

General**Races:** Approx. 14:30 – 18:30**Course:** Development 4+, Elite 4+, Elite 8+ & Scratch 8+ –
London Rowing Club Flag Pole to Barn Elms Boathouse

These instructions are intended for ALL Regatta Officials (umpires, marshals, etc.) as well as Competitors. Please see also the Safety Plan for more details.

Competitors

Competence: Coxswains are masters of their vessels. As such, they are expected to be familiar and competent with Tideway navigation and the range of Tideway conditions (e.g. waves, wind, debris, etc). Competitors are expected to comply with the British Rowing RowSafe Guide, the Code, heed all warnings, and have read these instructions. Masters of vessels must keep a good look out at all times.

Marshalling: On the way to the start, crews must keep within the Surrey inshore zone, in single file, and follow the Marshals' instructions. A good general guidance is that if any crew or sculler can overtake you on the inside you are too far out! Crews are required to check-in with the Start Manager on arrival in the marshalling area. See the attached circulation plan for marshalling area.

Crews are expected to wait in single file along the Surrey embankment such that their bow-side blades are on the shore. Crews are to cross as close to perpendicularly as possible to the Middlesex station, ensuring they maintain a good lookout, they will then marshal on the Middlesex side against the tide. They will have to continually row on to ensure that they do not drift excessively upstream in order to provide adequate time to get turned around the Start Manager, aligned and prepared to race, as the stream will cause crews to drift up river, towards the start line once spun.

Racing: Crews must follow the umpires' instructions, which may include adjusting the course or stopping the race. Mechanical Breakdown/Failure – a crew suffering a mechanical steering failure should stop racing and notify an official of the problem. It is important that crews do not put themselves at risk by trying to “finish the race” with defective steering.

Officials

- 1) All officials are reminded that their **primary duty to care** is for **the safety of competitors**, officials, other water users and the public at large.
- 2) Umpires are reminded that it **MAY** be necessary to instruct crews (**solely** on safety grounds) to keep to starboard to make sufficient room for on-coming vessels.
- 3) A **marshal** near the start marshalling area will keep crews as much into the side of the river as is practically possible to allow for the free flow of non regatta traffic. **Crews are to check-in with this marshal.**
- 4) A **marshal** at the finish will **supervise crews whilst they return to the Surrey shore**, as close to perpendicularly to the river as possible, and ensure they are safely under way back to the Putney Hard.
- 5) There will be **mobile phone communication** between each launch and Regatta Control at Vesta RC, and also between Regatta Control and the marshals. *All mobile phone communication to be kept to a minimum.*
- 6) If there is an incident be Brief and Precise in transmission eg. “Incident at [Give Position], Crew in Water” Safety Adviser will instruct Safety Boats.

Sound Signals (from COLREGS)

- * I am altering my course to **Starboard**
- ** I am altering my course to **Port**
- *** My engines are going **Astern**
- ***** I am doubtful if you are taking sufficient avoiding action

Instructions for Specific Roles:

Marshal at Start: Gathers participants for races and controls their movement in the marshalling area . Making sure they are spun before the Umpire 'collects' them.

Race Umpire: Collects crews from Marshal at Start. Before each race, Race Umpires are to ensure that they consider the course clear and ready for racing. Please indicate the satisfactory end of a race by raising the white flag.

Marshal at Finish: Monitor/accompany crews as necessary from the Finish to the Putney hard via the end of the moorings at the Black Buoy.

Bank Marshals: In the boating area immediately outside the Club the main role is to keep crews close to the bank, out of the way, and attempt to get them into race order if at all possible.

Navigation on the Flood (Incoming/Rising)Tide

