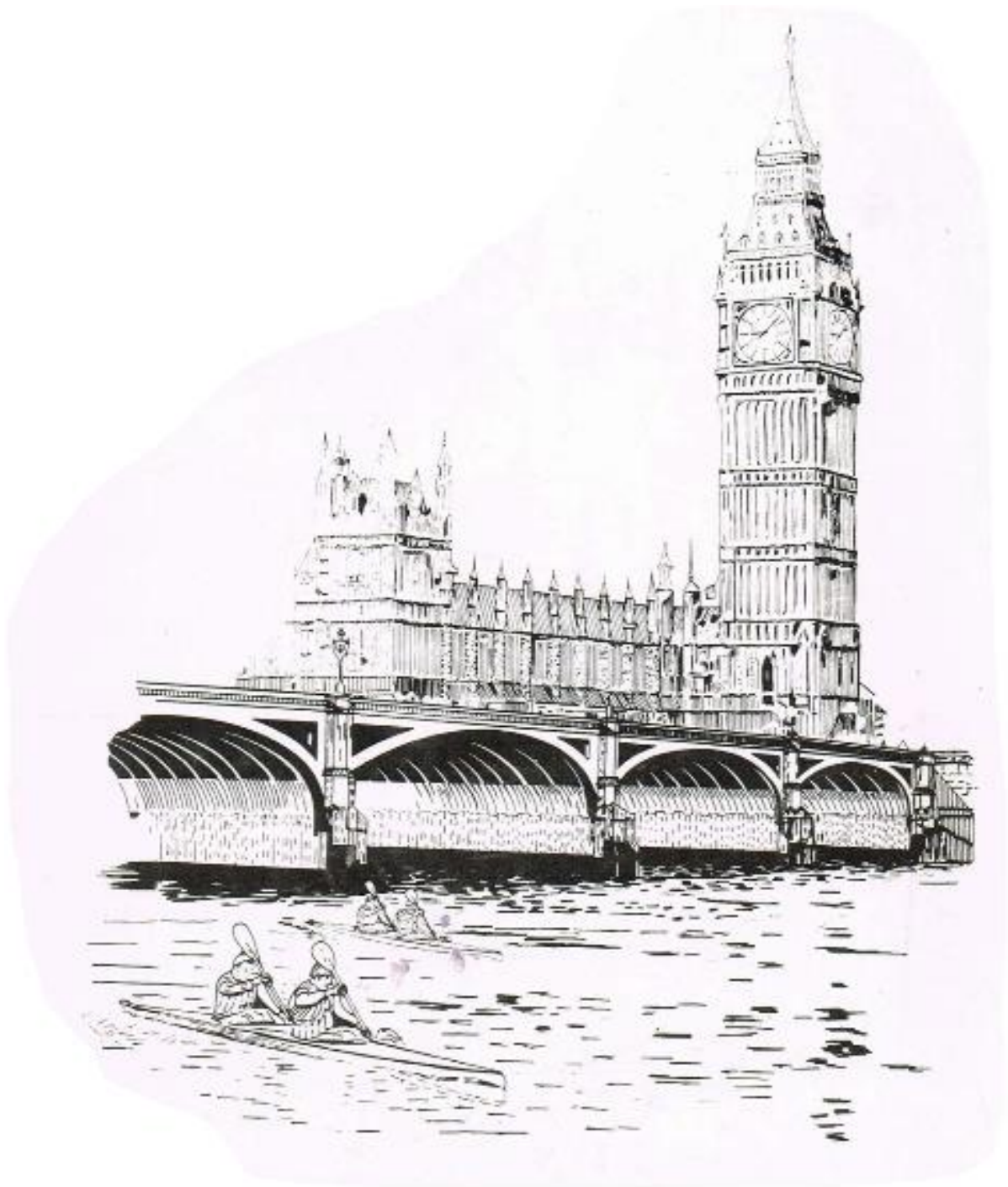




# **Devizes to Westminster International Canoe Race**

## **Rule Book 2023**



## Emergency Response Plan (ERP)

The Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race Emergency Response Plan is an integral part of the rules and all competitors are deemed to have read it and understood its implications.

### WHAT IS AN EMERGENCY?

For the purpose of this event an Emergency is defined as any incident:-

- Resulting in serious injury or the loss of life of a DW Race participant, supporter, DW volunteer or official
- Requiring the rescue of a DW Race participant, supporter, DW volunteer or official from a hazard on land or water
- Involving a search for a crew member missing and believed to be in danger
- Or occasion which the DW Duty Officer decides warrants the calling out of the Emergency Services

### WHO TO CONTACT?

- In the event of any emergency, contact the DW Race Control

**The DW Race Control number is 01189 661333.**

### INFORMATION TO GIVE

In the event of an emergency be prepared to provide the following information:

- State IMMEDIATELY that the message is an Emergency
- Your name and status
- Race number of boat
- Confirmation of crew name(s)
- Nature/time/location of the incident
- Are supporters of the crew present at the scene?
- Which emergency services have already been informed?

### SERIOUS INJURY

- In the event of an emergency resulting in serious injury or loss of life contact the Emergency Services immediately

**The Emergency Services telephone number is 999.**

**IF YOU ARE IN ANY DOUBT ABOUT THE SEVERITY OF AN INCIDENT, CALL 999 IMMEDIATELY.**

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

## Devizes to Westminster International Canoe Race Rules

The Devizes to Westminster Race is run by the Devizes to Westminster Organisation Ltd. The Organisation is referred to variously and interchangeably as 'DW' the 'Organisation,' the 'Organiser,' and the 'Company.' The event is run entirely by volunteers.

### Course Information

The course starts at Devizes Wharf, passing along the Kennet and Avon Canal joining the River Thames at Reading. Immediately after the canal joins the river there is a compulsory portage at Dreadnought Reach. The course continues downstream to Teddington reaching the finish 50 metres beyond Westminster Bridge via the tidal section of the Thames. Over the total course distance of 125 miles there are 77 portages.

Only the navigation channels of the Kennet and Avon Canal and the River Thames may be used. The backwater cut at Windsor passing under the dual carriageway is not regarded as a navigation channel for the purposes of these rules.

All portages must take place on the tow path except where otherwise shown on the official Route Plan, Portage Diagram or as ordered by an official.

No other route is permitted. All relevant bylaws from Canal and River Trust, Environment Agency and Port of London Authority must be adhered to. PLA bylaws require boats to keep to the correct side of the river, so do not cut corners or paddle against the left-hand bank on the Tideway. See Rule 27, "Navigating the Tideway" on page 5.

### At Devizes

Crews must report for Kit Check one hour before their intended Start time unless they have checked in the night before. Please note that the car park space near the wharf in Devizes is limited and therefore cars will only be permitted to park for a maximum of 2 hours. This is more than enough time to arrive, unload and prepare your boat, complete check in formalities and depart. Time penalties may be imposed on crews if they exceed the 2 hour limit.

A number plate will be issued to each crew and must be secured on the boat as directed. Any crew not displaying their number plate will be deemed to have retired from the Race. Should a boat pass the finishing line in such a manner that its number plate cannot be read by the timekeeper, it will be the responsibility of the crew's support party to inform the timekeeper of the number. This is of particular relevance for Canadian canoes as stickers attached to their hulls cannot easily be read from the Finish Line at Westminster Bridge.

Crew members must wear an identity wristlet provided and attached by a Race Official. This must not be removed during the Race and will be used for verification purposes when awarding Finishers' Medals at the Finish.

The Chief Supporter of each crew must confirm/provide the Competition Secretary with their name and mobile phone number as required on the Entry Form. They should also supply a landline number of a supporter who can relay messages should mobile communication fail. Support crews must be readily available at all times to be contacted by DW Control. If you cannot be contacted immediately you may receive a text asking you to make contact. You should check for messages at regular intervals. Penalties will be imposed on crews whose supporters are found to be un-contactable on the numbers provided.

Unsupported paddlers (not recommended) must provide the number of a phone to be carried with them in the boat, and they are responsible for checking this phone at regular intervals.

Inspected kit which has been presented and passed in Devizes must be used throughout the Race. Any competitor found not wearing or replacing the inspected kit with an inferior or non-compliant version **will be disqualified**.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

## At Westminster

The race finishes just downstream of Westminster Bridge and paddlers and their boats are brought ashore at a flight of stairs in front of County Hall by the Steps Crew. Please note that these stairs and the walkway in front of County Hall are private property and we are only granted access on condition that we do not cause an obstruction to members of the public. Keep well back from the area at the top of the stairs and respect the instructions of marshals.

**Please remember that the South Bank at Westminster has been designated a no-alcohol area by the police so any celebratory champagne or other drinks should be opened and drunk elsewhere.**

To keep the steps access area clear, crews and/or supporters are asked to take boats directly to their own vehicles not to the grounds around St Thomas' Hospital.

By Kind permission of St Thomas' Hospital, Finishers and their crews will be able to enter the grounds of the hospital.

## Entry Information

All Entry Forms, Fees and Team Entries, must be received in accordance with the deadlines published on the Entry Form page of the DW Website. Entries must be submitted using the online system.

All competitors aged 18 or over must sign the Indemnity Declaration when checking in. For competitors aged under 18, a Parent or Guardian must sign on their behalf.

Entries are only accepted on this basis.

Please note that the boat crew consists of both the paddler(s) and the lead member of the support crew, known as the Chief Supporter. Penalties can be awarded to a crew resulting from acts of or by the Chief Supporter and wider support crew.

Any changes to crew information must be notified to the Competition Secretary at Check-In. Team entries, if not completed online, must be delivered to the Competition Secretary, in Devizes, prior to the start of the first crew of the nominated team.

**No late entries will be accepted. The Organisation reserves the right to refuse any entry.**

## Classification of Race Rules

<b>1. General Rules</b>	<b>All Classes</b>	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>2. Eligibility Rules</b>	<b>All Classes</b>	<b>Page 9</b>
<b>3. Compulsory Equipment</b>	<b>All Classes</b>	<b>Page 11</b>
<b>4. Individual Class Rules</b>	<b>4A Senior Doubles</b> <b>4B Junior Doubles</b> <b>4C Senior Singles</b> <b>4D Veteran-Junior</b> <b>4E Endeavour</b>	<b>Page 14</b> <b>Page 16</b> <b>Page 18</b> <b>Page 20</b> <b>Page 22</b>
<b>5. Portage Diagrams</b>	<b>All Classes</b>	<b>Page 24</b>
<b>6. Advice to Competitors</b>	<b>All Classes</b>	<b>Page 27</b>
<b>7. Supporters' Code of Conduct</b>	<b>All Classes</b>	<b>Page 30</b>
<b>8. Supporting Instructions</b>	<b>All Classes</b>	<b>Page 32</b>

All of the above form the Rules of DW and must be read by all participants and their supporters.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

## 1. General Rules

**1. The Golden Rule:** Above all else, all competitors and support crews should consider the safety and wellbeing of all persons involved in the race. If you get into difficulty, or you see a fellow competitor in difficulty, use your whistle to attract attention.

**2. Completing the Race/retiring:** Once a crew has registered, they must report to Westminster or race control in person or verbally by 1200 hours on Easter Monday, whether they have completed the race or not. The GPS tracking unit must be returned. Please note if the GPS unit is not returned before leaving the course, the resulting costs will be transferred to the competitor.

**3. The course:** All competitors must follow the course. (125 miles, 77 portages) Any and all navigation rules set by DW Organisation, Canal and Rivers Trust, Environment Agency and Port of London Authority must be followed at all times. Transport over land or by water for the purpose of shortening the course is forbidden. If a crew cannot paddle the course, they may walk it along the designated towpaths or other prescribed route carrying their boat, paddles and full kit. No short cut or transport is allowed.

**Note: Senior Doubles may NOT walk the Tideway section if they miss the tide window at Teddington.**

**4. Canoes and kayaks:** are referred to in these Rules as “boats” and must be paddled by a crew of one or two persons, depending on the class in which they are entered. Propulsion is by single- or double-bladed paddle only. In order to qualify for the Canadian Trophy only open canoes propelled by single bladed paddles are permitted, while rudders are not.

No other form of craft are permitted within the scope of these rules, including rafts, inflatables, paddleboards, surf skis or other sit-on or stand-on boards

**5. Competitors and/or support crew are not permitted to:**

- Shoot weirs.
- Take pace or wash-hang from any vessel not in their class of the race.
- Replace or substitute their boat.
- Remove numbers from boats during the race.
- Remove any identification material issued by the organisers.
- Overtake in the Bruce Tunnel (Savernake Forest).
- Relieve themselves in public, or otherwise or put the race in jeopardy due to inappropriate behaviour.
- Use trolleys or portage devices unless they have carried them, at all times, from the start.

**6. Age categories:** Competitors must follow strict age categories for each class:

- Junior doubles not less than 15 and less than 19 on the 1st January in the year of the race.
- Senior doubles: 18 or over on the 1st January in the year of the race.

**7. No substitutions** may be made to a crew.

The exception, by agreement with the Umpire, is that any remaining Junior Doubles paddlers from boats that have retired at the end of days 1, 2 or 3 may form a new crew and complete the race together. Providing a paddler completes the total distance a certificate and medal will be awarded.

**8. Relevant experience:** Each participant must have experience of paddling and navigation of the water represented in the race. Competitors must be able to swim 100 metres in canoeing dress. Appropriate experience must be listed in the registration form. See “Eligibility Rules,” section 2.1 (page 9).

**9. Chief Supporter:** Must be available for communication as required by race control throughout the period of the race, on the mobile phone number provided at registration.

**10. Out of bounds:** and compulsory portages as described in these rules or as advised by officials during the race must be observed accordingly. A 250-metre restriction must be obeyed by support

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

crew on closed portages.

11. No dogs: No dogs are permitted within the portage areas, or at the stages race start/finish sites.

12. Mobile phones and GPS: Each crew must have a working mobile phone and the issued GPS tracker on their person at all times during the race. DW recommends that paddlers pre-programme their supporters' numbers and the Race Control number 01189 661333. Unsupported competitors must provide their mobile phone number to the Organisers and check for messages at regular intervals.

The GPS Tracker must not be tampered with at any time and must be returned at Westminster or to a DW Umpire, Marshal or other official as soon as possible following retirement. Race control will be able to assist in locating the nearest point if necessary

13. Boat and kit inspection: Participants must, on request of an official, allow their equipment to be inspected, even after the finish line. Non-presentation will result in the boat not being able to progress or disqualification. See "Compulsory Equipment," Section 3 (page 11).

14. Competitor conduct: Any participants who place themselves or others in danger, refuse to follow instructions from an official or are disrespectful to other competitors, support crew or officials may be disqualified from the current competition and/or excluded from future editions of the race. Interpretation of this rule is at the discretion of Race management.

15. Start and Finish windows: The start and finish windows of the race for all days are published on the website and in this document. They must be adhered to by all crews and crews that do not comply with these times may be disqualified.

16. Rubbish: All rubbish must be carried by the paddlers on their person or in the boat, or passed to support crews. Paddlers or support crews must not litter at any point and disregarding this rule may result in disqualification.

17. Racing boats: all craft must be fit for purpose as deemed by the Chief Umpire at registration and repaired to a suitable standard should an incident occur during the course of the race.

- Crews may receive replacement paddles, boat fittings, clothing, spray decks and emergency rations if used, lost or damaged.
- Help with the repair of the boat is permitted provided it is not moved away from or along the course.

18. Wash hanging: Crews must not seek to obtain an unfair advantage from any vessel not in the race or another competitor not in your class of the race.

19. Drugs: The taking of drugs as defined in International Canoe Federation (ICF) Rules is forbidden and all competitors are liable to a drug test. Refusal to submit to such a test shall incur automatic disqualification.

20. Briefings: All paddlers and support crews should download and read the Race Briefing Information from the DW website. The briefing will be a reminder of key points for support crews and parking restrictions, as well as any updates to course information. Failure to follow this information will result in crews being penalised.

21. Support crew conduct: Supporters must behave responsibly and considerately at all times and shall observe restrictions along the course and adjoining areas as may be imposed by the organisers.

The support crew are subject to rules published in the Support Crew Code of Conduct and Supporting Instructions in this document (Sections 7 and 8).

22. Support crew identification: At Devizes, every stages support crew will be issued with 2 windscreen stickers identifying their crew number. These must be affixed to your windscreen for the duration of the race. For the Stages Race, each support will be issued with Armbands (4 issued to Doubles crews and 2 Armbands issued to Singles crews).

At any portage, only one supporter per paddler is allowed, and that supporter must be wearing an armband. Additionally, only supporters wearing armbands may be present at the Start /End of Stage

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

Campsite area.

Non arm banded supporters will be directed away from servicing any crews. Prolonged infringement of this rule will result in the crew being penalised. See Support Crew Identification (page 34)

23. Prizes: It is against the spirit of the race to attempt to subvert or manipulate entry details in any way to compete for trophies. Trophies are awarded for bona fide entries only.

24. Instruction by Officials: If a crew is directed on or off the water for any reason, they must follow the instruction immediately. Failure to do so, or wilful disregard of instructions by any Race Official, will result in a possible lifetime ban from entry for future editions of DW.

25. Campsites: Juniors Doubles must camp and cook their own meals in the designated area. Further information is provided in the "End of Stage Arrangements" in the Junior Doubles section (4B) below.

Note: Senior Singles, Veteran-Junior and Endeavour crews can choose to camp outside of the designated Junior area or seek alternative accommodation off site.

26. Playing of music and use of headphones: The use of speakers, including mobile phones, is prohibited. If using headphones, keep one ear clear at all times.

27. Rules for navigating the Tideway:

The tidal Thames is a very busy and potentially hazardous stretch of water. The following rules apply and any breach of them may lead to a major time penalty or even disqualification:

- Crews must, at all times, obey the instructions of PLA, Harbourmaster, Police and DW rescue craft.
- **Keep to the right-hand side of the centreline of the river AT ALL TIMES**
- If passing through the central arch of a bridge, keep to the right-hand side of that arch.
- Never use a bridge arch displaying three orange lights or three coloured discs.
- Keep well clear at all times of barges, mooring buoys and jetties.
- Keep out of the way of rowers.

If you get into difficulty, or you see a fellow competitor in difficulty, use your whistle to attract attention.

With reference to the Tideway Rules diagram on page 6, crews must note the following:

- Rowers are a particular hazard. On the upper part of the tidal Thames between Putney ❶ and Syon (Kew) ❷ they are allowed to 'work the slacks' and row on the inside of the bends - what may appear to canoeists to be the 'wrong' side of the river when rowing against the stream.
- Competitors must paddle sufficiently far away from the right-hand side of the bank to allow a rowing eight to pass safely between themselves and the bank.
- Rowers have designated points at which to cross the river in this area and do not have a right of way when they cross. Canoeists should still beware of approaching rowers and assume they cannot be seen. If there is danger of collision, shout "Ahead Rowing Boat" very loudly and change direction.
- At Lambeth Bridge ❸, less than a mile before the finish, competitors may only use the right-hand arch and must then stay inside the line of moored boats as they approach Westminster. Normally a DW safety boat will be there to alert competitors.

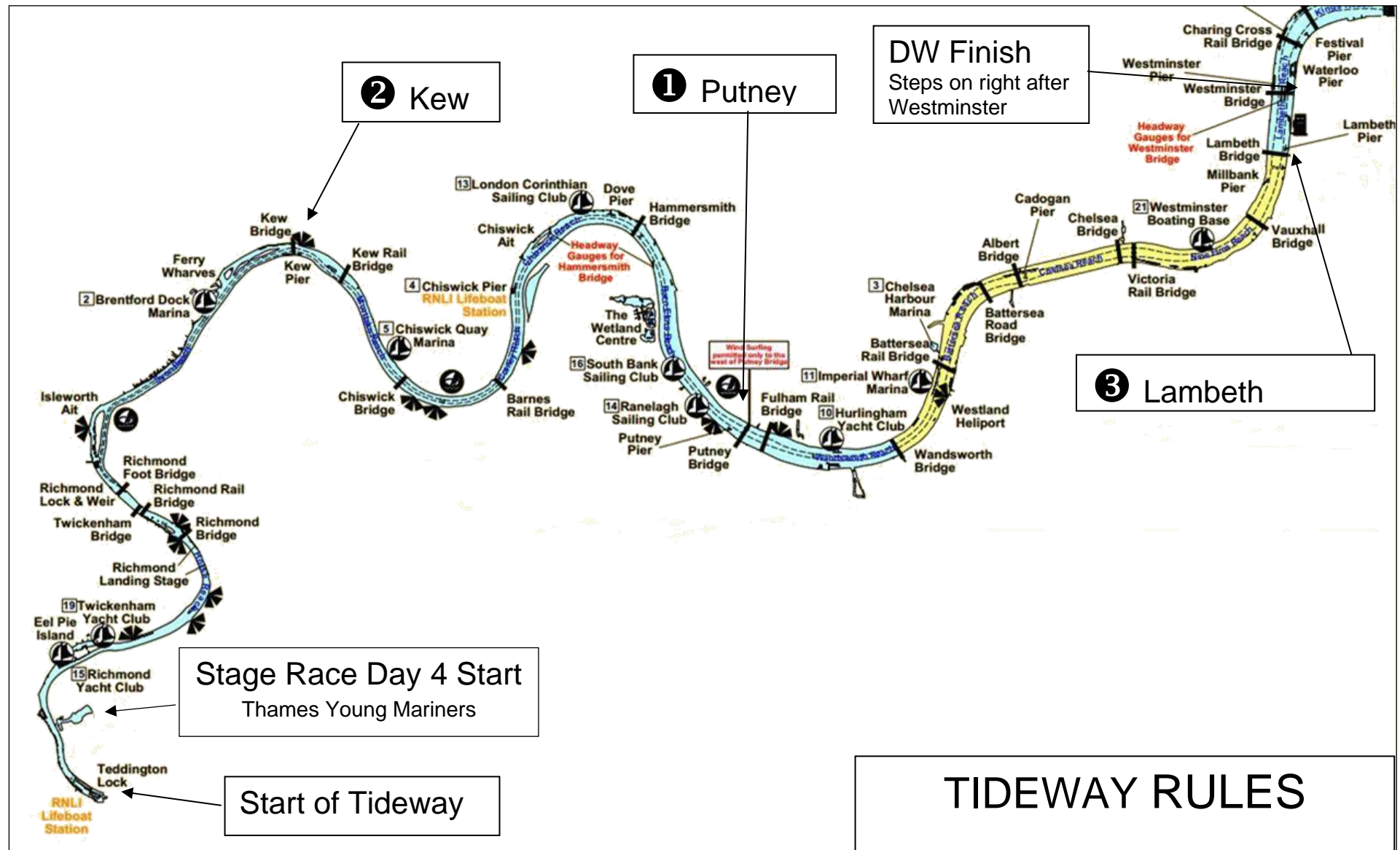
The PLA monitor the tideway via cameras mounted on each bridge. They will report navigation infractions, particularly crossing the centreline, to the DW Organisation, and have the power to request that crews who disregard the navigation rules and bylaws are penalised or disqualified.

**All crews should report to Race Control, as soon as practicable, any incident involving any non-DW vessel on the Tideway. For example, excessive speed or wash.**

More information can be found in the [PLA Paddling Code](#)

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333





In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333



28. Lighting

**Senior Doubles Class:** Between the hours of dusk and dawn the following lighting must be displayed by all crews:

- On the paddler: A white light stick per paddler; activated and attached to the buoyancy aid, front left shoulder (the light sticks will be included in Emergency Kit provided by DW).
- On the boat: In line with C&RT, EA & PLA guidance an “all around” non-dazzling white light. This can be achieved through front and rear facing lights. Please be considerate to other paddlers. If your lighting is deemed unsuitable, including too bright, you will be stopped and not allowed to proceed until it has been rectified.
- ***In addition to the above***, on the Tideway, all crews must carry a torch with white light ready to be shown in any direction for the purposes of attracting attention in case of emergencies.

**Junior Doubles, Senior Singles, Veteran-Junior, Endeavour Classes:** All Stage Race crews participating in the Easter Monday morning start at Thames Young Mariners will require:

- On the paddler: A white light stick per paddler; activated and attached to the buoyancy aid, front left shoulder (the light sticks will be included in Emergency Kit provided by DW)

***In addition, if starting in the dark from Thames Young Mariners:***

- On the boat: in line with PLA guidance an “all around” non-dazzling white light. This can be achieved through front and rear facing lights. Please be considerate to other paddlers. If your lighting is deemed unsuitable, including too bright, you will be not allowed to proceed to the start line until it has been rectified.
- All crews must carry a torch with white light ready to be shown in any direction for the purposes of attracting attention in case of emergencies.

Note 1: Head torches or LED sticks are not acceptable as the primary light source for any crew.

Note 2: Only white lights should be displayed on the boat and the paddler. Any boats displaying non-white or ‘novelty’ lighting will be stopped by Race Officials and be requested to remove the non-white lights before the crew is allowed to proceed in the race.

29. Set time checkpoints: All boats must arrive at certain checkpoints along the course within set time limits. Details of these limits are listed in Section 4, Class Specific Rules, and are different across the Classes.

Note that there are more set time checkpoints for the Senior Doubles Class than for the Stage Races.

Failure to make these times will result in immediate cessation of the crews race and will have their number removed from the boat by an official. Any boat that refuses to stop and continues to paddle will face a lifetime ban from entering future editions of DW.

30. Official Portage diagrams: The official portage routes are shown in Section 5. Only these routes are to be used by crews unless directed by an official.

31. Retirement: If crews are compelled to retire from the race, competitors or support crews must, **without fail, inform Race Control immediately (01189 661333)**. All crews must have completed the course and vacated the Finish site four hours after the Easter Monday Start time.

32. Disciplinary matters: Inappropriate behaviour by supporters and/or competitors will be penalised. Any failure to observe the rules or obey the instructions of any Race Official at any time may render the crew liable to disqualification or other penalty, which may include the individual, crew, club, school or unit being barred from entering future races.

Breaches of the Rules must be communicated to Race Control on 01189 661333.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

### 33. Complaints and protests:

**Senior Doubles Class:** Complaints/protests must be registered at the time of the incident or prior to the crew's departure from the course. To register a complaint/protest you must inform one of the following:

- Checkpoint
- Umpire or marshal
- Race Control 01189 661333

It is the responsibility of the crew(s) to establish whether a complaint has been raised against them. This can be done either by checking their results on-line, if there is a "P" against the crew details a protest has been made; or by telephoning Race Control (01189 661333) Any such complaint will be raised at the Protest Meeting on Monday morning.

**Stages Races:** Complaints/protests must be registered no later than two hours prior to the Race Umpires' daily meeting held each afternoon at or approximately 1700 hours or, for complaints/protests arising out of racing on Easter Monday, no later than 1 hour after the end of racing on Easter Monday.

**34. Protest Meeting:** In the case of the Senior Doubles, crews have the opportunity of delivering a written statement and/or being heard at the Race Protest Committee Meeting on Easter Monday morning.

That committee meets within 2 hours of the end of racing on Easter Monday. At this time any crew, including Stages crews, reported or already penalised will have the opportunity to be heard, or their written statements presented. Any penalty, including disqualification, may be imposed.

There is NO APPEAL against the decisions of the Race Protest Committee.

**35. Assaults and/or abusive behaviour:** Abuse and/or threatening behaviour of any kind, including verbal or physical assault, will not be tolerated. Any competitor found to have carried out a verbal or physical assault, or whose supporters/support crew do so, will be disqualified and may also be banned from taking part in future events.

Anyone impeding any race official in the conduct of their duties will be severely penalized. The Organisers will not hesitate to report incidents of verbal or physical assault to the police. They also reserve the right to notify such incidents to any organisation(s) with which the paddler or individual concerned is involved.

**36. Publicity:** The organizer reserves the right to publicize the event by means of radio, television, print media and the Internet, as well as film and photo recordings of the events for its own press releases, PR and advertising purposes. The participant agrees to be filmed, photographed, interviewed and/or reproduced or presented in any other way during his/her participation in the event. In this respect, the participant grants the organiser, free of charge, the rights of use in the representation of his person and his voice exclusively, as well as in terms of space, time and content, without restriction for the above-mentioned purposes. In particular, the right to edit the film and photo recordings in any way, as well as the transfer of the rights of use to third parties, is also covered by the granting of rights.

## 2. Eligibility Rules

### 2.1 Eligibility to Enter the Race

**Senior and Veteran paddlers competing in the following classes: Senior Doubles, Senior Singles, Veteran-Junior or Endeavour will be required to confirm one of the following:**

- Has completed DW within the past 5 years, OR:
- Is currently ranked in Marathon Divisions 1 - 5, OR:
- Is currently ranked in Marathon Divisions 6 - 9 AND have completed a marathon race greater than 20 miles.

Competitors unable to meet the above criteria (including international paddlers visiting the UK to compete in DW) will be required to provide endorsement by a qualified club coach that you are competent to compete in the race or GPS proof that you have paddled in excess of 30 miles (continuous) on similar water to DW (canal and open moving water), within 8 ½ hours.

**Junior paddlers competing in the classes Junior or Veteran-Junior will require the endorsement of a qualified Club Coach/Team Leader that the paddler:**

- Is able to paddle 38 miles in 9 ½ hours, OR:
- Has paddled a minimum of 25 miles (continuous) or raced on similar water to DW (canal and open moving water) in last 3 months.

All statements of paddler ability will be reviewed by the DW Organisation. Competitors may be required to provide further proof or validation at the request of the Race Organisation prior to entry being confirmed.

### 2.2 Eligibility for Prizes

#### Classification of Prizes

“Prizes” includes trophies, certificates, medals or combinations of those. A prize may be:

1. Open to all; The Glickstein, Pfeiffer and Adaptive Paddler trophies are in this category.
2. Open to all in a class; for example, the fastest senior doubles crew.
3. Open to all in a class subject to age and/or gender, or nationality and residence.
4. Open to a team; most of these are specific to a class, the exception being the Trans-Class Team Trophy.
5. Restricted to entrants in a class who also represent an organisation of a specific type, for example police or scouts.
6. Restricted to a team from an organisation of a specific type.

#### Classification of Competitors

A competitor may declare their allegiance to a single club or organisation when entering the race. The individual must be a bona fide member of that club or organisation(see below). Competitors not declaring an allegiance to any club or organisation will paddle as “Independent.”

#### **Armed Forces**

Full time members of the armed forces wishing to be eligible for designated armed forces trophies must declare for their unit, forces canoe club or association. Alternatively, they may choose not to be classified as armed forces (and therefore become ineligible for any designated armed forces trophies) by declaring as a bona fide member of some other club or organisation or entering as Independent.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

***Reserve Forces***

Members of the reserve forces wishing to be eligible for designated reserve armed forces prizes must declare for their unit, forces canoe club or association. Alternatively, they may choose not to be classified as armed forces (and therefore become ineligible for any designated reserve armed forces trophies) by declaring as a bona fide member of some other club or organisation or entering as Independent.

***Membership Qualification***

“Bona fide membership” of a club or organisation that is not related to armed forces membership means that the competitor has been a member from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September prior to the race through to the end of the race (i.e. Easter Monday). If the entrant has raced in the Hasler series for a recognised canoe club during the current season they are required to declare for that club. If the entrant has not raced in the Hasler series but has represented a club in other competitions, then they should declare for that club. Any questions regarding bona fide membership will be resolved on application to the Directors of the Organisation.

Competitors entering as armed forces members must be on the roll of or attached to the unit for which they declare or must be qualified members of their declared association or club.

Proof of membership may be required.

***Team Membership***

Membership of a team is restricted to competitors who have all declared for the same club or organisation on their entry forms; independents are not eligible for team competition.

***Armed Forces Teams***

It is a general principle that armed forces team prizes are to encourage inter-unit competition. Specifically, it is expected that the Royal Engineers Team Trophy should be a competition between:

- (Army) Regiment (e.g. Parachute Regiment)
- (Army) Cap badge (e.g. Royal Engineers)
- (Army) Division (e.g. Queen’s Division, Household Division etc’)
- (Army) Establishment (e.g. Sandhurst)
- (RAF) Arm (RAFCA)
- (Royal Navy) Arm (RNKA)
- (Royal Marines) Arm (RMKA)

Where armed forces teams compete for open prizes, they should be comparable in their scope to a civilian club. Where there is any doubt guidance will be provided by the Competition Secretary.

***Restricted Prizes***

Where prizes are restricted to organisations of a specific type then only competitors who have declared for a club or organisation which meets the designated criteria are eligible for the prize.

***Civilian Prizes***

Any competitor who has not declared for an armed forces unit, canoe club or association is eligible for prizes designated “Civilian.” For non-team prizes this includes Independents.

***Exemptions and Clarifications***

For some individual boat prizes, it is acceptable for the crew to have a secondary allegiance. For example, the Scout Trophies are open to bona fide scouts within a club.

There is no restriction on crew composition for open prizes such as the Devizes to Westminster Challenge Cup. Such a boat may have any combination of independent, club or military paddlers.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

### 3. Compulsory Equipment

Each individual and team is responsible for being properly equipped to take part in the race and is ultimately responsible for their own safety in accordance with the prevailing weather conditions.

The mandatory kit is a minimum requirement only. Crews are advised to consider augmenting this to suit the prevailing conditions. Emergency kit, if used, must be replaced as soon as possible, at the latest before or at the next checkpoint. Checkpoints are located along the course at Pewsey, Hungerford, Newbury, Aldermaston, Dreadnought Reach, Marsh, Marlow, Bray, Old Windsor, Shepperton and Teddington. Crews may not continue past them without replacing missing kit. Umpires will penalise any failure to do so.

Each Competitor shall carry the following items about their person or secured in the craft:

**Paddlers must provide the following:**

- Spray decks. See below
- Buoyancy aids. One per paddler, to be worn at all times whilst racing. See below
- A mobile phone - Each crew must carry a working mobile phone.
- Long sleeve thermal tops or long sleeve wind stopper tops. One per paddler, to be carried in a drybag (or similar). Emergency use only, and if used, it must be replaced by the support crew at the earliest location and at the latest by the next checkpoint.
- Drinking fluid (300ml) per paddler. Emergency use only and in addition to any drinks system used during the race. If used, it must be replaced by the support crew at the earliest location and at the latest by the next checkpoint.
- A loud whistle on a lanyard that allows access to be used at all times (including in the event of a capsized). One per paddler.

**DW will provide each paddler with the following items at check-in at Devizes:**

- White light sticks. One per paddler. See Rule 28 – Lighting (page 7). Mandatory to be worn from dawn to dusk for Senior Doubles and at the Monday start line for Stage Races.
- Thermal Foil Blankets – one per paddler.
- Energy Gels – one per paddler. Emergency use only and in addition to any sustenance carried by the paddler. If used, it must be replaced by the support crew at the earliest location and at the latest by the next checkpoint.
- Head covering capable of covering ears – one per paddler. Emergency use only, and if used, it must be replaced by the support crew at the earliest location and at the latest by the next checkpoint.
- A GPS tracker will be issued at check-in and must stay attached to the paddler at all times whilst racing. The GPS Tracker must not be tampered with at any time and must be returned at Westminster or to a DW umpire, marshal or other official as soon as possible following retirement. Race Control will be able to assist in locating the nearest point if necessary.
- A small RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) tag might be attached to the boat at check-in. If fitted, the RFID tags will be used in a trial for boat timings during the race and must not be tampered with or removed from the boat during the race. It must be returned at Westminster or to a DW umpire, marshal or other official as soon as possible following retirement. Race Control will be able to assist in locating the nearest point if necessary.

This kit is for use in an emergency, therefore must be accessible at any time during the race. Crews will need to provide a suitable method for packing and securing the above items appropriately for use (with the exception of buoyancy aids, GPS trackers and RFID Tags).

Crews will be spot checked during the race. Failure to have the mandatory kit will result in disqualification.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

**Spray Decks in or on the Craft**

- Kayaks only must carry spray decks at all times.
- Below Teddington Lock all kayak crews must use spray decks to cover the cockpits. This excludes Stages competitors finishing at Thames Young Mariners just downstream of Teddington Lock on Day 3.
- Canoes must have means to bail water out of the boat mid-stream

**Buoyancy Aids**

Competitors must wear an Integral Foam Buoyancy aid or lifejacket conforming to one of the following European standards: EN 393 or EN 395 or ISO12402-5 or ISO12402-6. The standard must be clearly displayed via a label attached by the manufacturer.

Buoyancy aids or lifejackets are not acceptable under any circumstance if:-

- They only display certification to BA83.
- Require partial or total inflation by mouth or by the use of a compressed air/gas cylinder.
- Appear to be more than five years old, or have been subjected to heavy use, thus degrading their flotation value.
- Have been tampered with or modified in any way.

Buoyancy aids made outside the EU (and not carrying the relevant EN or ISO standard mark) will not be accepted unless they are:

- a) Individually certified by the manufacturer as meeting EU requirements, or:
- b) Presented by a paddler who can prove that he/she is not resident in the EU. By definition this will exclude anyone competing for a canoe club or organisation from within the EU.

**Lighting**

Refer to General Rule 28 (page 7) on the specific lighting rules for each class.

**Boat buoyancy**

Boats must contain sufficient buoyancy to support their crews in the event of capsize. Sandwich construction boats are not presumed to have sufficient inherent buoyancy and must carry additional foam or other non-porous buoyant material. Closed and water-tight compartments built in by the original manufacturer may be accepted at the Chief Umpire's discretion but must have adequate buoyancy at both ends. The expected volume of buoyancy is approximately 20 litres for a K2 and 12 litres for a K1. This should be distributed in both bow and stern. As a guide, a block of foam 50 mm x 300 mm x 670 mm is 10 litres. For Canadian doubles a centre air bag or foam of sufficient volume can be used. If there are concerns at scrutineering, the decision of the Chief Umpire will apply.

## **4. Class Specific Rules**

**4A Senior Doubles**

**4B Junior Doubles**

**4C Senior Singles**

**4D Veteran-Junior**

**4E Endeavour**



## 4A. Senior Doubles

All Senior Doubles entrants must be 18 years of age or older on the 1st of January in the year of the Race and must meet the Eligibility Rules in section 2.1 above.

Based on ongoing risk assessments, DW reserve the right to restrict entrants in this class to a maximum number of boats. In such circumstances, the indicative maximum number of crews permitted to enter this class would be 220.

This category will be timed continuously from Devizes to Westminster, irrespective of any stops. Competitors must pick a start time that enables them reach Teddington within the permitted tide window detailed below. Note that this window is altered every year to coincide with high tide times at Teddington Lock.

**Competitors must start between 07:00-17:00 hours on Easter Saturday.**

(See also Slow Crews - Block Start section below)

Crews should start before 12:00 unless they are fast enough to arrive within the tide window at Teddington on the Sunday morning with a Saturday afternoon start time.

Any crews planning to start between 12:00 – 17:00hrs on Easter Saturday must, without fail, inform the Chief Umpire of their plan to do so by the Wednesday preceding the race. This is so that a Race Official is present to record their actual departure time. This information will not be shared with other crews. The Chief Umpire can be emailed at [chiefumpire@dwrace.co.uk](mailto:chiefumpire@dwrace.co.uk). You must receive a written confirmation from the Chief Umpire for your late start to be accepted. Competitors who fail to comply will be deemed to have scratched and will not be permitted to start.

The Organisers will not modify start windows to enable people to 'fit' DW into a multi-event endurance challenge.

Crews may stop anywhere along the course, provided they remain within 100m of the course – the clock will not stop.

Should crews intend to halt for more than 10-15 minutes, they must notify Race Control of their intention, and notify Race Control again when they get back on the water. However, crews need to be aware of the various cut-off times down the course.

### Cut-Off Times:

In the interests of safety there are now "cut-off" times on the course:

Newbury Wharf. Any crew who takes more than 10 hours to reach Newbury Wharf from Devizes will be excluded from the race and must leave the water at or before Newbury, having informed Control or the checkpoint staff that they have done so.

Dreadnought Reach. Any crew who takes longer than 16 hours to reach Dreadnought Reach from Devizes will be excluded from the race and must leave the water at or before Dreadnought, having informed Control or the checkpoint staff that they have done so.

Marlow. Any crew who takes longer than 20 hours 30 minutes to reach Marlow from Devizes will be excluded from the race and must leave the water at or before Marlow, having informed Control or the checkpoint staff that they have done so.

Old Windsor: Any crew who takes longer than 25 hours to reach Old Windsor from Devizes will be excluded from the race and must leave the water at or before Old Windsor, having informed Control or the checkpoint staff that they have done so.

Shepperton: Any crew who takes longer than 27 hours 30 mins to reach Shepperton from Devizes will be excluded from the race and must leave the water at or before Shepperton, having informed Control or the checkpoint staff that they have done so.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

**Teddington Tide Window:**

Crews may only pass through Teddington during a period starting 30 minutes before high water and ending 4 hours after high water at Teddington on Easter Sunday morning.

The tide window is likely to be open between **05:00 and 09:00 on Sunday 9th April 2023.**

If a green light is showing on the portage, you are free to proceed. A red light will indicate that the portage is closed. If you arrive before the tide window is open you will have to wait. If you arrive after the tide window has closed, you will be retired from the race and you will not be allowed to proceed. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

**Slow Crews – Block Start**

Any crew with an expected race completion time of between 1 and 33 hours may apply to the Chief Umpire to leave Devizes as part of the block start at 5am on Easter Saturday. Applications must be made to the Chief Umpire (email [chiefumpire@dwrace.co.uk](mailto:chiefumpire@dwrace.co.uk)) by 12 noon on the Tuesday before Easter. Check-in is mandatory on Good Friday evening for any crews wishing to do this.

The early block start window will be open from 5am to 5:15am only – any crews planning to use this window must start between these times. The window will not be extended beyond 5:15am.

*NB: This is being offered on a trial basis for 2022.*

**Procedure at Westminster**

The finish is on the right hand bank about 50 metres below Westminster Bridge. Crews should not stop paddling until they hear the finish signal; an air-horn, bell or whistle. Upon finishing crews should follow the instructions of the safety crews and disembark on the County Hall steps.

**Compulsory equipment**

See “Compulsory Equipment,” Section 3 (page 11).

**Support Restrictions Apply in this Class**

See “Supporters’ Code of Conduct,” Section 7 (page 30) and “Supporting Instructions”, Section 8 (page 32)

**Registration**

On **Good Friday** (by appointment only)

- 18.00 ~ 19.00: Registration and parking opens

On **Easter Saturday** at Devizes

- 04:30: Car park opens for “5am” crews only, entry by issued permit.
- 05:00 – 05:15: Slow crews depart. Car park closes.
- 06:00: Registration and parking opens.
- 07:00 – 12.00 – Start Window for Senior Doubles.
- 12:00: Starts after this time only by appointment with the Chief Umpire.

A number will be issued to each crew and this must be secured to the boat as directed. Crew members and support crew must wear the identification issued and not remove them until their race is finished.

At event registration you will be required to sign the declaration form regarding mandatory kit and confirm Support crew phone numbers.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

## 4B. Junior Doubles

All junior entrants must be under the age of 19 years and not less than 15 years on the 1st January in the year of the race and must meet the Eligibility Rules in Section 2.1 above. Any paddler whose age does not fall within this range is ineligible to enter. Any attempt by an ineligible paddler to take part will result in disqualification from that year's race. The DW Organisation also reserves the right to ban that paddler from entering the race for a further 3 years, and to decline any entry associated with that paddler's club or team leader for 1 year.

Based on ongoing risk assessments, DW reserve the right to restrict entrants in this class to a maximum number of boats. In such circumstances, the indicative maximum number of crews permitted to enter this class would be 90.

### Course Details

Day 1 (Good Friday)	Devizes to Newbury	34 miles
Day 2 (Easter Saturday)	Newbury to Marlow	36 miles
Day 3 (Easter Sunday)	Marlow to Ham	38 miles
Day 4 (Easter Monday)	Ham to Westminster	17 miles

### Timings

Crews must report on day one for Kit Check one hour prior to their intended start time at Devizes. Start times over the Race Weekend are as follows:

Devizes		08:00 – 09:30
Newbury (Northcroft)	Elapsed time of 8 – 10 hours	06:45 – 07:15
	Elapsed time of 7 – 8 hours	07:15 – 07:45
	Elapsed time of 6 – 7 hours	07:45 – 08:30
	(Unless included in the 'fastest in class' crews)	
	Fastest 15 crews @ 2 minute intervals, slowest first	08:32 – 09:00
Marlow (Longridge)	Elapsed time of 16 – 20 hours	06:45 – 07:15
	Elapsed time of 14 – 16 hours	07:15 – 07:45
	Elapsed time of 12 – 14 hours	07:45 – 08:30
	(Unless included in the 'fastest in class' crews)	
	Fastest 15 crews @ 2 minute intervals, slowest first	08:32 – 09:00
Ham (TYM)	Batch starts, just after high tide, fastest first, exact times to be advised on Sunday afternoon	High Tide 06:00 (BST)

Junior Doubles crews must time their start on Day One to finish in Newbury no earlier than 13:00. Any crew arriving before then will be deemed to have arrived at 13:00.

Crews finishing more than 9 hours 30 minutes after their start time on each day will not be permitted to start again on the following day and will be deemed to have retired.

### Finishing Arrangements

Friday	Newbury	On the right-hand side of the canal at Northcroft Leisure Centre
Saturday	Marlow	On the right-hand side of the river at Longridge
Sunday	Ham	On the right-hand side of the river at Thames Young Mariners
Monday	Westminster	On the right-hand side on the downstream face of Westminster Bridge

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

Crews should not stop paddling until they hear the finish signal; an air-horn, bell or whistle, with the exception of the final day when they must continue to paddle until they have passed under Westminster Bridge. Upon finishing they must follow instructions of safety boat crews or race officials.

### **End-of-Stage Arrangements for Junior Doubles**

Paddlers taking part in the Junior Doubles class must camp at the designated camp sites as shown in the Finishing Arrangements. Paddlers may not leave the campsites until the following morning when they get back on the water to continue their race.

Crews must erect their own tents, assemble beds and prepare all their food without any outside help. They must pack-up, clean their quarters and place all refuse in the sacks provided and will not be allowed to proceed until approval is given by a member of Campsite Staff. No person(s) other than designated Race Officials and Junior competitors are allowed access to any of the campsites.

### **Next Day Briefing**

A briefing for the next day's stage will be held at the end of each day. This briefing will cover the next stage safety and any other relevant information. Times and venue will be displayed at the campsite. The briefing will also be published on the DW website.

### **Compulsory Equipment**

See "Compulsory Equipment," Section 3 (page 11).

### **Support Restrictions Apply in this Class**

Severe congestion and over-crowding at portages means paddlers in the Junior Doubles event are now limited to 2 support vehicles each and 4 support crew only who will be issued with armbands. Teams of more than three crews will be permitted one additional Team Leader vehicle and armband. See "Supporters' Code of Conduct," Section 7 (page 30) and "Supporting Instructions", Section 8 (page 32).

### **Registration at Devizes**

On the **Thursday**

- Schools' registration and briefing on Thursday by appointment

On **Good Friday** (one hour before intended start time)

- 06:00: Registration and parking opens
- 08:00 – 0930: Start window for Junior Doubles
- 13:00 Finish window opens at Northcroft

A number will be issued to each crew and this must be secured to the boat as directed. Crew members and support crew must wear the identification issued and not remove them until their race is finished.

At event registration you will be required to sign the declaration form regarding mandatory kit and confirm support crew phone numbers.

## 4C. Senior Singles

This class is open to any paddler aged 18 years or over on the 1st of January in the year of the race and who meets the Eligibility Rules in Section 2.1 above.

Based on ongoing risk assessments, DW reserve the right to restrict entrants in this class to a maximum number of boats. In such circumstances, the indicative maximum number of paddlers permitted to enter this class would be 70.

### Course Details

Day 1 (Good Friday)	Devizes to Newbury	34 miles
Day 2 (Easter Saturday)	Newbury to Marlow	36 miles
Day 3 (Easter Sunday)	Marlow to Ham	38 miles
Day 4 (Easter Monday)	Ham to Westminster	17 miles

### Timings

Crews must report on day one for Kit Check one hour prior to their intended start time at Devizes. Start times over the Race Weekend are as follows.

Devizes	09:30 – 10:30	
	Slow boats must start earlier by arrangement with the Official Starter. Contact on 01983 731403 or <a href="mailto:starter@dwrace.org.uk">starter@dwrace.org.uk</a> by the Wednesday before Easter.	
Newbury (Northcroft)	Elapsed time of 8 – 10 hours	06:45 – 07:15
	Elapsed time of 7 – 8 hours	07:15 – 07:45
	Elapsed time of 6 – 7 hours	07:45 – 08:30
	(Unless included in the 'fastest in class' crews)	
	Fastest 15 singles at 2 minute intervals, slowest first	09:32 – 10:00
Marlow (Longridge)	Elapsed time of 16 – 20 hours	06:45 – 07:15
	Elapsed time of 14 – 16 hours	07:15 – 07:45
	Elapsed time of 12 – 14 hours	07:45 – 08:30
	(Unless included in the 'fastest in class' crews)	
	Fastest 15 singles @ 2min intervals, slowest first	09:32 – 10:00
Ham (TYM)	Start of singles at High Tide	06:00(BST)

Crews finishing more than 9 hours 30 minutes after their start time on each day will not be permitted to start again on the following day and will be deemed to have retired

### Finishing Arrangements

Friday	Newbury	On the right-hand side of the canal at Northcroft Leisure Centre
Saturday	Marlow	On the right-hand side of the river at Longridge
Sunday	Ham	On the right-hand side of the river at Thames Young Mariners
Monday	Westminster	On the right-hand side on the downstream face of Westminster Bridge

Crews should not stop paddling until they hear the finish signal; an air-horn, bell or whistle, with the exception of the final day when they must continue to paddle until they have passed under Westminster Bridge. Upon finishing they must follow instructions of safety boat crews or race officials.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

## **End of Stage Arrangements for Senior Singles**

Senior singles paddlers may leave the course or camp on site between each day's racing. Those using the sites will rise in time to pack up, clean their quarters and put refuse in the bins.

Competitors are responsible for making sure that they have carefully checked their published start times for the following day. The organisers will bear no responsibility for any failure by the paddlers to turn up on time. Start windows will not be extended for latecomers.

## **Next Day Briefing**

A briefing for the next day's stage will be held at the end of each day. This briefing will cover the next stage safety and any other relevant information. Times and venue will be displayed at the campsite. The briefing will also be published on the DW website.

## **Compulsory Equipment**

See "Compulsory Equipment," Section 3 (page 11).

## **Support Restrictions Apply in this Class**

Severe congestion and over-crowding at portages means paddlers in the Senior Singles event are now limited to 2 support vehicles each and 4 support crew only. Note that only 2 supporters' armbands will be issued per paddler. Teams of more than three crews will be permitted one additional Team Leader vehicle and armband.

**See "Supporters' Code of Conduct," Section 7 (page 30) and "Supporting Instructions", Section 8 (page 32).**

## **Registration**

**On Good Friday** (one hour prior to intended start time)

- 06:00: Registration and parking opens
- 09:30 – 1030: Start window for Senior Singles and Veteran-Junior Doubles
- 13:00 Finish window opens at Northcroft

N.B. Boats expecting to take between 7 and 9.5 hours to reach Newbury must start earlier by arrangement with the Official Starter

A number will be issued to each crew and this must be secured to the boat as directed. Crew members and support crew must wear the identification issued and not remove them until their race is finished.

At event registration you will be required to sign the declaration form regarding mandatory kit and confirm support crew phone numbers.

## 4D. Veteran-Junior

The veteran member of the crew shall be over 35 years, and the junior member of the crew under 19 years and not less than 15 years of age, on the 1st of January in the year of the race. Any paddler whose age does not fall within this range is ineligible to enter. Paddlers must meet the Eligibility Rules in Section 2.1 above. Any attempt by an ineligible paddler to take part will result in disqualification from that year's race. The DW Organisation also reserves the right to ban that paddler from entering the race for a further 3 years, and to decline any entry associated with that paddler's club or team leader for 1 year.

Based on ongoing risk assessments, DW reserve the right to restrict entrants in this class to a maximum number of boats. In such circumstances, the indicative maximum number of crews permitted to enter this class would be 20.

### Course Details

Day 1 (Good Friday)	Devizes to Newbury	34 miles
Day 2 (Easter Saturday)	Newbury to Marlow	36 miles
Day 3 (Easter Sunday)	Marlow to Ham	38 miles
Day 4 (Easter Monday)	Ham to Westminster	17 miles

### Timings

Crews must report on day one for Kit Check one hour prior to their intended start time at Devizes. Start times over the Race Weekend are as follows:

Devizes	09:30 – 10:30 Very slow boats must start earlier by arrangement with the Official Starter. Contact on 01983 731403 or <a href="mailto:starter@dwrace.org.uk">starter@dwrace.org.uk</a> by the Wednesday before Easter.	
Newbury (Northcroft)	Elapsed time of 8 – 10 hours Elapsed time of 7 – 8 hours Elapsed time of 6 – 7 hours  Fastest Veteran-Junior crews (if less than 6 hours elapsed time) Timed departures at 2 minute intervals, slowest crew first.	06:45 – 07:15 07:15 – 07:45 07:45 – 08:30  09:15 – 09:30
Marlow (Longridge)	Elapsed time of 16 – 20 hours Elapsed time of 14 – 16 hours Elapsed time of 12 – 14 hours  Fastest Veteran-Junior crews (if less than 12 hours elapsed time) Timed departures at 2 minute intervals, slowest crew first.	06:45 – 07:15 07:15 – 07:45 07:45 – 08:30  09:15 - 09:30
Ham (TYM)	Batch Starts, just after high tide, fastest first, exact times to be advised on Sunday afternoon	High Tide 06:00 (BST)

Crews finishing more than 9 hours 30 minutes after their start time on each day will not be permitted to start again on the following day and will be deemed to have retired.

### Finishing Arrangements

Friday	Newbury	On the right-hand side of the canal at Northcroft Leisure Centre
Saturday	Marlow	On the right-hand side of the river at Longridge
Sunday	Ham	On the right-hand side of the river at Thames Young Mariners
Monday	Westminster	On the right-hand side on the downstream face of Westminster Bridge

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333



Crews should not stop paddling until they hear the finish signal; an air-horn, bell or whistle, with the exception of the final day when they must continue to paddle until they have passed under Westminster Bridge. Upon finishing they must follow the instructions of safety boat crews or race officials.

### **End-of-Stage Arrangements for Veteran-Junior Doubles**

Competitors in the Veteran-Junior doubles event may either leave the course between each day's racing or camp on site. Those using the sites will rise in time to pack up, clean their quarters and place all refuse in the bins. Competitors are responsible for making sure that they have carefully checked their published start times for the following day. The organisers will bear no responsibility for any failure by the paddlers to turn up on time. Start windows will not be extended for latecomers.

### **Next Day Briefing**

A briefing for the next day's stage will be held at the end of each day. This briefing will cover the next stage safety and any other relevant information. Times and venue will be displayed at the campsite. The briefing will also be published on the DW website.

### **Compulsory Equipment**

See the "Compulsory Equipment," section 3 (page 11).

### **Support Restrictions apply in this class**

Severe congestion and over-crowding at portages means paddlers in the Veteran-Junior event are now limited to 2 support vehicles each and 4 support crew only who will be issued with armbands. Teams of more than three crews will be permitted one additional Team Leader vehicle and armband. See "Supporters' Code of Conduct," Section 7 (page 30) and "Supporting Instructions", Section 8 (page 32).

### **Registration**

**On Good Friday** (one hour prior to intended start time)

- 06:00: Registration and parking opens
- 09:30 – 1030: Start window for Senior Singles and Veteran-Junior Doubles
- 13:00 Finish window opens at Northcroft

N.B. Boats expecting to take between 7 and 9.5 hours to reach Newbury must start earlier by arrangement with the Official Starter

A number will be issued to each crew and this must be secured to the boat as directed. Crew members and support crew must wear the identification issued and not remove them until their race is finished.

At event registration you will be required to sign the declaration form regarding mandatory kit and confirm support crew phone numbers.

## 4E. Endeavour

The Endeavour Doubles category is a non-competitive challenge with the aim of completing the course of the Devizes to Westminster International Canoe Race. Whilst elapsed times will be recorded for safety purposes, participants will receive no official Finishing Times. No 'place' prizes are awarded in this category but paddlers will receive a Certificate of Completion of the course.

It is open to all paddlers aged 18 years or over on the 1st of January in the year of the event. It is also open to crews comprising of one paddler aged 18 years (as above), and a paddler under 19 years but not less than 15 years of age, on the 1st of January in the year of the event. Paddlers must meet the Eligibility Rules in Section 2.1 above.

Any paddler whose age does not fall within this range is ineligible to enter. Any attempt by an ineligible paddler to take part will result in disqualification from that year's race. The DW Organisation also reserves the right to ban that paddler from entering the race for a further 3 years, and to decline any entry associated with that paddler's club or team leader for 1 year.

Endeavour paddlers are eligible for the Pfeiffer Cup - for the crew which raises the most sponsorship, the Sir Louis and Lady Gluckstein Trophy - for the crew or individual displaying exceptional courage and fortitude and the Adaptive Paddler Trophy – for the disabled paddler(s) showing determination and resolve over adversity.

Based on ongoing risk assessments, DW reserve the right to restrict entrants in this class to a maximum number of boats. In such circumstances, the indicative maximum number of crews permitted to enter this class would be 30.

### Course Details

Day 1 (Good Friday)	Devizes to Newbury	34 miles
Day 2 (Easter Saturday)	Newbury to Marlow	36 miles
Day 3 (Easter Sunday)	Marlow to Ham	38 miles
Day 4 (Easter Monday)	Ham to Westminster	17 miles

### Timings

Crews must report on day one for Kit Check one hour prior to their intended start time at Devizes. Start times over the Race Weekend are as follows:

Devizes	07:00 – 08:00 Very fast Endeavour crews (likely to take under 6 hours to Newbury) must contact the Official Starter for permission to vary their Start time to ensure they do not arrive at Newbury earlier than 13:00. Contact 01983 731403 or <a href="mailto:starter@dwrace.org.uk">starter@dwrace.org.uk</a> by the Wednesday before Easter.
Newbury (Northcroft)	Elapsed time of 8 – 10 hours 06:45 – 07:15 Elapsed time of 7 – 8 hours 07:15 – 07:45 Elapsed time of 6 – 7 hours 07:45 – 08:30 Very fast Endeavour crews (under 6 hours) must agree their Start time with the Official Starter to ensure they do not arrive at Marlow before 13:00
Marlow (Longridge)	Elapsed time of 16 – 20 hours 06:45 – 07:15 Elapsed time of 14 – 16 hours 07:15 – 07:45 Elapsed time of 12 – 14 hours 07:45 – 08:30 Very fast Endeavour crews (under 12 hours to Marlow) must agree their Start time with the Official Starter to ensure they do not arrive at Ham before 13:00
Ham (TYM)	Batch Starts, just after high tide, fastest first, exact times to be advised on Sunday afternoon. Likely to be 06:30 onwards

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

Crews finishing more than 9 hours 30 minutes after their start time on each day will not be permitted to start again on the following day and will be deemed to have retired.

### Finishing Arrangements

Friday	Newbury	On the right-hand side of the canal at Northcroft Leisure Centre
Saturday	Marlow	On the right-hand side of the river at Longridge
Sunday	Ham	On the right-hand side of the river at Thames Young Mariners
Monday	Westminster	On the right-hand side on the downstream face of Westminster Bridge

Crews should not stop paddling until they hear the finish signal; an air-horn, bell or whistle, with the exception of the final day when they must continue to paddle until they have passed under Westminster Bridge. Upon Finishing they must follow instructions of safety boat crews or race officials.

### End-of-Stage Arrangements for Endeavours

Paddlers may either leave the course or camp on site between each day's paddling. Those using the sites will rise in time to pack up, clean their quarters and place all refuse in the bins. Paddlers are responsible for making sure that they have carefully checked their published start times for the following day. The organisers will bear no responsibility for any failure by the paddlers to turn up on time. Start windows will not be extended for latecomers.

### Next Day Briefing

A briefing for the next day's stage will be held at the end of each day. This briefing will cover the next stage safety and any other relevant information. Times and venue will be displayed at the campsite. The briefing will also be published on the DW website.

### Compulsory Equipment

See the "Compulsory Equipment," Section 3 (Page 11).

### Support Restrictions Apply in this Class

Severe congestion and over-crowding at portages means paddlers in the Endeavour event are now limited to 2 support vehicles each and 4 support crew only who will be issued with armbands. Teams of more than three crews will be permitted one additional Team Leader vehicle and armband.

**See "Supporters' Code of Conduct," Section 7 (page 30) and "Supporting Instructions", Section 8 (page 32).**

### Registration

**On Good Friday** (one hour prior to intended start time)

- 06:00: Registration and parking opens
- 07:00 - 0800: Start window for Endeavour crews
- 13:00 Finish window opens at Northcroft

N.B. Endeavour crews expecting to take under 6 hours to reach Newbury must start later by arrangement with the Official Starter






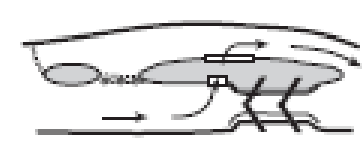
A number will be issued to each crew and this must be secured to the boat as directed. Crew members and support crew must wear the identification issued and not remove them until their race is finished.

At event registration you will be required to sign the declaration form regarding mandatory kit and confirm support crew phone numbers.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

## 5. Portage Diagrams

### KENNET AND AVON CANAL

<p><b>Dunmill No.75</b></p>  <p>See revised diagram below</p>	
<p><b>Newbury No.85</b></p>  <p>Portage low bridge on right, paddle 20 metres and then portage back on left DO NOT use the mill stream</p>	
<p><b>Woolhampton No.94</b></p> 	
<p><b>Fobney No.105</b></p> 	
<p><b>County No.106</b></p>  <p>Closed to support parties</p>	
<p><b>Blakes No.107</b></p>  <p>Closed to support parties</p>	

### RIVER THAMES LOCKS

#### ARTIFICIAL PORTAGE

##### DREADHOUGHT REACH (WOKINGHAM CC):

The portage is on the right hand bank outside Wokingham Canoe Club shortly after you paddle on to the Thames.

Get out on the right, run along approximately 150 metres and get back in. There is normally a filter lane to the right for crows planning to stop for food or drink so they do not obstruct other competitors. All competitors must portage here.



##### SOMERSET:

When approaching Sonning lock stay close to the right hand bank and then turn right into the lock cut. Go towards the lock gates and the portage is on the right. Be careful of the narrow steps when putting back in.



##### SHIPLEY:

Stay on the left hand bank well away from the water. Move to the right hand bank when you have gone past the last of the run-offs. These are marked by posts. Go to about 20 metres from the lock gates and portage on the right. Cross the lock island through the camps and put in on the other side of the island. Take care when the river is in flood.



##### MAARSH:

Move towards the right hand bank as you approach the lock. Keep to the right hand side of the posts and on the left hand side attached to the posts is a pontoon which is for the portage. Get out here on the left and cross the first lock gates and carry on portaging over the wooden footbridge.



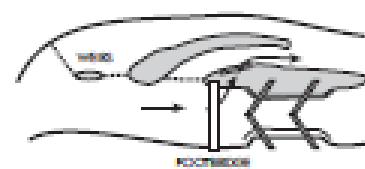
##### HAMBLEDON:

Portage on the right hand side before the white lock posts. The portage is up a grassy bank, continue portage around right side of lock and put in on the left below the lock. As you leave the lock cut and the groyne be careful of the moving water from the weir aspect when the river is in flood. The river will push you towards the right hand bank so navigate with care.



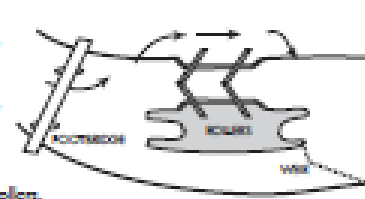
##### HURLEY:

Pass under the footbridge and portage on the left just beyond it. Cross the island and put in the left hand side. Take care when the radials are up and the river is flowing.



##### TEMPLE:

After going under the footbridge move to the left hand bank and go up towards the lock gates and portage on the left. Carry the boat past the lock and walk down some steps to put the boat back in the water. Watch out for the flow from the weir once you move away from the lock. Do not portage the rollers.

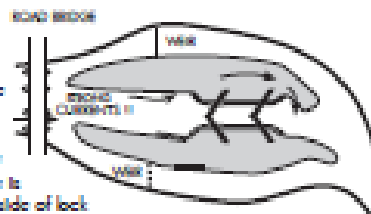


**MARLOW:**

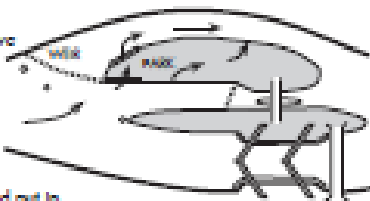
When passing under the bridge keep well into the left away from the weir. Move slightly to the right to pass the right hand side of the white posts, do not move too far right. The portage is on the left on the piece of land jutting out just before the lock gates. Portage the left hand side of the lock onto the ramp leading to floating pontoon.

**COOKHAM:**

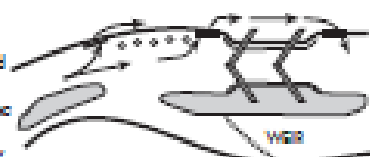
Before passing under the road bridge move towards the right hand bank so that you can paddle through the right hand arch. After passing under the bridge turn left taking the middle channel. Paddle down the lock cut and the portage is on the left hand side. Portage left side of lock and put back in below the lock. Do not use any other arch of the bridge and make sure that you make a wide left turn into the lock cut. This area has very strong currents and should be passed through with care. Do not paddle towards or portage the weir under any circumstances.

**BOULTERS:**

When approaching the lock move to the right hand side of the Danger sign and stay near the right hand bank until you are almost clear of the weir when you need to move left to portage on the left hand side up a brick wall. Cross the island and put in on the left, well down stream of the weir.

**BRAY:**

After the right hand bend in the river move across to the left hand bank. Follow the left hand bank almost to the lock gates where the portage is up some steps on the left hand side. The steps are very narrow so the alternative portage is to get out on the left hand bank before the white wooden post which indicates the lock entrance. Put back in after the lock on the right hand side going down some steps to do so.

**BOVENY:**

When approaching Boveney stay in the middle of the river, clear of the danger signs and when approaching the lock move to the right hand side of the white greyed down a narrow channel. Portage on the right and carry the boat past the rollers and put back in on the left. Beware slippery surface. When moving away from the portage be careful of the wooden posts on the left.

**RAMNEY:**

When approaching Ramney use the right hand arch of Eton bridge, stay clear of the weir only moving to the left hand bank when past the weir. This area is exceedingly dangerous when the river is in flood as the river has a standing wave under the bridge and in such circumstances should be portaged on the right before reaching the bridge. Paddle down the length of the lock cut and get out on left before lock gates. Portage left hand side of lock putting in below lock gates. Additional consideration about excess noise is required as this route takes you past the Lock Keepers house.

**OLD WINDSOR:**

Keep away from the weir on the left as you enter the lock cut. Paddle on towards the lock and portage on the left, up some steps just after a water runoff. Cross over the lock gates and put back in below the lock. This can be a high portage when the river is low.

**BELL WEIR:**

After the sharp right hand bend in the river stay towards the right hand bank and proceed towards the lock and portage on the right. Put the boat back in just below the lock on the left. Supporters must not go to Bell Weir through Runnymede Hotel's grounds. These are for hotel guests only and are out of bounds to supporters and their vehicles.

**FENTON HOOK:**

Keep towards the left hand bank and well away from the weir as you approach this lock. There is choice of portage: a) Portage on the left approximately 100m below the lock. b) Paddle right up to the lock gates and portage left climbing steps. Carry the boat past the lock and put in on the right at bottom of the steps just beyond the lock.

**CHERTSEY:**

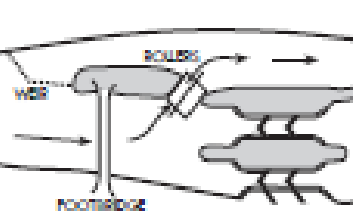
When paddling towards the lock, keep left under the motorway bridge. In times of high flow, remain left, away from the weir. Paddle towards the lock and portage left. Climb out and portage the path, putting back in after the lock. Beware flow under Chertsey bridge after portage. Only in low flow, you may portage right by getting out immediately after the weir. Be very careful not to go too close to the weir. Portage into the weir stream straightaway or go the length of the lock island and get back in after the lock.

**SHEPHERTON:**

Keep to the left hand bank as you pass by the top of the weir and then move to the right hand bank where the portage is. Portage the boat past the lock and put back in just below the lock. This can be a high portage when the river is low. Follow the river straight ahead and pass under a small bridge and do not deviate left or right.

**SUNBURY:**

When approaching the lock keep to the right hand bank well away from the weir only moving left once past the weir and portage the rollers. They can be extremely slippery so care should be taken when moving across them. Put back in from the wooden walkway.

**MOLESLEY:**

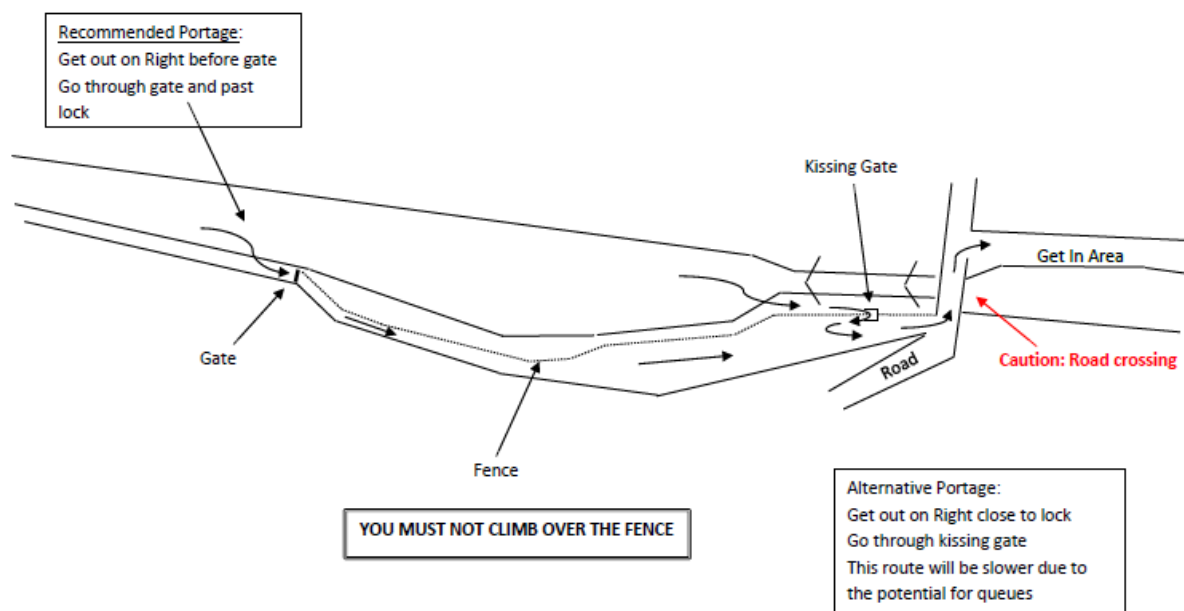
When approaching the lock keep to the right hand bank well away from the weir only moving left once past the weir and portage the rollers. These rollers can be extremely slippery so care should be taken when moving across them. Put back in from the wooden walkway. As you move away from the rollers be careful and watch out for moored craft.

**TEDDINGTON:**

When approaching the lock keep to the right hand bank well away from the weir only moving to the left once past the weir and portage the rollers. The rollers are at the end of the island. They can be extremely slippery so care should be taken when moving across them.



### Dunmill Lock ( N° 75): Revised Portage Diagram



### Supporter Parking at Old Windsor Lock



In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

## 6. Advice to Competitors

All Entry Forms, Fees and Team Entries, must be received in accordance with the deadlines published on the Entry Form page of the DW Website. Entries must be submitted using the online system. **No late entries will be accepted. The Organisation reserves the right to refuse any entry.**

Competitors are responsible for the conduct of anyone who turns up to watch or support them. The terms “supporter” and “support crew” are used interchangeably in the Race rules and are taken as having the same meaning.

Failure to follow the instructions of police, traffic wardens, lock-keepers, marshals, umpires or any other organising staff regarding support of crews can jeopardise the future of the Race and may also result in your crew(s), team(s) or organisation(s) being subject to time penalties or even disqualification.

### Training for the Race

- The race is very strenuous and demanding. In bad weather, it can be extremely arduous and dangerous, particularly below Teddington on the Tideway. Only experienced paddlers able to swim and who have trained rigorously for at least six to nine months prior to Easter should attempt the Race.
- Paddlers should spare no effort in training over long distances and in portaging locks with the weight of kit in the boat that you intend to use for the Race. Paddlers should train in all conditions, within reason, both by day, and for Senior Doubles, by night. Information as to any special dangers on the non-Tidal Thames is available from the Environment Agency. The canal presents hazards of its own and should be incorporated in training schedules.
- Buoyancy aids should be worn during all training sessions to familiarise paddlers with their DW race kit. It will also reduce the risk in the event of a capsized or other incident during long training paddles.
- Waterways Licences: Boats must carry a current licence for the canal (Canal & River Trust) and for the River Thames (Environment Agency). Do not use the waterways without the correct licence, as this could affect permission to run the Race in the future and you may be disqualified. British Canoeing or Canoe Wales membership incorporates both Canal and Thames licences. Members of CANI and SCA should separately purchase CRT & EA licences to permit paddling on the course. For overseas (non-UK) residents, DW will provide help with purchasing licences.
- DW recommends paddlers carry mobile phones (in a waterproof container) with their supporters' numbers pre-programmed in them on all training sessions.

### General Arrangements for the Race

#### 1. Accommodation

Postcodes are given to help you when searching on accommodation websites. It is advisable to book your accommodation well in advance.

**At Devizes:** (SN10 1EB) Accommodation is available free of charge to all Stages entrants and supporters in the Scout Headquarters and the Corn Exchange on Thursday night. Entrants and supporters in the Senior Doubles race will have the use of only the Scout Headquarters on Good Friday night. Sleeping bags will be necessary. Under no circumstances may boats be taken into the buildings. Crews must rise in time to clean up and put all refuse in the bin provided. Please note there is no access to the Corn Exchange after 10 pm as the doors are locked at that time.

*Devizes Bed & Breakfast Syndicate 01380 620660. [www.devizes.org.uk](http://www.devizes.org.uk)*

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333



**At Newbury:** (RG14 5JQ) Camping is available at the Northcroft Leisure Centre for all competitors in the Stages Event - in the case of Junior Doubles this is compulsory.

*Newbury Tourist Information:* - 01635 30267. <https://visitnewbury.org.uk/accommodation/>

**At Marlow:** (SL7 1QA) Camping is available at Longridge for all competitors in the Stages Event - in the case of Junior Doubles this is compulsory. No pets on site.

*Marlow Information Centre:* - 01628 483597 [www.visitbuckinghamshire.org](http://www.visitbuckinghamshire.org)

**At Ham** (Thames Young Mariners): (TW10 7RX) Camping is available at Thames Young Mariners for all competitors in the Stages Event - in the case of Junior Doubles this is compulsory.

[www.visitrichmond.co.uk/accommodation/](http://www.visitrichmond.co.uk/accommodation/)

## 2. Entry changes

All changes must be notified promptly to the Competition Secretary. At Devizes, all competitors must provide the number of a working mobile phone for their Chief Supporter or Team Leader so they can be contacted in an emergency.

## 3. Tide times

High Tide at Teddington is about one hour after High Tide at London Bridge.

Richmond Draw Lock is raised 2 hours before and lowered 2 hours after high tide at Teddington. (i.e. clear passage is only during these four hours.) If closed, portage left (boat rollers), this portage is muddy and slippery.

Senior Doubles crews arriving at Teddington after the permitted time window will not be allowed to proceed. Crews arriving before the window must wait for the window to open. See Senior Doubles Section 4A, Teddington Tide Window, page 15.

## 4. Results

A full list of provisional results will be posted on the Internet on Easter Monday and a finalised set sent to each crew shortly after the Race. The dates of the Presentation of Trophies and the AGM will also be notified at this time.

## 5. Lost property

Anyone finding any paddlers' or supporters' lost property along the course of the Race should hand it in at the Wokingham Waterside Centre or to the Race Organiser's portable cabin at Westminster where all enquiries regarding such property should be made.

## Potential Race Hazards, Risks and Other Issues

1. All other boat traffic including rowing boats with limited rearwards visibility presents a potential hazard. Class V passenger vessels on the Tideway, moored barges and large boats berthed on the Thames, are to be avoided at all times. **Never approach or attempt to moor up to tethered boats on the Tideway as you may be swept under them.** Allow powered craft to use the centre of the canal as they require more draft. Remember that other boats are generally less manoeuvrable than canoes.
2. Competitors are required to make themselves familiar with the navigation marks and signs for the Tideway. See General Rule 27 on page 5. Information including diagrams of the rowing lanes between Kew and Putney and bridge symbols can be found on the Port of London Authority website.  
[www.pla.co.uk](http://www.pla.co.uk) and [www.boatingonthethames.co.uk](http://www.boatingonthethames.co.uk)
3. Paddlers need to beware of road traffic when portaging across roads. Support crews should watch for fast-moving traffic. DW staff may be present at some road crossings but have no authority to stop traffic so always give way to traffic.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

4. Stakes in the water and other submerged obstacles can easily damage boats. Paddlers are advised to take care when putting their boats into the water after portaging.
5. Low bridges can cause serious head injury. If in doubt, you must portage.
6. Do not drink canal or river water.
7. Easter typically coincides with the mating season of swans and male birds can become aggressive towards boats as they approach their nesting area. It is not uncommon for male swans to fly at, or even land on boats to protect a nesting female. Give a wide berth when paddling past nesting swans and be prepared to portage round when necessary.
8. Extreme weather at Easter can cause anything from sunburn and heatstroke to exposure and hypothermia. Paddlers need to be aware of the risks of wearing inadequate or inappropriate clothing, especially at night when temperatures can drop significantly. Crews should always dress for the conditions, remembering that long-sleeved and long-legged thermals help retain heat even when wet. Support crews are advised to carry lots of spare clothing for their crews.
9. During the Race competitors are likely to experience dehydration, severe fatigue, cuts, bruises, chafing from clothing and severe blistering (particularly on the hands and fingers). Support crews should carry suitable first aid kits with appropriate medicines and pain relief agents.
10. There are many weirs along the course. Paddlers must keep well clear especially during times of high river flow.
11. The course passes through the Bruce Tunnel after 18 miles. Although straight, the 400m long tunnel is dark in the middle and can disorientate paddlers. In the event of a capsize in the tunnel, there is a ledge on the right hand side and chains to assist re-entry run along the wall of the tunnel. Overtaking is forbidden in the tunnel – see General Rule 5, page 3.
12. Paddlers need to keep well clear of bridge stanchions (supports) on the lower canal and the River Thames, particularly during times of high flow. All Tideway bridges carry a white isophase light above the centre arch. If this light is in use it indicates a large or towing vessel is about to pass under the bridge. Arches of bridges on the Tideway which carry an upside-down triangle (lit red at night), are closed to all traffic.
13. Due to the nature and duration of the Race, damage to equipment is likely. All crews are advised to thoroughly check all equipment before starting, and have the support crew carry spare seats, paddles, rudders, torches, torch batteries, light sticks, repair and tool kits and other items. All items can be replaced during the Race apart from boats, which may only be repaired.

## 7. Supporters' Code of Conduct

### General Principles of Support in the Race

Supporters perform a vital role in providing food, drink and spare kit to their paddlers and monitoring their well-being. They are an essential and valued part of the Devizes to Westminster Race.

The behaviour of support crews affects public perceptions of the Race as much as, or more than, that of competitors. Supporters must behave responsibly and considerately at all times and shall observe restrictions along the course and adjoining areas as may be imposed by the Organisers.

Please attend the supporter's briefings at Devizes held every 30 minutes in the theatre. This will cover any updates on the course and safety as well as the role of the support team.

Note: - The terms "supporter" and "support crew" are used interchangeably in this document.

**Supporters should also make themselves familiar with the Class details and Rules for their crew.**

### Competitors' Responsibility for their Supporters

Competitors are responsible for the conduct of anyone who turns up to watch or support them. Competitors/Team Leaders must ensure that all support crews read these rules. Ignorance will not be an acceptable excuse in the event of a protest or penalty.

### Abuse

The Race Organisers will not tolerate any physical or verbal abuse whatsoever. Abusing, assaulting or deliberately impeding any official in any way will result in disqualification and may also result in a ban on the individual, crew, team or organisation concerned from taking part or being involved in future races.

Lack of sleep or the emotion of watching close friends or relatives under extreme physical stress can cause supporters to behave inappropriately. However, any breach of these rules may result in a penalty being imposed on the crew being supported.

### Chief Supporter

Each boat should have a Chief Supporter who is responsible for any communications with Race Control, and who Race Control will attempt to contact in the first instance if there is any problem. The Chief Supporter of each crew must confirm/provide the Competition Secretary with their name and mobile phone number as required on the Entry Form. They should also supply an alternative phone number (mobile or landline) of a supporter who can relay messages should mobile communication fail. Support crews must be readily available at all times to be contacted by DW Control. If you cannot be contacted immediately you may receive a text asking you to make contact. You should check for messages at regular intervals. Penalties will be imposed on crews whose supporters are found to be uncontactable on the numbers provided.

### Noise

Please be aware of your noise during the hours of darkness. Please keep all noises down to a minimum, including slamming car doors and driving away from portages aggressively. No Playing "motivational music" at any time.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

**Litter and Rubbish**

The DW is a NO TRACE event, meaning do not leave any litter anywhere on the Race. Please remember that you carried the gels, bananas, single use drinks bottles and everything needed to support your crew with you. So please take it home at the end of the race. Do not use local bins as the race will have a massive impact on local communities in a negative way. If you see litter dropped by a crew or support team, please help the Race and pick it up and, if possible, politely remind the offender/s of their responsibility to clear up their own litter.

**Lights after Dark**

Whilst it might be seen as being helpful to the paddlers to shine bright lights around portage areas, do not point them directly at the paddlers when they are approaching or portaging as it will damage their night vision for several minutes.

Flashing or novelty lighting is not helpful to anyone and should not be used in any circumstances.

Supporters are advised to carry spare white light-sticks and torch batteries and bring them to all access points during the night.

**No Dogs:**

No dogs are permitted within the portage areas, or at the Stages Race start/finish sites.

**Guiding Principles**

*Common sense* is to be the underlying principle of the supporting arrangements. The Organisers will not penalise anyone who provides sustenance, replaces essential kit or effects repairs to a competitor's boat in the event of a proven emergency. However, substantial penalties may apply to any crew, team or organisation deemed to be in breach of the spirit of the rules.

## **8. Supporting Instructions – for Supporters of ALL CREWS**

### **Driving and Parking**

Do not race from lock to lock as you will arrive too early and add to congestion at the next portage. Remember, the average speed of most kayaks on the canal is less than 6 mph.

Observe local parking restrictions; do not obstruct emergency access or driveways, railway crossings or junctions.

Do not park on private property.

Observe specific race access and parking rules.

### **Portages**

Do not swamp the course with support crews and vehicles and aim to minimise the number of cars following your crew.

Stage Race classes are subject to specific rules set out below.

Do not allow dogs to cause nuisance of any sort.

Keep all noise and disturbance to a minimum in residential areas, especially at night.

Obey instructions from officials at locks, where access may be restricted on safety grounds to one person per crew.

### **Closed Portages**

No supporters are permitted at any of the following locks. There are no exceptions to this rule:

- Little Bedwyn
- County
- Blakes
- Shiplake
- Boveney
- Sunbury Lock and Rollers (Crews may be fed along the lock cut.)
- Molesey Lock and Rollers (Crews may be fed along the lock cut.)
- Teddington Lock and Rollers (Crews may be fed in the lock cut above the rollers.)

### **Parking/Driving Restrictions Apply at the Following Places:**

- Crofton Flight: Observe all parking notices and cones. Do not park on or by the Freewarren Bridge (middle bridge). Please use the Pay and Display Car Park at the Pumping Station. If that is full there is parking available in the adjacent field. To reach the canal make your way on foot through the grounds of the pumping station, under the railway line and out on to the canal where you can turn right or left to get to a lock. Marshals will be on site on Friday and Saturday.
- Sheffield (Theale) Lock: Do not park vans or minibuses on the road outside of the car park (the car park is height restricted). The bridge is only open to vehicles of less than 3 tons m.g.w and maximum width of 2m (6ft 6 ins),
- Cunning Man Pub, Burghfield: Do not park in the pub car park.
- Dreadnought Reach: The car park gates are likely to be closed with access granted only to Race Officials (as well as visitors to Marsport and WCC). The eastbound Thames Valley Park Drive is a designated clearway between 07:30 – 10:30 and 16:30-17:30 Monday to Friday, so can therefore be used for parking to gain access to the Dreadnought portage on weekends. Please park considerately without blocking other vehicles or access points and take notice of any cones that are in place. Note that the westbound carriage way is double yellow lined and parking is not

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

permitted at any time. Be advised that this area can get particularly busy for both the Senior Doubles and Stage races and crews are advised to only have one support vehicle stopping here.

- Sonning: Do not park on the access road to the lock.
- Boulter's Island, Maidenhead: Do not park on the main road or on/in/at the approach to the island. Use the public car park. Following residents' complaints, the DW Race is now required by the local council to pay for traffic wardens there; illegally parked vehicles will be ticketed.
- Old Windsor Lock: Ham Lane is a private road and parking is by kind permission of the residents. Please respect their privacy and access rights to their properties. For safety reasons there is **no access or parking for minibuses or trailers** as a clear passage for Emergency Services and Thames Water vehicles needs to be maintained at all times. All supporters' vehicles **must** park in the designated areas (see map in Section 5, Portage Diagrams, page 26). Supporters must drive up to the bridge and turn around before parking with their vehicles facing away from the river. Cones and signs will be in position, as well as marshals to direct supporters.
- Bell Lock: Do not go through the Runnymede Hotel grounds to access the portage; these grounds are for hotel guests only and are out of bounds to supporters and their vehicles.
- Sunbury Lock: No access past the roundabout on Waterside Drive. All support crew must park no further than Walton Leisure Centre car park. Support must be provided from the towpath at least 100m upstream from the Weir Hotel.
- Molesey Lock and Rollers: Closed to supporters.

### Marlow Bridge restrictions

The Bridge at Marlow is only open to vehicles of less than 3 tons m.g.w and maximum width of 2m (6ft 6 ins). Fines are issued if your vehicle exceeds this restriction. This will affect some larger SUV's, 4WD, minibuses and motor homes. Plan your route by approaching Longridge from the south of the river if your vehicle is affected. This will also affect restricted vehicles if Longridge car park is full and alternative parking is required on the north side of the river.

#### Longridge Alternative Parking (Stage Race Day 2 Finish)

- Public Car Park – Gossmore Recreation Ground. Right turn onto unnamed road off Gossmore Lane.
- Marlow Rugby Club (If available) – At the end of Gossmore Lane (Riverwoods Drive) SL7 1QU

From the Gossmore recreation ground, walk across the playing field to the river, follow the tow path to the left to pass under the A404 then take the steps up onto the A404 foot path. Walk over the river and Longridge is on the left-hand side.

### Other Restrictions

Other traffic restrictions along the course may also apply. In all cases, follow directions from Race Officials.

Substantial time penalties will apply to crews whose supporters ignore any of these restrictions or closures.

### Westminster

See also the "At Westminster" section on page 2.

**Please remember that the South Bank at Westminster has been designated a no-alcohol area by the police so any celebratory champagne or other drinks should be opened and drunk elsewhere.**

At Westminster on Easter Monday (stages race finishes) only supporters with armbands will be permitted between the London Eye and Westminster Bridge or have access to the DW Village. Other supporters should stay upstream of the Bridge or downstream of the London Eye.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

Supporters of any crew may not interfere with the timekeepers at Westminster at any point. Each breach of the restrictions on supporters will receive time penalty. Repeated breaches will result in disqualification. In the event that a specific crew cannot be identified, the penalty will be applied to the team or organisation concerned.

Under no circumstances can supporters use banners on Westminster Bridge. (This is not a DW rule but imposed by London Transport and Westminster City Council.)

### **Parking at Westminster**

Support crews are permitted to use the pay car park of St Thomas' Hospital, however, vehicles with boats or racks will not be allowed in.

There are other car parks within walking distance which can be researched on the internet for availability and cost.

### **Low Emission Zone (LEZ) & Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) Charge**

Parts of the course are within the London LEZ and ULEZ. Support crews are advised to check the requirements for their vehicles and, where necessary, pay the relevant charges. In cases fines can be up to £1000.

The finish at TYM on Day 3 is within the LEZ.

The finish at Westminster Bridge is within the ULEZ.

See <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/low-emission-zone/check-if-your-vehicle-is-affected>

### **Support Crew Identification.**

***The Senior Doubles supporters do not have arm bands, but all other rules still apply***

Each boat in the Stages Event is limited to 2 support vehicles and 4 support crew. Four armbands and two vehicle stickers will be given to each doubles crew with their boat number at Devizes.

Singles crews are issued with two armbands and 2 vehicle stickers.

Senior Doubles will be issued with 2 vehicle stickers.

Stickers must be visible in the windscreen of the support vehicle. Armbands must be worn at portages, camp sites and at the finish at Westminster. To avoid congestion only one vehicle and 1 supporter (with armband) per paddler may ever be present at the same time at any one portage. Extra supporters are not permitted in the portage area even if they do not arrive by car.

Each team in the Stages race is permitted one additional Team Leader vehicle. The Team Leader must pick up a vehicle sticker and arm band in person at Devizes. The Team Leader must wear the armband as above.

### **Restrictions at Portages**

At a portage, only supporters with an arm band may provide food and drink or other physical support to competitors. Only one supporter per paddler permitted on the racing line. "At a portage" is defined as "anywhere along the racing line near the water's edge." The racing line is defined as "any point where a crew exits the water to wherever it chooses to get back in and the length of the towpath in between." Only support crew vehicles displaying a valid sticker may go to a portage. For vehicles, "at a portage" means the nearest car park to the portage or any road adjacent to the portage. Designated sticker-only car parking may be signposted or otherwise notified to supporters.

### **Spectators who are not Providing Direct Support to a Crew**

The Organisers urge other spectators to avoid portages and go to alternative viewing places such as bridges, river-side or canal-side roads and other open ground near the water.

In the event of retirement or emergency, call Race Control on 01189 661333

### **Campsites (not Relevant to Senior Doubles)**

There will be Sticker-Only car parking areas at the stage stops at Newbury, Marlow and Ham.

At stage stops only supporters with armbands may approach the campsite and only to hand over camping equipment. No supporters are allowed in or around the campsite.

Entrants in the Junior Doubles class must erect their own tents, assemble beds and prepare all their food without any outside help. Outside assistance is not permitted and will be penalised.