



1834

The 193rd Durham Regatta

Competitors Instructions

Thank you for your entry for Durham Regatta 2026. Details of the draw are enclosed.

Please contact the entries team immediately, preferably using e-mail to entries@durham-regatta.org.uk, if there are any problems with your entries.

As you will see we have a very large entry on both days. As such it is imperative that crews are fully briefed and prepared to race at the time of their races. There is virtually no scope for retiming of races so crews should expect the rules of racing to be strictly applied.

Please read the following notes and ensure that your crew members are aware of them. They will make your weekend run smoothly, enjoyably and above all safely.

RACE CONTROL Is situated in the control tower adjacent to the Regatta Start (see enclosed map). It opens 07:00 daily and closes 30 minutes after racing concludes.

COMPETITOR PARKING

All competitors cars should park in the official car park off Green Lane, DH1 3JU. The rugby field (Boats/Trailers on the maps) near Durham ARC is for trailers and towing vehicles only. For competitors being dropped off, they should be dropped off on Green Lane, near the entrance to the car park. **Only authorised vehicles will be permitted past the cricket club at the end of Green Lane.** Blue badge holders will be permitted to park for free in the Regatta Car Park. If additional accessibility provisions are required then please contact the Regatta Secretary in advance of the Regatta on secretary@durham-regatta.org.uk.

BOAT TRAILERS Visiting clubs must use the rugby field adjacent to Durham Amateur Rowing Club (Durham ARC) for trailers, towing vehicles and minibuses used for competitor transport. **There will be NO trailer parking at Durham ARC in 2026.**

BOATING ARRANGEMENTS All crews will be boating from Durham ARC. Boat storage/trestling areas are available on the rugby field. This will allow marshals to call races in order and limit the time that crews are waiting on the water.

INSPECTION OF BOATS Clubs are responsible for following British Rowing RowSafe best practices and for their own safety should comply with the guidance which relates to them. The Control Commission will perform spot checks on boats, any boats failing checks will not be allowed to race.

LIFEJACKET CLINIC The Royal National Lifeboat Institute will be running a lifejacket clinic in the rugby field on Saturday. Club members, coxes in particular, are encouraged to bring their lifejackets along for a free operation check-up and guidance on safe usage. In addition RNLI members will be on hand throughout the weekend to give water safety advice to both the rowing community and the general public at large.

OAR STORAGE Oars should be stored in trailers, or similar, when not in use. They should only be brought to the landing stages as you are about to go afloat and should be removed as soon as practical after de-boating.

COXES Coxes must be weighed on each day at Race Control. They will be given a wristband which must be worn on the wrist and visible to control commission/umpires. Report to the weigh station well before your 1st race. **Coxes should provide their own deadweight where necessary.**

Appropriate Buoyancy Aids/Life Jackets MUST be worn. In "front-loader" boats coxes must wear manually operated gas inflation life jackets.

SCRATCHINGS Please show consideration to your fellow competitors and inform Race Control of any scratchings as soon as is practical.

SUBSTITUTIONS may be made online via BROE prior to race day or via Race Control prior to a crews first race. After the first race only substitutions on medical grounds may be made and these must be authorised by the Chair of Race Committee via Race Control.

RACING LICENCES Crew composition will be checked by Control Commission. The crew check team will be located near the top of the landing stage steps.

PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY is a formal occasion at Durham ARC (Grand Marquee at the Club House) on Sunday at 8pm. Durham Regatta requests that winning crews be smartly dressed.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL RULES are enclosed.

RACING ORDER Races are rowed in the order shown in the programme (this includes long course races). There is usually no scope for the re-timing of races. Please assist us by arriving at the start in good time for your race. All crews must report to the Paddock Marshals at the exit of the boating field and be afloat at least TEN minutes before the scheduled time of your race.

"TWO MINUTES" As allowed by Rule of Racing 7-3-1.c the Race Committee Chair has instructed the Start Umpire that the words "Two Minutes" shall be omitted from the start procedure to avoid confusion over the time to the start of the race. All other start procedures remain as normal.

BYES Byes will **NOT** be rowed for either long or short course races.

NUMBERS paper numbers will be issued (but see note about long course/championships below), **to be worn on Bow/Sculler racing vest.** In addition a plastic number will be issued to be placed in a slot on the bow of the boat.

After completion of racing, crews are requested to return their plastic race number to control commission or race control. A charge of £2.00 will be made for any non-returned plastic numbers.

Numbers and competitors "enclosure" wristbands may be collected from Race Control from 07:00 on race day. Race numbers/wristbands will NOT be issued until all monies owed have been paid.

LONG COURSE RACES Crews entering long course races will be identified by a "black text on white background" plastic number (other crews on Sunday having "white text on black background" plastic number). Only one paper number will be issued. The paper number should be worn on the racing strip as normal. It is imperative that long course crews report to

the marshals promptly to ensure that these races start promptly as a block before short course racing can resume.

ATTACHING TO STAKEBOATS Clubs and coaches should ensure that their crews are competent in attaching to stakeboats. Crews may be disqualified if the Umpires consider that a crew is not competent in attaching within a reasonable timeframe. The stakeboats will be available for practice in attaching to stakeboats from Friday afternoon. Please note they may not be manned at all times on Friday 12 June.

PHOTOGRAPHY Durham Regatta takes place in a public location and crews should be aware that photographs and video footage may be taken by amateur and professional photographers or by members of the general public. Durham Regatta expects anyone taking photographs at the regatta to act within the Safeguarding and Photography policy of British Rowing. Please report any suspected breaches of this policy to the Welfare Officer via Race Control.

DRONES The unauthorised use of drones is NOT permitted at Durham Regatta any breaches of this rule may result in disqualification of crews/clubs involved. You are reminded that there are strict government rules regarding flying drones in built up areas and close to large outdoor gatherings such as Durham Regatta. There is also a flight exclusion zone around HMP Durham.

We hope you all have an enjoyable weekend of rowing.



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SAFETY NOTES

Durham Regatta follows the British Rowing RowSafe Guide. All competing clubs and competitors should be familiar with the Guide and for their own safety should comply with the guidance which relate to them.

Event and Race Control

Is situated in the portable buildings adjacent to the Regatta Start.

Can be contacted throughout the Regatta weekend on 07873 321629. Alternatively ask any Regatta Official with a radio to contact Event or Race Control if required.

Medical Provision

Lifeline Medical Services Ltd. will be on duty, based near the Regatta Start, and can be contacted via Event Control.

Safety/Rescue Craft

Safety/Rescue Craft will be on duty during racing hours. Launches have priority if they are moving. They may be summoned by any Regatta official via Event Control.

The craft will generally be located:

1. At Collingwood Landing near the Start when short course races are being held.
2. Downstream of the Short Course finish.
3. Near Kingsgate Bridge when long course races are being held

Telephone

A mobile phone for emergency use is located at Event Control near the start and a telephone for 999 use is located at Durham ARC boathouse.

Vehicles

The Regatta Enclosure is not accessible to unauthorised vehicles. Competitors should use the signposted car park on the playing fields off Green Lane.

Towing vehicles, trailers and competitor minibuses should use the rugby field adjacent to Durham ARC.

Limited disabled persons blue badge parking is available adjacent to Event Control.

Note that following congestion in previous years there is no Regatta parking on the track in the immediate vicinity of Durham ARC boathouse. The Durham City Cricket Club will be using the parking adjacent to their clubhouse but this is NOT for Regatta use.

There is a ban on the use of bicycles on both sides of the river. Anyone cycling, or using similar modes of transport, alongside a crew could result in the disqualification of that crew.

Movement on the River

During racing hours crews are not permitted to train on the course. The River Wear in Durham is narrow in places and great care must be exercised at all times. Crews may paddle on the stretch of river upstream of the Durham ARC Landing but may not perform warm up bursts in this area. After racing crew may warm down below Elvet Bridge in the case of Short Course races, or below Count's House in the case of Long Course races.

Crews proceeding upstream must do so on the Racecourse (starboard) side. Crews must obey umpire and marshal instructions at all times. In particular crews should only move between short course finish and St. Cuthbert's landing and between Collingwood boathouse and the start when directed by a regatta official. See circulation plan for details.

Durham based clubs should ensure that their boats are upstream of the regatta start at least 30 minutes prior to the start of racing on each day. After this time all boats should boat/de-boat from Durham ARC landing stages. Boats may be returned to their home boathouse downstream of the finish immediately after their last race of the day except on Sunday morning (division 1) when the lower reach is reserved for long course racing.

St. Cuthbert's Landing, Bede Landing and Collingwood Landing should not be used during the hours of racing without the express permission of the Race Committee. This will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

Bank Umpire instructions must be obeyed at all points on the course.

After Racing is completed on each day the usual rules of the river apply. Crews must use the starboard side. i.e.

Row upstream on Racecourse side

Row downstream on Pelaw Wood side

Outside of racing hours visiting clubs must seek permission to go afloat from their host club and must familiarise themselves with the river and surroundings.

Shallows and Bank Collapses

The river is very shallow on the Racecourse side between Durham ARC landing and the start. The worst shallows are marked with cones and tape. Crews should travel upstream in single file through this area and avoid coming too close to the bank.

The bank on Racecourse side near Baths bridge has partially collapsed due to flooding, narrowing the river at this point. Great care must be taken when passing between the Short Course finish and St. Cuthbert's Landing stage and crews must be alert to racing crews and follow the instructions of umpires and marshals.

Circulation pattern on the land.

All crews will boat from Durham ARC. A boat storage/trestling area has been provided on the rugby field adjacent to Durham ARC. Crews/boats accessing this area should leave the Durham ARC grounds via the downstream bankside gate. Through the gate turn left and cross the track through the gap in the fence into the field. When boating leave the field at the opposite end of the field and enter the Durham ARC property via the tarmac track. Boats stored at the Durham ARC boathouses should also use this circulation pattern via the field after racing.

Take care when crossing the dirt track ambulances & regatta vehicles may need to enter/leave the regatta site occasionally. The ground may also be uneven in places in these areas.

Weather and Water Conditions

The Race Committee and Safety Committee will monitor the weather and water conditions throughout the Regatta and may suspend, delay or cancel individual races, boat classes or the whole Regatta, if they decide that the conditions are unsuitable for safe and fair racing. These decisions are without appeal.

All competitors should dress appropriately for the prevailing weather conditions. It is always advisable to bring a change of clothing in case the British weather does what it does best!

Water Quality

Although the River Wear is monitored by the Environment Agency it is impossible to guarantee the cleanliness of the water. All competitors and officials should be aware of the possibility of contracting water borne diseases. The British Rowing RowSafe documentation gives guidance as to how to minimise the risks. In particular anyone who swallows river water is advised to seek medical attention should they subsequently become ill.

River Banks

The river banks are uneven and steep in places. Extreme caution should be exercised when on/near the river the banks. The areas around landing stages may be covered in oars and other equipment whilst crews are boating/de-boating. This equipment should be removed from the landing stage area as soon as practical after a crew/boat leaves the landing stages.

Trees and other obstructions

The River Wear in Durham has been subject to a number of landslips and fallen trees over the past few years. Most of these have been moved and the remnants cause very minimal interference with rowing/racing activities.

River Wildlife

A number of swans and other birds/aquatic wildlife make the River Wear in Durham their home. All Regatta participants should be vigilant for their activities encroaching on such wildlife and should inform a Regatta official if there is any concern. In particular racing crews should STOP racing if wildlife wanders into the confines of their course and alert a Race Umpire. The Umpire will take appropriate action and once considered safe will make arrangements for racing to continue.

Barbecues, Tents and Gazebos

In the interests of health and safety no unauthorised barbecues, tents or gazebos are allowed in the Regatta Enclosure.

Clubs wishing to provide shelter for competitors may only erect gazebos in the trailer/boat park, adjacent to their trailer by prior arrangement with regatta secretary.

Useful Contact information

Regatta Secretary	Mrs Debbie Mortimer	07873 321629
Entries Secretary	Mr Eddie Bryant	07398 902681
Welfare Officer	Mrs Sarah-Louise Wheeler	07725 047485
Safety Committee		- contact via Event Control
Chair of Race Committee		- contact via Event Control

All emergencies must be notified to Event Control who will co-ordinate with the relevant emergency services.

Non-emergency incidents should also be notified to Event Control who will respond/record as appropriate.

Other Useful Numbers:

University Hospital North Durham

01913 332333

Durham ARC Boathouse

01913 866431



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LOCAL RULES

Durham Regatta is held under British Rowing Rules of Racing subject to the following local rules.

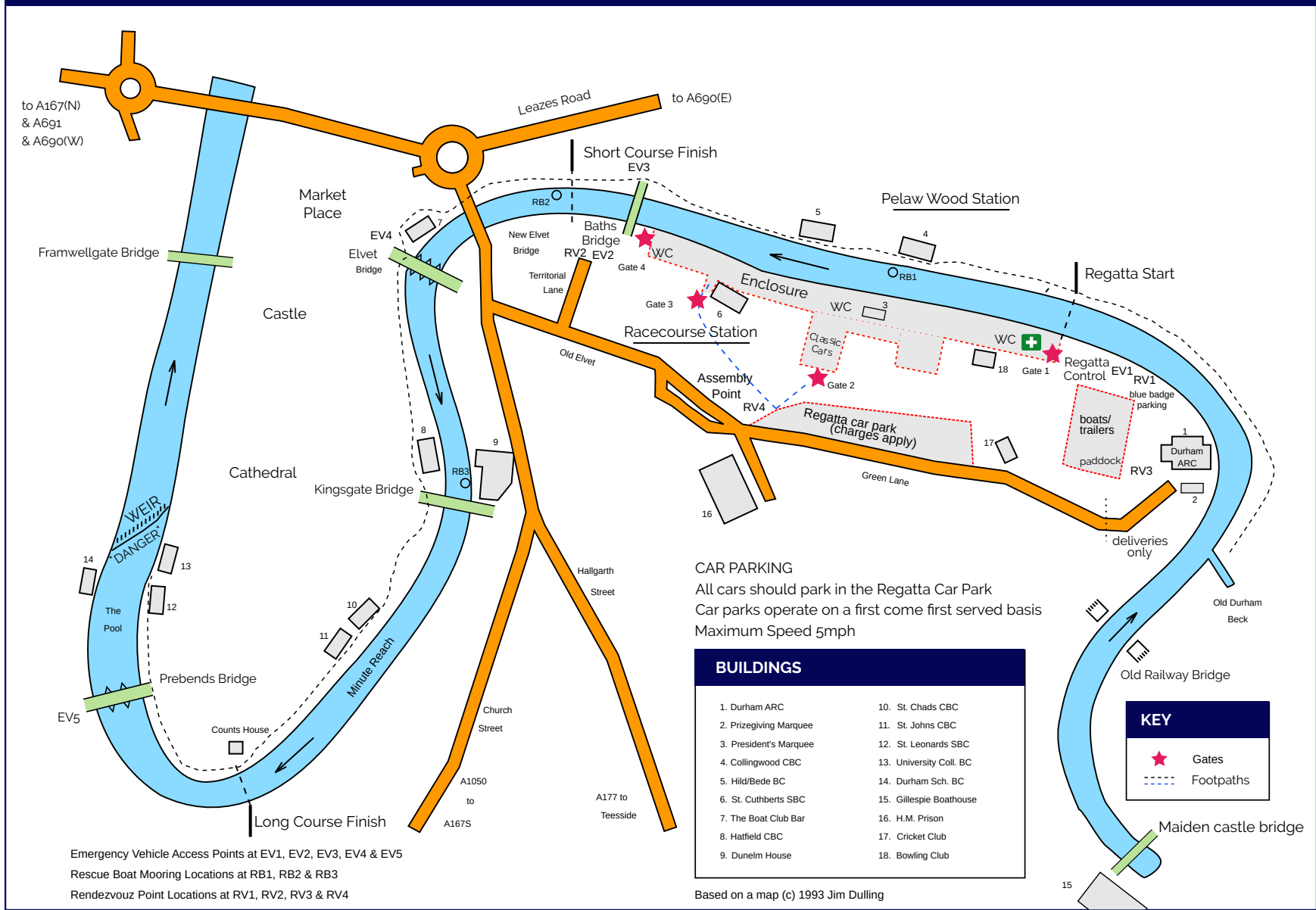
1. Crews moving upstream must proceed on the Racecourse side (i.e. keep to starboard) and obey all instructions given by umpires and marshals who will stop crews as necessary to keep the course clear for racing.
2. All crews and scullers must report to the paddock marshal (positioned at the exit of the trailer park) and be afloat at least 10 minutes before the times of their respective races. They must remain upstream of the start bunting until they are given clearance by the marshal to proceed to the Start.

Crews and scullers not arriving on time may be disqualified.

3. The crew first mentioned in each race will take the Racecourse station.
4. The course will be buoyed, each boat must keep to its own water and any boat passing on the wrong side of a buoy may be disqualified. Crews whose oars overlap a buoy may be disqualified but the utmost discretion will be allowed by the umpires to scullers, doubles and pairs.
5. In the event of a dead-heat in a short-course race, crews must not leave their boats and the heat must be re-rowed immediately. For a dead-heat in a long course race the time for the re-row shall be fixed by the Entries Secretary, and in no event shall the interval between the dead-heat and the re-row exceed one hour.
6. Long and short course byes will NOT be rowed.
7. After short course races crews must proceed downstream of the large buoy under New Elvet Bridge before turning.
8. The British Rowing Row Safe guidance will be applied in the interests of the safety of competitors and general public.
9. Bicycles are not allowed on the Racecourse or Towpath (including coaches and spectators). Any crew being paced or followed by means of a bicycle/wheeled device may be disqualified.
10. In the interests of health and safety, only authorised barbecues, tents or gazebos are permitted in the Regatta Enclosure.
11. The use of unapproved/unauthorised drones is not permitted and any affiliated clubs/crews may be disqualified.



DURHAM REGATTA



to A167(N)
& A691
& A690(W)

Leazes Road to A690(E)

Framwellgate Bridge

Market Place

Short Course Finish EV3

Pelaw Wood Station

Elvet Bridge

Baths Bridge RV2 EV2

Regatta Start

Castle

Racecourse Station

Enclosure

WC

WEIR
DANGER

Cathedral

Kingsgate Bridge

Old Elvet

Assembly Point

Regatta car park (charges apply)

boats/trailers paddock

Regatta Control EV1 RV1

blue badge parking

Deliveries only

Durham ARC

The Pool

12

13

10

11

8

9

Hallgarth Street

16

Church Street

A1050 to A167S

A177 to Teesside

CAR PARKING
All cars should park in the Regatta Car Park
Car parks operate on a first come first served basis
Maximum Speed 5mph

BUILDINGS	
1. Durham ARC	10. St. Chads CBC
2. Prizegiving Marquee	11. St. Johns CBC
3. President's Marquee	12. St. Leonards SBC
4. Collingwood CBC	13. University Coll. BC
5. Hild/Bede BC	14. Durham Sch. BC
6. St. Cuthberts SBC	15. Gillespie Boathouse
7. The Boat Club Bar	16. H.M. Prison
8. Hatfield CBC	17. Cricket Club
9. Dunelm House	18. Bowling Club

KEY	
★	Gates
⋯	Footpaths

Emergency Vehicle Access Points at EV1, EV2, EV3, EV4 & EV5
Rescue Boat Mooring Locations at RB1, RB2 & RB3
Rendezvous Point Locations at RV1, RV2, RV3 & RV4

Based on a map (c) 1993 Jim Dulling

15

Maiden castle bridge

Old Railway Bridge

Old Durham Beck

deliveries only

boats/trailers paddock

Regatta Control EV1 RV1

blue badge parking

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