

# Scottish Schools' Rowing Council

## The Bob Neill Schools' Head of the River Races

### 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2018

*on the River Dee, Aberdeen, over a 3 k course, from the Victoria Bridge to the Ruthrieston Burn*

#### Schools' Head Events

**Note:** Single Club, mixed-school crews are permitted in the Schools' Head – See Rules 2 & 3

##### *Saturday Morning*

<i>Open Junior (OJ)</i>	<i>Women's Junior (WJ)</i>
OJ18 4+	WJ18 4+
OJ16 4+	WJ16 4+
OJ15 4+	WJ15 4+
OJ14 4x+	WJ14 4x+

**Race Start time for Schools' Head will be Saturday 11:30 a.m.**

#### Sculling Head Events

##### *Saturday Afternoon*

<i>Open Junior (OJ)</i>	<i>Women's Junior (WJ)</i>
OJ18 2x	WJ18 4x
OJ16 4x	WJ16 2x
OJ15 2x	WJ15 4x+
OJ14 4x+	

##### *Sunday Morning*

<i>Open Junior (OJ)</i>	<i>Women's Junior (WJ)</i>
OJ18 4x	WJ18 2x
OJ16 2x	WJ16 4x
OJ15 4x+	WJ15 2x
	WJ14 4x+

##### *Sunday Afternoon*

<i>Open Junior (OJ)</i>	<i>Women's Junior (WJ)</i>
OJ18 1x	WJ18 1x
OJ16 1x	WJ16 1x
OJ15 1x	WJ15 1x
OJ14 1x	WJ14 1x

**Race Start time for Sculling Head Divisions will be Saturday 1.00 p.m., Sunday 12.00 noon and Sunday 1:30 p.m.**

#### Entries

Please email your entries (with the details listed in Rule 4) to arrive by **23:59 on Tuesday 18th September**. Please use the entry template if at all possible.

[Scottish.Schools@gmail.com](mailto:Scottish.Schools@gmail.com)

The cost of disposable back-numbers is included in the entry fee.

4x, 4x+ and 4+	£30.00
2x	£15.00
1x	£7.50

#### Enquiries

Please contact us at the above e-mail or failing that, on 07811 714961.

## Rules

1. Rowing and Sculling Head ages are based on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017, as per the Scottish Rowing Rules of Racing.
2. All competitors in a crew must be Juniors, and **each member of a crew must hold a Scottish Rowing Licence for the same registered Club or School**. Day Tickets are not available. Where all rowers in a crew are pupils at the same Scottish School, they will also be eligible for the equivalent Schoolboy/Schoolgirl event.
3. No composite entries are allowed.
4. The email entry lodged by a School or Club must provide the Name, Date of Birth, Scottish Rowing Licence Number and (where applicable) the Scottish School attended for each competitor. **Please use the entry template if at all possible.**
5. **Advance payment** is required this year - payment must be received by noon on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Cheques should be payable to Scottish Schools' Rowing Council and sent to Bob Neill, 1 Kirkhill Gardens, Edinburgh, EH16 5DF
6. Competitors who are eligible to participate in both divisions each day may do so.
7. It is a condition of entry that all those taking part are competent swimmers. The SSRC Race Committee takes every precaution to ensure the safety of competitors but is not to be held responsible for any accidents that may occur.
8. Coxes in all events must satisfy Rule 1, but boys may cox girls' crews and girls may of course cox open crews.
9. In accordance with the Scottish Rowing Rules of Racing, coxes must wear suitable lifejackets and all boats must comply with the Scottish Rowing Water Safety Code as regards buoyancy, heel restraints, bow balls, etc. Spot checks may be made before boating.
10. Coaches are encouraged to cycle, carrying throw ropes, with their crews. Although Scottish Rowing Rules of Racing prohibit external assistance to crews during a race, we recognise that there will be a number of young and inexperienced crews in the event, and coaches may therefore give steering advice and other crews where there is an immediate or developing danger to competitors or their equipment. Coaches and other spectators are of course free to offer general encouragement to crews.
11. As in previous years, all timing will be directed and scrutinised by SSRC's Peter Rankin.

## Pennants & Certificates

Pennants will be awarded to every member of the winning crew in each event in each division, provided that at least three crews race in the event. If only two crews race, certificates will be awarded. Certificates will also be awarded to the fastest single-school crew, provided at least one other single-school crew competes in the event.

## Trophies

The following trophies will be awarded, each based on the formula below:

- For single-school crews in the Schools' Head: **The Peter Grieve Memorial School Team Trophy**
- For all crews in the Schools' Head: **The Scottish Junior Club Team Trophy, donated by Bryan Steel**
- For single-school crews (including single scullers) across all Divisions of the Sculling Head: **The Harry Wylie Memorial School Team Trophy**
- For all crews across all Divisions of the Sculling Head: **Scottish Junior Club Team Cup for the SSRC Scullers Head of the River Races, donated by Bryan Steel**

In each event eligible for the trophy, 15 points will be awarded to the first crew, 10 points to the second crew and 5 points to the third crew. To obtain points, however, a crew must have beaten at least one other crew in its event. The totals awarded to a school or club will be based on its three highest scores. In the case of a tie, the competition will be decided by the four highest scores, and if necessary the five highest, etc.

As previously, there will also be trophies in the Schools' Head for the fastest single-school Schoolboys' crew (The St Mungo Cup) and the fastest single-school Schoolgirls' crew (The Bob Neill Quaich).

## Race Instructions

- Competitors take part in the events entirely at their own risk.
- Boats should be checked thoroughly by crew coaches or organisers **before** their crews head off for the landing stages. In accordance with Scottish Rowing rules, particular attention must be paid to ensuring effective heel restraints, and acceptable bow-balls on all boats. Coxes must wear suitable life jackets. Scottish Rowing umpires and their assistants may monitor all of the above at the landing stages.
- Crews must be warmly clad when going on the water. This is particularly important in wintry conditions.
- Crews must be clear of the jetties at least 15 minutes before the start.
- Crews must be downstream of the Queen Elizabeth Bridge at least 10 minutes before the start. The launching area is likely to be busy at this time and it is their responsibility to allow for this.
- All crews must collect their pin-on numbers from the ABC Boathouse before racing and they must be clearly visible on the back of the bow person while racing.
- Crews will gather in order on the City Bank above the Victoria Bridge with the lowest number nearest the bridge.
- On the order from the bank marshal, all crews should strip off and then move down through the city arch of the Victoria Bridge into the harbour area. (v.l. attached “map” of the Dee
- On command, crews will turn round the moored starting launch by pulling harder on stroke side and holding on bow side. They should make a tight turn rather than spinning.
- Listen carefully to marshal’s and umpire’s commands in this area. Crews will be started at approximately 10 second intervals and they may be instructed to hold back if too close to the crew in front. The standardised Scottish Rowing starting procedure will be used – as crews pass the Control Line they will be instructed “Crew X... BUILD”. They will only have about 5 strokes before passing the Timing Line when they will hear the instruction “Crew X... NOW”. The timing line is just downstream of the Victoria Bridge.
- The southernmost (Boathouse) arch of the Victoria Bridge, the easternmost (Boathouse) arch of the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge, the westernmost (City) arch of the Railway Bridge and the northernmost (City) arch of the King George VI Bridge are all out of bounds and strategically placed buoys will clearly indicate this.
- Crews being overtaken must give way to faster crews and move to the outside of bends.
- At the end of the race, all crews must finish on the South (Boathouse) side of the river. They must then move to the marshalling area on the North (City) side of the river.
- For safety reasons, crews will only be allowed downstream of the King George VI Bridge when instructed by the marshals.

## Start Order

1. The event start order will be as follows:

<b>Sat</b>	OJ18 4+	OJ16 4+	OJ15 4+	WJ18 4+	WJ16 4+	WJ15 4+	OJ14 4x+	WJ14
<b>a.m.:</b>								4x+
<b>Sat</b>	OJ18 2x	OJ16 4x	OJ15 2x	OJ14 4x+	WJ18 4x	WJ16 2x	WJ15	
<b>p.m.:</b>							4x+	
<b>Sun</b>	OJ18 4x	OJ16 2x	OJ15 4x+	WJ18 2x	WJ16 4x	WJ15 2x	WJ14	
<b>12.00</b>							4x+	
<b>noon</b>								
<b>Sun</b>	OJ18 1x	OJ16 1x	WJ18 1x	WJ16 1x	OJ15 1x	OJ14 1x	WJ15 1x	WJ14 1x
<b>1.30</b>								
<b>p.m.</b>								

2. Within any one event, the start order will first be determined by the club/school’s finish position in the previous year.
3. Where a club/school either did not compete the previous year or enters more crews for the event than the previous year, these crews will be given a random start order after those crews placed in (2) above.

## Catering Facility

ASRA and Albyn School Parents will be providing catering facilities on both Saturday and Sunday.

## First Aid & Rescue Cover

First Aid cover will be provided.

A rescue boat will follow behind the last boat in each division and three other launches will be moored at strategic points on the course to provide additional safety cover and to help crews pass through the correct arches of the five bridges on the course. Throw ropes should be carried by coaches and other followers and additional throw ropes will be available from the organisers.

## Parking

The ASRA and ABC car parks will be at our disposal all of Saturday & Sunday.

## Toilets and Changing Arrangements

Toilets and changing areas will be open to competitors in both the ASRA and ABC Boathouses.

Please keep them clean and tidy. Overnight sleeping-bag accommodation is also available at both these facilities by prior arrangement.

## Prize-Giving

Prize-Giving will take place as soon as possible after racing and boat loading each day and prizes will be presented by Bob Neill and John McKinney of the SSRC.

## Acknowledgements

Our thanks go first to Mr Neil Macfarlane (Chief Umpire) and his large team of Scottish Rowing Umpires for all their patience and forbearance in facilitating this first ever Junior Head of the River Dee.

Huge thanks too to the Aberdeen Harbour Board, the Committee of the Dee and the memberships of the Aberdeen Boat Club, the Aberdeen University and the Robert Gordon University Boat Clubs as well as the parent volunteers from ASRA and the Albyn School Rowing Club, without whose help and active encouragement this event would not be possible.