

THAMES VALLEY PARK REGATTA

READING TOWN REGATTA

COMPETITOR & BOATING INSTRUCTIONS 2026

Instructions to Crews (Please refer to accompanying plan) – updates indicated in red

1. All Crews must boat from the designated boating area upstream of the finish and **AWAY FROM THE FINISH AND COURSE**.
2. It is the responsibility of all crews to boat in time for their race - **NO ANNOUNCEMENTS** will be made.
3. All crews should **proceed to the Start** via the Navigation Channel and should **keep next to the buoy line** (cox's right) **within** the Navigation Channel. (**STANDARD RULES OF NAVIGATION APPLY IN THE NAVIGATION CHANNEL**)
4. All coxswains must wear a CE labeled, and British Rowing approved, buoyancy aid or life jacket (front loaders **must** be of the manual activation type).
5. It is the **responsibility of all clubs and individual crews** to ensure that the competitors and their boats comply with the requirements of British Rowing Rules of Racing and the guidance of Row Safe – **random checks** will be carried out by Officials of this requirement. All competitors' boats should also clearly display the EA 6 digit identification code. *Please note that competitors and clubs are ultimately responsible for their own safety.* Competitors and equipment not meeting requirements risk exclusion from events in which they are entered.
6. It is the responsibility of each crew to make themselves known to the Sheepdog Launch and/or Start Marshal, who will call crews forward to the stake boats at the appropriate time. **All crews must display their crew racing number clearly.**
7. **NO CREWS are to stop, practice starts or paddle firm pressure** **within** the Navigation Channel. Crews wishing to practise should do so either well down or well upriver from the course. **Practising in the navigation channel is PROHIBITED at all times.**
8. It is the **responsibility of all clubs/coaches/crews** to ensure that each crew is **able to competently and efficiently attach** to the stakeboats – *prolonged delays to racing due to poor attaching could result in disqualification of crews.*
9. First Aid Cover is available by the refreshment marquee.
10. A telephone for emergency use is available at Crew Stewards, which is located at the Finish. Should urgent medical attention be required, please contact any Umpire, Marshal, or Committee Member along the course or at Crew Stewards.
11. Rule 8-5 of the British Rowing Rules of Racing **can and will be enforced for any competitor/coach/supporter** – appropriate sanctions will be issued if necessary, in line with rule 8-6.

Any Crew not adhering to these instructions runs the risk of disqualification from all events in which they may be entered