



2023 Rules of Racing

Changes and Updates

TEAMWORK | OPEN TO ALL | COMMITMENT

Introduction

In 2023 there are a few major changes and other minor changes.

The main changes are:

- Definition of a Women
- Added an example of Mixed Ability events
- Updated wording relating to BROE and membership
- Coxes weights updated and procedures clarified
- Updated start procedure
- Added more definitions
- Changes to the Beach Sprints to include time trials
- Clarified what standard times are for masters' handicaps

Classification of Events

- **4-1-1 Women's Events**

- A rower is eligible to compete in a women's event, or as a woman in a mixed event, if the gender of the rower is female in BROE.
- *Formalises the British Rowing definition of women into the rules. This can be subsequently changed without a change in the rules.*
- *No change in practice, it makes it clear that the responsibility for defining Male or Female lies with British Rowing and its procedures – not the competition or umpire.*

Classification of Events

- **4-5a (Combination of Classes)**
 - Competition organisers may offer events that combine the conditions of two or more classes; (e.g. Masters B Event Band XX **or Masters AR3, or Mixed Ability AR2**). *Masters B Event Band XX would be an event conforming to the general conditions of Masters B, but restricted to crews/scullers with a personal Ranking Index applicable to Event Band XX conditions. **Masters AR3 would combine a Masters competitor(s) with Adaptive AR3 class competitor(s). Mixed Ability AR2 would combine a Senior competitor with an AR2 competitor***

Competition Conditions and Entries

- **5-5-2 Competition Entries**
 - Competitions and clubs **shall** use BROE to manage their entries.
- **5-5-3h (Closing of Entries)**
 - Once the entries have closed, the **entry details** shall be available for inspection by any interested party

Control Commission

- **7-2-7d Coxes**
 - The minimum weight for coxes shall be: **45 kg for all J15 and younger crews and 55 kg for all other crews.**
- *Follows the World Rowing standards for senior and older junior crews. No difference for genders*
 - *Competitions should ensure that officials responsible for weighing follow best practice guidelines and remain sensitive to the feelings of athletes and any concerns about welfare.*
- *Guidance as suggested by Medical Committee*

The Start (Side-by-Side Racing)

- **7-3-1e Reporting at the Start**
 - The Starter shall then announce ‘Two Minutes’. *At events where racing is over two or three lanes, and at the discretion of the Race Committee Chair, the Starter shall omit the words ‘Two Minutes’ and proceed with the start procedure given in 7-3-4b when all other conditions for racing are met. Regattas where the omission of the ‘two minutes’ wording has been approved by the Race Committee Chair, must publish this in the instructions to competitors. This shall then be consistently applied by the Starter.*
 - *Reflects common practice and removes the confusion for example when the race is started significantly less than 2 minutes after the roll call.*
 - *Only the words “2 minutes” are being removed*

New Definitions

- **v. National Competition**
 - a competition overseen by the British Rowing Events Committee
- **mm. Re-Row**
 - A re-row is an extension of the original race. All Official Warnings and handicap starts which were awarded or forfeited in the initial race apply equally to the re-row.
 - *For example if a Masters Handicap is declined the first time, then it can not be applied the second time*

Offshore and Beach Sprints

- **14-14-2 Start Procedure**
 - Adds “Attention” in where it was missing
 - Red flag instead of start flag
 - Allows “Go” or a horn
- **15-1-2 Water Section**
 - Added an explanation of a processional Time Trial course
- **15-8 Officials**
 - Updated the roles of the various officials

Master Handicaps

- **16-3 Regattas**
 - Clarified that the time quotes for 1000m races are only examples and not fixed.
 - All handicaps are to be calculated to whole seconds