

2022 Rules of Racing

Changes from 2021 Rules of Racing From 1st April 2022

Issue History: VI 30th January 2022

2021 Rule	Proposed 2022 Rule	Comments
 Interpretation In addition: Italic type: in these rules, shall indicate comment or explanation, rather than rules. May: when used in describing the duties of officials in these rules implies the exercise of discretion and judgement in the light of training, knowledge and experience. 	 Interpretation In addition: Italic type: in these rules, shall indicate comment or explanation, rather than rules. May: is used where alternatives are equally acceptable. Should: is used where a provision is preferred. Shall: is used where a provision is mandatory. 	Standardise the May/Should/Shall terms. Changes throughout the rules
 4-4 Masters Class a. Masters events may be held in the following classes, by age. The age restriction is the lower limit for the average age of the crew (excluding cox), each crew member's age being measured in whole years attained during the current calendar year. d. Masters crews of different classes may be raced together using a handicap system (see Appendix G). 	 4-4 Masters Class a. Masters events may be held in the following categories, by age. The age restriction is the lower limit for the average age of the crew (excluding cox), each crew member's age being measured in whole years attained during the current calendar year. d. Masters crews of different categories may be raced together using a handicap system (see Appendix G). 	Rename Masters Classes to Masters Categories for consistency
5-5 Competition Conditions and Entries 5-5-1 Notice of Competition It is the responsibility of the competition's organising committee to publicise the competition. Any published material shall be approved by the local Regional Umpiring Committee in advance and shall note that the competition will comply with the British Rowing Rules of Racing.	5-5 Competition Conditions and Entries 5-5-1 Notice of Competition It is the responsibility of the competition's organising committee to publicise the competition. Any published material shall be shared with the local Regional Umpiring Committee in advance and shall note that the competition will comply with the British Rowing Rules of Racing.	Removed the requirement of the RUC to approve the published material as it is only a recommendation of what is shown.
5-5-3 Closing of Entries d. No competitor may be entered more than once in the same band in an event at a competition if that event has side-by-side races. This allows a competitor to enter more than once in an event at a head race if allowed by the competition but not at a regatta where there are side-by-side races in the event entered.	 5-5-3 Closing of Entries d. No competitor may be entered more than once in the same band in an event at a competition if that event has side-by-side races. 	Removed the note about head v regatta as it is not adding anything to the rule
7-2-4 Crew Composition d. All Masters crews must race at their age class as shown in the draw and substitutes shall not be permitted if they would result in making the crew ineligible for that age class.	7-2-4 Crew Composition d. All Masters crews shall race at their age category as shown in the draw and substitutes shall not be permitted if they would result in making the crew ineligible for that age category.	Rename Masters Classes to Masters Categories for consistency

7-2-6 Lightweight Competitors	7-2-6 Lightweight Competitors	Standardised start time/ race
Rowers shall be weighed-in each day not less than one	b. Rowers shall be weighed-in each day not less than one	time to race time
hour and not more than two hours before the scheduled start tir		
of the first race that day of the event in which they are entered.	first race that day of the event in which they are entered.	
7-3 The Start (Side-by-Side Racing)	7-3 The Start (Side-by-Side Racing)	Standardised start time/ race
7-3-1 Reporting at the Start	7-3-1 Reporting at the Start	time to race time
d. A crew that is not at the Start two minutes before the scheduled time of the race may be disqualified. If it is permitted to start in the race, it shall, at the discretion of the Starter, incur the penalty of one 'Official Warning'. A crew that is not at its starting station and ready to race by the scheduled time of the race may be excluded by the Starter. The start of a race may take place without reference to absentees. e. If all the competitors are in position and ready to race, and the Race Umpire and timing (where relevant) are ready, the Starter may start the race up to two minutes early (or earlier if agreed with the crews and the event organisers are advised accordingly). If, through circumstances f. If the start of a race is delayed, the Starter may: hold the crews in the start area while proceeding with the next race. announce a new start time. require crews to return to the boating area and await further announcements.	d. A crew that is not at the Start two minutes before the race time may be disqualified. If it is permitted to start in the race, it shall, at the discretion of the Starter, incur the penalty of one 'Official Warning'. A crew that is not at its starting station and ready to race by the scheduled time of the race may be excluded by the Starter. The start of a race may take place without reference to absentees. e. If all the competitors are in position and ready to race, and the Race Umpire and timing (where relevant) are ready, the Starter may start the race up to two minutes early (or earlier if agreed with the crews and the event organisers are advised accordingly, as provided at 7-3-4a). If, through circumstances f. If the start of a race is delayed, the Starter may:	

d. For Masters Handicap races the Starter shall then confirm the crews' ages, tell them what the handicap is, and remind them of the start procedure: This is a Masters Handicap race. Crew(s) [] you are Masters [], crew(s) [] you are Masters []. Please confirm. Each crew is required to acknowledge that the information is correct. The handicap is [x] seconds. I will start you like this: After the Roll Call I will say 'Attention, Go' and I will then use a stop watch to count aloud down from [x-I] to 'I' and then 'Go'. Crew(s) [] you will start on my first 'Go', crew(s) [] you will start on my second 'Go'. I will use the red flag on each start. Is that clear?	d. For Masters Handicap races the Starter shall then confirm the crews' age categories, tell them what the handicap is, and remind them of the start order: "This is a Masters Handicap race. Crew(s) [] you are Masters [] and will start first, crew(s) [] you are Masters [] and will start second. Please confirm. The handicap is [x] seconds." Each crew is required to acknowledge that the information is correct. For the second and subsequent starts the starter shall use a stopwatch and count down aloud from [x-I] to x and then say 'Go' and drop the red flag. For example: Roll Call, 'Attention', 'Go' [x-I] I, 'Go'. If there are entries from 3 age categories in a race there will be two separate countdowns, for example Go-5-4-3-2-1-Go-4-3-2-1-Go for a six second handicap between crews A and B followed by a 5 second handicap between crews B and C." In the event of a 'false start' by any crew, the normal 'false start' procedure shall apply. A crew awarded a handicap in its favour may elect to start without advantage.	Simplified start procedure for Masters Handicap races. The start procedure is not explained to the crews but is carried out in the same as before
 7-3-4 Start Procedure i. After a further distinct pause, the Starter shall say: 'Go', simultaneously dropping the red flag smartly to one side. The pause between the raising of the flag and the start command shall be variable. 	 7-3-4 Start Procedure i. After a further distinct pause, the Starter shall give the start signal by saying: 'Go', simultaneously dropping the red flag smartly to one side. The pause between the raising of the flag and the start signal shall be variable. 	Clarifying that the GO is the start signal with the red flag dropping
7-3-4 Start Procedure k. In exceptional circumstances the Starter may omit the 'Roll Call' (having told the crews 'There will be no Roll Call') and may then begin the Start from the word 'Attention'.	7-3-4 Start Procedure k. In exceptional circumstances the Starter may omit the full 'Roll Call' by previously telling the crews 'Quick Start' and replace the 'Roll Call' with 'All Crews'.	Reducing the number of words

the race and i - encroacl - 'interfer	ould remain on its prope	of other competitors	the race and it should no			of other competitors 7-5-5)	Added a note about being allowed to take evasive action
			h. or w	crew is in breach hen considering an les. This would be ot merit an Official	Warning.	e taken into account	New definitions. All other definititions re-lettered
the Anti-Doping Ru	dix A Doping: Is defined as the occurrence of one or more of ti-Doping Rule Violations set forth in Article 2.1 through 2.10 of the UK Anti-Doping Rules.			Appendix A n. Doping: Is defined as the occurrence of one or more of the Anti-Doping Rule Violations set forth in Article 2.1 through Article 2.11 of the UK Anti-Doping Rules.			New ADRV to protect whistle blowers
Appendix A nn. Safety Adv	Appendix A			Appendix A nn. Safety Adviser: shall mean the person identified in RowSafe as the Competition Rowing Safety Adviser.			Standardising on the term competition for the overall name
APPENDIX F The maximum permitted length and minimum permitted weights are as follows:			14 b.	14 APPENDIX F			Min Boat Weight for a 4x+ is I30Kg (WR Change)
Boat Type C1x C2x C4x+	Maximum length (m) 6.00 7.50 10.70	Minimum weight (kg) 35 60 140		Clx C2x C4x+	(m) 6.00 7.50	(kg) 35 60	
 I.4-5 Crew Racing Numbers b. For races with beach finishes which require one or more crew members to exit the boat and cross the finish line on foot, every crew member crossing the finish line must shall clearly display their crew number on their person in a manner visible to the finish judges. 			14-5 Crew Racing Numbers b. For races with beach finishes which require one or more crew members to exit the boat and cross the finish line on foot, the crew member crossing the finish line shall clearly display their crew number on their person in a manner visible to the finish judges.			Only one crew member needs to cross the line	

14-6 Race Characteristics a. The race course for offshore rowing competitions shall provide, as far as possible, fair and equal racing conditions for all crews. This shall require sufficient width of the start line to allow all the crews in each event to start at the same time (except in the case where there are preliminary heats, the process for which shall have been notified to all teams at the time of their entry). c. The length of course shall be 4-6 km.	14-6 Race Characteristics a. The course for offshore rowing competitions shall provide, as far as possible, fair and equal racing conditions for all crews. This shall require sufficient width of the start line to allow all the crews in each event to start at the same time (except in the case where there are preliminary heats, the process for which shall have been notified to all teams at the time of their entry). c. The length of course may be 4-6 km.	Changed race course to course The length of the course is not stipulated
14-10-2 Crew Captains' Meeting Before the start of the competition, a meeting shall be convened by the Organising Committee at which all team managers, coxes and crew captains must participate. At this meeting, the Race Committee Chair and Event Safety Adviser will explain and provide to all participants all information reasonably required for the safe running of the event (including local maritime rules, tidal movements, currents, specific topography, known dangers and safety rules). If deemed necessary, the coxes, and the crew captains, may be invited to view the course from a motor launch of the Organising Committee.	I4-10-2 Crew Captains' Meeting Before the start of the competition, a meeting shall be convened by the Organising Committee at which all team managers, coxes and crew captains shall participate. At this meeting, the Race Committee Chair and Competition Safety Adviser will explain and provide to all participants all information reasonably required for the safe running of the event (including local maritime rules, tidal movements, currents, specific topography, known dangers and safety rules).	Terms standardised and the ability to view the course removed.
14-11-2 Shelters Shelters are ports and bays where boats can easily find refuge in adverse weather conditions and where the crew members can be safely disembarked. Such shelters must be made known by the Organising Committee to all crews as part of the information to crews. Shelters may be very dependent on the tidal, wind and current conditions. Depending on the conditions, an area may be considered a shelter at a certain time of day only and may be dangerous and inaccessible at other times. Whatever the route followed by the rowers, they must be aware of all the possibilities of access to the shelters in accordance with the navigational limits imposed on their boat.	I4-II-2 Shelters Shelters are ports and bays where boats can easily find refuge in adverse weather conditions and where the crew members can be safely disembarked. Such shelters shall be made known by the Organising Committee to all crews as part of the information to crews. Shelters may be very dependent on the tidal, wind and current conditions.	Clarification on shelters
14-13 Floating (on water) Start a. Crews must shall be in the vicinity of the start line three minutes before the designated start time.	 14-13 Floating (on water) Start a. Crews must shall be in the vicinity of the start line two minutes before the designated race time. 	Clarification on the time that crews must be ready to race

e. The position of the Starter shall be such that the Starter has a clear view of the running start line (in case of running starts) and all boats and the starting signals are clearly visible to all race competitors. The Starter should be on a raised platform and should wear a clearly distinguishing jacket. f. The Starter shall inform the crews when there is five minutes, four minutes and three minutes remaining before the start time. g. There shall be a Judge at the Start who shall be positioned in such location as to be able to properly carry out their responsibilities. The Race Committee Chair may allocate two Judges at the Start for this purpose.	e. The position of the Starter shall be such that the Starter has a clear view of the running start line (in case of running starts) and all boats and the starting signals are clearly visible to all race competitors. The Starter may be on a raised platform and should wear a clearly distinguishing jacket. f. There shall be a Judge at the Start who shall be positioned in such location as to be able to properly carry out their responsibilities. The Race Committee Chair may allocate two Judges at the Start for this purpose.	Changes in the requirements for starting and announcing information
I4-I4-I Boat Handlers d. The role of the boat handler is to support the departure and arrival of the crew from and to the beach.	 I4-I4-I Boat Handlers d. The role of the boat handler is to support the safe departure and arrival of the crew from and to the beach. Boat handlers who do not act in a safe manner may incur a time penalty for their crew 	Added requirement for the boat handling to be safe and clarified that they are part of the crew!

14-21 Finish of the Race

- a. For a Floating Finish, a crew has finished the race when the bow of its boat has reached the finish line between the two buoys.
- b. For a Beach Finish
- Where, a beach finish is provided, a crew shall have finished the race when one or more members of the crew has reached the line or touched the flag on the beach as required. For beach finish races all crew members must start and arrive at the beach.
- For beach finishes the Race Committee Chair together with the Organising Committee may adopt a penalty box approach close to the finish line whereby time penalties given during the race may be served before the runner is released to complete their run to the finish line.
- c. A crew in contravention of these requirements shall be disqualified.

14-21 Finish of the Race

- a. For a Floating Finish, a crew has finished the race when the bow of its boat has reached the finish line between the two marks. The Race Committee Chair together with the Organising Committee may adopt a penalty turn area close to the finish where penalties awarded during the race should be served before the boat crosses the finish line. The Penalty Umpire will be situated at the end of this area and shall inform crews with penalties how many complete turns they must perform to complete the penalty. Crews after completing the required number of turns can continue to the finish line.
- b. For a Beach Finish
- Where, a beach finish is provided, a crew shall have finished the race when one member of the crew has reached the line or touched the flag on the beach as required.
- For beach finishes the Race Committee Chair together with the Organising Committee may adopt a penalty box approach close to the finish line whereby time penalties given during the race may be served before the runner is released to complete their run to the finish line.
- Where conditions dictate the Race Committee Chair shall ensure that for reasons of safety glide buoys mark the area close to the arrival point on the beach. No rower who passes a glide buoy should take any more active rowing strokes. This is to prevent injury to boat handlers and damage to equipment. Crews which fail to observe the glide buoys shall be subject to a penalty of 30 seconds to be served in the penalty box.
- c. A crew which does not complete the required penalty either in a penalty loop or penalty box shall be disqualified.

Updated the finish procedures

14-22-1 Required Umpire Positions	14-22-1 Required Umpire Positions	Roles revised and new role of
b. Starter & Judge at the Start - The Starter and the Judge at the Start shall ensure that the correct starting procedure is followed by the crews.	b. Starter & Judge at the Start - The Starter and the Judge at the Start shall ensure that the correct starting procedure is followed by the crews.	Penalty Umpire added
For a floating start, the Judge at the Start shall not be required to give instructions to any crew on their alignment at the Start. It is wholly the responsibility of the crews not to be on the course side of the start line at the time the start signal is given. For a beach start, the Judge at the Start may give instructions to keep the boats in alignment. There is no Aligner.	For a floating start, the Judge at the Start shall identify any boats which are on the course side of the start line at the time the start signal is given. They shall immediately inform the Starter and Umpires of their decision and the offending crews shall be notified of their decision. It is wholly the responsibility of the crews not to be on the course side of the start line at the time the start signal is given. For a beach start, the Judge at the Start shall be positioned where they may best judge whether any crews have started to enter their boats before the start signal is given. e. Penalty Umpire - shall record the penalties awarded to crews during the race by the Starter and Race Umpires, inform crews of their penalties and enforce crews serving time penalties by either penalty turns for water finishes or a penalty box for beach finishes.	
 Disputes, Disciplinary Procedures and Penalties. These shall be as rule 8-6 although, additionally, an umpire may issue a time penalty to an offending crew as follows: Standard time penalty – 30 seconds Severe collision penalty – 60 seconds Floating false start time penalty – 3 minutes 	 14-23 Disputes, Disciplinary Procedures and Penalties. These shall be as rule 8-6 although, additionally, an umpire may issue a time penalty to an offending crew as follows: Standard time penalty – 30 seconds or 360 degree penalty turn Severe collision penalty – 60 seconds or 720 degree 	New penalties have been added of 360 or 720 degree turns instead of timed penalties as thi will give a better "finish"
	 Floating false start time penalty – 3 minutes Beach start time penalty – 60 seconds 	
 15-1-2 Water Section b. The patterns for the course shall be either slalom out and slalom back (Option 1) or slalom out and straight back (Option 2). 	15-1-2 Water Section b. The patterns for the course shall be slalom out and straight back.	Option I never used so removed (graphic also updated)
e. Crews shall at all times be aware of the weather and water conditions and the safety of themselves and others. Crews rowing in a dangerous manner or in a way which is considered out of control may be excluded or otherwise penalised by the umpire.	I5-5 During the Race e. Crews shall at all times be aware of the weather and water conditions and the safety of themselves and others. Crews, including boat handlers, rowing in a dangerous manner or in a way which is considered out of control may be excluded or otherwise penalised by the umpire.	Added boat handlers as they also need to manage the boats

15-8 Umpires and Additional Officials

Umpires and Additional Officials shall be as for Rules 6-1-4 and 6-1-5. In principle, they shall consist of persons carrying out the following duties:

- a. Chair of Race Committee
- b. Starter and Race Umpire The Starter shall act also as the Race Umpire having a clear view of all crews during the race. The Race Umpire shall have precedence over the Lane Umpires and the Turning Mark Umpire. He shall in general not communicate with crews during the race but will make decisions based on his observations and on the advice of the Lane Umpires and the Turning Mark Umpire. The Race Umpire shall not give any steering indications to crews.
 - When all crews have finished the race the Race Umpire shall indicate if the race was in order by raising a white flag. If the race was not in order the Race Umpire shall raise a red flag
- c. **Lane Umpires** The Lane Umpires shall be positioned on the beach in an elevated position to give them a clear view of their lane, each in line with their lane.
 - The Lane Umpire may tell the runners if they miss the water's edge flag so that they have the opportunity to go around the correct side of the flag.
 - The Lane Umpires shall ensure the boats are held in line with their lane while waiting for the start signal and shall notify the Judge at the Start if they consider the boats are not correctly in line when the start signal is given (a faulty start) or if any crew member starts to board the boat before the start signal is given (a false start). They shall give such notification by raising a red flag.
- d. **Key Turning Mark Umpire** The Turning Mark Umpire shall be stationed in a boat at the farthest point of the course and shall observe the race and shall determine whether all crews go around all buoys correctly as required. They shall indicate to the Race Umpire by raising a flag after the crew in their lane has rounded the farthest buoy from the beach; and after the crew in their lane has reached the beach on the return sector. The flag shall be raised as follows:
 - A white flag if the crew has rounded all buoys correctly.

15-8 Umpires and Additional Officials
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I-5. In principle, they shall consist of persons carrying out the following duties:

- a. Chair of Race Committee
- b. Starter and Race Umpire The Starter shall act also as the Race Umpire having a clear view of all crews during the race. The Race Umpire shall have precedence over the Lane Umpires. The Race Umpire shall in general not communicate with crews during the race but will make decisions based on his observations and on the advice of the Lane Umpires. The Race Umpire shall not give any steering indications to crews. When all crews have finished the race the Race Umpire shall note any flags raised by the Lane Umpires and indicate if the race was in order by raising a white flag. If the race was not in order the Race Umpire shall raise a red flag
- Lane Umpires The Lane Umpires may be positioned on the beach in an elevated position to give them a clear view of their lane, each in line with their lane.

The Lane Umpires shall ensure the boats are held in line with their lane while waiting for the start signal and shall notify the Judge at the Start if they consider the boats are not correctly in line when the start signal is given (a faulty start) or if any crew member starts to board the boat before the start signal is given (a false start). They shall give such notification by raising a red flag.

The Lane Umpires shall observe the crew in their lane to ensure that they correctly pass all the marks and the turning mark farthest from the beach. Lane Umpires should also note any other infringement of the Rules, including interference. At the finish of the race the Lane Umpires should signify to the Race Umpire with a white flag if the crew in their lane rounded all the buoys correctly; they should signify with a red flag if there have been any breaches of the Rules.

Judge at the Start and Finish - The Judge at the Start shall determine whether any runners cross the start line before the start signal is given shall and act also as the Judge at the finish (i.e. Chief Judge). The Chief Judge at the Finish shall not Turning marker umpire removed. Other roles revised.

- A red flag if the crew has not rounded the buoys correctly.	release any results of the race until the Race Umpire makes a determination on the infringement indicated by the red flag.	
The Turning Mark Umpire shall also show a red flag if they consider there has been any other infringement of the Rules, including interference. They shall as soon as possible after the finish of the race inform the Race Umpire of the detailed reasons for showing the red flag.		
e. Judge at the Start and Finish - The Judge at the start shall act also as the Judge at the finish (i.e. Chief Judge). The Chief Judge at the Finish shall not release any results of the race until the Race Umpire makes a determination on the infringement indicated by the red flag.		