in position in the start marshalling area 10 minutes before the start time. **Any crew not below Blaydon Station by 10:10 for Div 1 and 13:55 for Div 2 may for safety reasons not be allowed to proceed to the start and be held there**; this is at the discretion of the marshalls.

Once in the start marshalling area you should proceed to your designated location straightaway (see *Start Area Plan* on website). You **must not** undertake any practice pieces (starts, going firm, etc) in the marshalling area nor go downriver of the marshalling area. Marshals' instructions must be followed at all times.

RACING

Marshals in launches will direct you towards the start line in order. The start umpire and the timing team will be on the south bank (to your left if coxing). You will hear the start umpire say "Club name, Number X – GO". The time is taken at the start line about 30 metres further on. Try not to overtake the crew in front before the start line - ease back a little if necessary!

For safety reasons and to avoid damage to boats in shallow water, crews when racing **MUST** use the centre span of Scotswood Bridge, the 2 centre arches of the Old Railway Bridge and the wide main arch of the Blaydon (A1) bridge (see *Start Area Plan* on the web site). **Crews failing to do so are causing a risk to themselves and others and will be disqualified.**

During the race, crews being overtaken must give the boat catching them the fastest line and not impede them. This calls for care, on bends in particular. Crews in front leading boats must keep their cox informed if they are being overtaken. **Undue obstruction of other crews who wish to take the fastest line may lead to a time penalty of up to 30 seconds, or disqualification if repeated.**

Safety launches will be stationed along the course. If you do have an incident and have to stop, stay with your boat until help arrives. Do not attempt to swim to the bank without your boat. Please report any incidents afterwards to Race Control. Crews near an incident (even if racing) are asked to stop and help if another crew is in serious difficulty and a safety launch is not to hand.

At the finish and during the return to the steps crews must obey the instructions as laid out in the *Finish Area Plan* (on the web site) or as directed by marshalls. Crews returning to Tyne ARC and Tyne United RC must use the two central arches of Newburn bridge (see *Finish Area Plan* on the web site). Marshalling launches will be on hand to direct crews at the finish.

ABANDONMENT PROCEDURES

If the event has to be abandoned at any time while crews are marshalling or racing the following procedure will apply. In everyone's interests all crews must comply.

- **Stop immediately** if instructed to do so by a marshall or other official
- **Wait for a marshal** to instruct you when, how and where to proceed.
- **Keep a lookout** for other crews nearby who may not have heard or seen the warnings and are continuing with marshalling or racing. Pass on the information if possible and take any necessary action to avoid a collision.
- **Don't delay** once you have your instruction to move and be sure to follow the directions carefully.

RACE CONTROL

This will be located at Tyne ARC.

FIRST AID

There will be first aid providers at Tyne ARC.

WELFARE

A welfare officer will be available at Tyne ARC all day. Hot showers and changing rooms are available at TARC, TURC and NUBC for emergency use. The Sea Cadets premises at Derwenthaugh may also be used but only if evacuation to shore at the start is necessary.

TRAILER AND CAR PARKING AND DROP OFF

Trailers must be parked at the club indicated for boating on the final start order (Tyne ARC, Tyne United RC or Newcastle University BC). Parking for trailer towing vehicles will be provided at the host club.

There is no drop-off access within the sites at **Tyne ARC and Tyne United RC**. In particular buses/coaches **MUST NOT** attempt to drop off competitors at any of the host clubs; please do so sensibly and quickly on neighbouring roads and then proceed to the Grange Road car park (see below).

For those boating at Tyne ARC, out of consideration for local residents **DO NOT** park cars or minibuses on Grange Road or in the surrounding streets in Newburn and **DO NOT** park in front of the Boathouse/Branzini's Restaurant on the road down to the club. Cars (and buses/coaches) may park at the free car park opposite the Newburn Activity Centre along Grange Road. This car park is only a short walk away from the rowing clubs, see map on website.

Those boating from Tyne United must not park on the approaches to Newburn Bridge but may park further south along Newburn Bridge Road well away from the bridge.

Newcastle University BC provides for some general car parking but space is limited.

The Highway Authority for Newburn asks that no vehicles should be parked in an obstructive manner on road, footpath or verge and must observe all signed restrictions. Consideration must be made with regards to access for others on roads and footpaths when parking. Special consideration should be given to residents in the residential areas off Grange Road.

PRIZE GIVING

There will be no formal prize giving this year. Results will be published on the web site page below and on Twitter (@Tyne_Rowing) and winning crews should send a representative(s) to collect their prizes from Race Control after 1.30pm for Div 1 and 4.30pm for Div 2.

The Joint Competition Secretaries are Colin Percy and Lyn Goldsmith

They can be contacted at entries@tynearc.com or at 07985 003304 (Colin)

Web page: www.tynerowingclub.org/pages/rutherford_head_21_in_22_274624.cfm

A list of key contacts with mobile phone numbers will be posted there for race day