Christ Church Regatta 2016

Below are the rules for the Oliver Wyman Christ Church Regatta 2016. Please take a moment to familiarise yourself with this year’s rules:

0a. The 'Regatta Committee' refers to the Regatta Captain, Jonathan Diederich, and any other member of Christ Church Boat Club chosen to assist in the organisation of the event.

0b. The 'Race Committee' refers to the Regatta Captain, Jonathan Diederich, and up to two other people present at racedesk chosen by the Regatta Captain at any one time. It is normally expected that the Regatta Captain will pick impartial and experienced people, normally involved with OURCs or other event organisers. Any appeal taken to a race committee can only be resolved by the Regatta Captain and the first two people chosen.

1. The Regatta shall be held from Wednesday 23th November until Saturday 26th November 2016 (7th Week, MT) on the Isis.

2. The Regatta shall be raced in stern-coxed Eights over a side-by-side course. The first race and repechage will begin opposite Christ Church boat-house (at the furthest end of boat-house island from the bridge) to a finish marked by a white post approximately half way between Pembroke Boathouse and The Head. The remaining races will run from Longbridges to the same end-point. The finish shall be judged by the bows.

3a. All Competitors must hold a valid Bodleian Library Card both for entry and on the day of racing.

3b. Crews entered for the Regatta must consist entirely of novice oarspersons of the same boat club. Composite crews are not allowed.

A participant is not considered to be a novice if they satisfy any of the following (including, but not restricted to):

i) They have previously competed as an oarsperson in Christ Church Regatta or Clare Novices Regatta.

ii) They have previously competed as an oarsperson in any Oxford, Cambridge, Eton College or University of London Bumping race (including rowing on/qualification).

iii) They have previously competed as an oarsperson in any "British Rowing" (formerly ARA), SARA, WARA (or foreign equivalent) regatta or head race at Junior or Senior level prior to 5th October, 2016. This includes sculling and sweep events.

iv) They have competed as an oarsperson at school, college, or university representative level in any event prior to 5th October, 2016. This includes sculling and sweep events.

v) Coxes may be of any status though it is expected that, in line with the spirit of the event, novice coxes will be entered with a college's higher boats over their more experienced contemporaries, provided that river conditions are suitable. Given extreme weather conditions, the Race Committee reserve the right to lift all coxing eligibility restrictions, allowing any experienced cox to cox any number of boats over any number of colleges (they must still attend the coxing briefing, see below).

vi) If an ineligible participant is entered in any crew then the organisers may disqualify the entire Boat Club concerned.

vii) Women may row in men's events, but men may not row in women's events.
viii) No person may row for two different crews.

ix) No person may cox for two different crews.

x) All competitors (including coxes) must have passed an OURCs swimming test before racing. Oarsmen and coxes who have not passed a swimming test will NOT be allowed to compete, even if they wear a lifejacket.

NOTE THAT THIS DEFINITION OF NOVICE IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT TO THE BRITISH ROWING DEFINITION OF NOVICE

4. Substitutions are allowed only in the case of injury/illness or academic clashes. Substitutions will typically be limited to three per race, unless express prior permission has been sought from the Race Committee. The Race Committee must be informed, in writing, before the race, of any substitutions, otherwise the crew concerned may be liable to disqualification. The substitutes must meet the same eligibility restrictions as above, and must not be entered in any other crew competing in the Regatta.

5. If you can’t make up a boat of novices you may enter it as a friendly boat with a maximum of 3 non novices. These boats will not be able to advance through the competition for more than 2 races.

6. IN ORDER TO BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE, COXES MUST ATTEND THE COXING MEETING WHICH WILL BE HELD SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE THE RACES (provisionally in 6th week). COXES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE WITHOUT THE WEARING OF A LIFEJACKET. Coxes are allowed to row and cox so long as they comply with the above eligibility conditions.

7. Crews must race with their full complement at all times. Should any crew member leave the boat during a race then the crew will be considered to have not completed the course.

8. Crews must remain within their racing lanes at all times. Any crew that leaves its lane will be subject to disqualification.

9. Should a race need to be stopped, a klaxon will be sounded. When the klaxon is fired all crews should stop immediately (“Hold it Hard!”) and remain stationary until instructed to move by a marshal. In the event that a race is stopped due to circumstances beyond the control of the racing crews the race committee reserve the right to award the race to either crew if it is felt that they held an insurmountable lead. Re-rows for undecided races will be arranged if possible, but may not be on the same day.

10. In the event that a crew wishes to appeal the result of a race the cox must raise their arm and attract attention on crossing the finish line, and contact the race committee at race desk as soon as possible.

11. All competitors take part at their own risk. The Committee can accept no responsibility for damage or injury, however caused.

11. All competing craft must be registered with or exempt from registration by the Environment Agency. All competing craft must have a bow-ball which is screwed onto the bows (not just taped on) and be fitted with heel restraints which should not allow the heel to rise above the lowest point fixing the shoe to the footplate and hatch covers must be in place and intact. Crews will not be allowed to compete without them and checks will be made on every boat. ALL CREWS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE STATIC WHITE LIGHTS ON THE FRONT AND REAR OF THE BOAT AFTER 14h00.
13. Rules for Regattas and laws of boat racing will govern the Regatta, insofar as they apply to the Isis.

14. Coaching from the bank will not be allowed; bank-riders follow crews to ensure safety only. If dangerous cycling along the towpath is observed, then the crew of the bank-rider concerned will be disqualified. Please note that cyclists will NOT have right of way over pedestrians at any time. Only one bank-rider is permitted to follow each crew. If a crew is followed by more than one bank-rider, they will be disqualified. Bank-riders will not be permitted to use loud hailers or whistles at any time during racing or warm up. This is to ensure that commands from marshals and klaxons can always be heard.

15. Failure to inform the Regatta committee of equipment and personnel clashes at time of entry will leave crews liable to disqualification. Every attempt will be made to timetable racing around equipment and personnel clashes between a maximum of TWO CREWS up until the last sixteen. Any clashes from this point onwards will have to be resolved by the crews concerned (probably by not boat sharing), without altering the day’s racing schedule.

16. To reduce congestion, all crews boating from the boathouse island must boat from the rafts downstream of Exeter Boat-house, and must land at rafts upstream. Crews boating or landing at the wrong rafts may be liable to disqualification. Boats must not be left unattended on rafts.

17. The circulation plans must be obeyed; crews should obey the instructions of the marshals at all times. Maps of the course and circulation plan can be found on this website.

18. Unsportsmanlike Conduct or Behaviour including (but not limited to) failure to heed the instruction of a Race Official, use of obscene language or gestures; delaying the start of a race without just cause; disregard of the principles of Safety or of fairness; or abusive behaviour towards any official, competitor or spectator may result in the crew concerned and the entire club it represents being subject to disqualification.

19. The entry fee for the Regatta is £50 per crew. Entries must be made online before noon on Monday 14th November (6th week). Payment must be received by midnight on Friday 18th November. Cheques should be made payable to ‘Christ Church Boat Club’ and sent to Jonathan Diederich’s Pigeonhole at Christ Church. Please write the college and crew(s) on whose behalf the payment is being made on the reverse of any cheques. Please do not pidge cash. If you would like a receipt then please attach a note with the cheque.

20. In the event that the Regatta is cancelled, the following refunds will apply:
If there is no racing: 80 percent of the entry fee will be refunded.
If only one day’s racing occurs, 50 percent of the entry fee will be refunded.
If a crew withdraws after entries close, their entry fee will be retained.

21. The Regatta Committee reserves the right to alter any of the rules without notice, to cancel all or part of the Regatta without notice (usually only due to adverse weather conditions and subject to the refunding of appropriate entry fees), or to postpone any or all of the day’s racing. The Regatta Committee reserves the right to interpret these rules in any way that stays within their spirit, especially with respect to eligibility. The Committee reserves the right to disqualify without refund any boat which infringes these rules. The Committee’s decision in the event of any dispute shall be final. No decision taken by the Committee shall be deemed to set or have set precedent; each case will be decided on its own merit.