



1834

The 186th Durham Regatta

CHANGES TO ENTRY PROCEDURES 2019

Durham Regatta's principal aim is to provide the best regional opportunity for rowers to take part in, and spectators to view, high quality racing between well matched crews across a range of boat types and competitive levels. Winning at Durham Regatta has been and, in our view, should continue to be a challenging but hugely rewarding enterprise.

Due to the popularity of the regatta, available spaces usually fill up within hours of entries opening, and the changes to the Ranking points system have presented the regatta with a number of challenges. To address these, in 2019 Durham Regatta has adopted a new approach for accepting entries via BROE.

When entries initially open until one week before the official closing date, the competition will NOT accept entries that would mean that any individual rowing/sculling crew member is double entered for events on the same day of the regatta. (Each day will be treated as a separate competition). The intention is that clubs will initially submit only the first choice event for each athlete. One week before the closing of entries, the competition will start accepting double entries and will accept additional entries from clubs to fill remaining spaces.

The rationale behind the system is:

- it neutralises the previous "fastest finger first" entries stampede;
- it provides a clear way for clubs to indicate their entries' preferences;
- it improves the operation of the regatta for the benefit of competitors, spectators and the volunteers who manage and run Durham Regatta.

Durham regatta does not guarantee that first choice or other crews will necessarily be accepted but we do aim to produce the best racing programme possible. Where variations are required the Regatta Committee's decision is final.

Key dates:

- 9th May - entries open. No double entries of rowing/sculling competitors.
- 23rd May - double entries accepted
- 30th May - entries close



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Frequently Asked Questions

- *What do you mean by double entries?*
In the initial phase of the entry process each rowing/sculling member of a crew may only be entered in one event per day of the regatta. However we recognise that coxes and boats are especially scarce resources and consequently these may be double entered in one event per division as per the normal rules.
- *Does that mean a club can only enter one crew in each event?*
No. If you have two, or more, crews you can enter them into the same event in phase one. But the rowing/sculling crew members cannot be in any other crews that you enter in phase one.
- *How will the acceptance of entries be implemented?*
We will work within the toolset provided by BROE2. In the initial phase of entries, all events will only be available for entry within a single division per day. This effectively stops competitors from being double entered. When we move to phase two, the existing entries will be checkpointed by the regatta team and then reassigned to the normal "Division 1" and "Division 2" divisions. From that point onwards, clubs may make double entries in the normal way.
- *I've found a way to defeat the system! What should I do?*
We are aware that clubs could attempt to game the system in a number of ways. Durham Regatta has only a limited number of race slots available. Our default position is that the majority of events in the regatta will be for fours, quads, eights and octuples. As such the number of entries available for smaller boats is necessarily limited. Clubs that attempt to game the system may find that some or all of their entries cannot be accepted.
- *In phase two, how will you decide which double entries to accept?*
We will try to accept double entries from as broad a range of clubs as possible - and not just in the order in which they are received. In general, we intend to accept double entries until the entry list is full.
We encourage clubs to: add notes to their entries; use the priority tag against crews; or ideally to send a quick summary of your priorities to entries@durham-regatta.org.uk prior to close of entries. Clubs are reminded that in general Durham Regatta prioritises entries from higher performing crews.
- *Will entries be suspended early?* We hope to leave entries open until the official close. However we reserve the right to suspend early if necessary.