



## Umpires' Instructions 2010

Each Umpire's primary responsibility is to ensure safe, fair and equal racing, as defined in the current edition of the British Rowing Rules of Racing and Row Safe, which take precedence over any additional notes in this set of instructions.

### Start Zone Manager

- Represent Race Committee at the Start.
- Ensure smooth running at the start, assisting the start marshalling team, Judge at the Start, Aligner, Starter and Assistant Starter as necessary (including shift changes).
- Primary point of contact between the start team and Regatta Control (e.g. to chase paperwork etc.).
- In extremis, if crews are having severe difficulties getting attached, the Starter and Start Zone Manager may agree to use a free start after discussion with the Chairman of the Race Committee.
- Useful points of contact at the start:
  - Paul Sims - start timing / regatta control in the start tower (for all paperwork updates etc)
  - Emily Townsend - stakeboat team

### 100 m and Start Bridge Marshals

- Prepare crews for the next two (or three) races, ensuring they are in the correct lane order (lane 1 first) and move quickly to the start when called
- Liaise with the rest of the marshalling team for late-comers.
- Races **will not be held** for late-comers; crews who have missed their race time are to row back in **Lane 1, pulling into Lane 0 \*and stopping\* if the next race catches them up.**

### Starter / Assistant Starter

- Share the role between the two named umpires.
- Monitor approaching weather and report to Start Zone Manager.

### Judge at the Start / Aligner

- Share the role between the two named umpires.
- Apply common sense on the accuracy of alignment taking into account the weather conditions and crew experience; ensure the start is as fair as can reasonably be achieved.

### Launch Umpire

- Please aim to stay with the launch numbers as per the rota; some of the drivers are themselves ML umpires, and both drivers' and umpires' rotas have been designed to put less experienced umpires with experienced drivers (and vice versa).
- There will be trainee / less experienced umpires at the event who would like to gain some multi-lane experience; please be prepared to accommodate them. There should be no more than THREE people on a launch at any one time (driver, umpire and possibly a trainee) and all will wear lifejackets / buoyancy aids while afloat.

### Finish Judges

- Chief Judge - manage the judging team at the finish.
- Liaise with the volunteers running the finish video recording system.
- Ensure the race results are properly recorded on the finish list.
- Communicate / release the result to the commentary team (working with the finish volunteer team).

- Liaise with Race Umpire in the event of any disputes (preferably face to face, not over the radio).

## Control Commission

- Head - ensure the Control Commission team carries out random, but thorough, boat and crew checks. We are not required to check every boat, but it is good practice to check as many as we sensibly can.
- There is no need to maintain list of boats afloat; the marshalling team does that.
- Select random crews (on the way out or the way back) for crew composition checks - collect the registration form from Crew Control, and then ask **the crew** to tell you their names and confirm they match.
- For boat checks:
  - First ask the crew **if they have checked their boat**
  - Then, if possible, ask **them to demonstrate to you that their boat meets the required standards** (i.e. get them to check the boat while you observe them - make sure they're checking the right things and checking them properly)
  - Please record boat failures on the forms provided and return them to the Chairman of the Race Committee at the end of racing. This data may be shared with the TRUC and TRRC with the purpose of helping to improve boat maintenance standards.
- Select random returning coxes for deadweight checks.
- A reminder that coxes in **bow-coxed boats** may only wear **manually inflatable lifejackets**; not the fully automatic sort and not foam buoyancy aids. Watch out for lifejackets that don't have their toggles accessible, are taped shut or have dictaphones etc. taped to them. Ask coxes to tell you what type theirs is.
- **All boats** should have **boat IDs** even though the regatta is held on private water. This is a British Rowing requirement, and boats with no ID should be awarded an Official Warning. Crews have been advised that "insulation tape" numbers are not acceptable; facilities for printing and laminating numbers will be available at Registration; a charge will be made to cover costs of materials.
- Be available to provide assistance, if requested, to Crew Registration helping with weighing-in and clipping winners' racing licences.

## Race Committee

- Chairman - Richard Packer
- Deputy Chairman - Judith Packer
- Members - Start Zone Manager, Chief Judge, Head of Control Commission

## Umpires' Commission Representatives

- Multi-lane - Mike Williams
- Thames Region - Gary Painter

## Feedback

- If you have any comments, observations or suggestions for improvements on any aspect of the regatta organisation, then please let me know either on the day or after the event by email so that I can discuss them at the wash-up meeting and improve things for next year.

**Many thanks for your help!**

**Richard Packer** - Chairman of the Race Committee, tel. 07710 411768