

## **BILLY WEBB CHALLENGE RIVER RACING RULES**

The rules of racing of the NZARA shall apply except as modified by these rules or as the Chief Umpire may determine in the interests of safe and fair competition.

### **1) ENTRY CRITERIA**

- 1.1 **Elite** – Athletes ineligible to row in a Club event at the New Zealand National Championships in the season of the event must enter as an Elite Athlete.
- 1.2 **Club** – All athletes able to race in a Club the New Zealand National Championships in the season of the event may enter as a Club Athlete.
- 1.3 **U 20** – Any athlete eligible to race at this level at the New Zealand National Championships in the season of the event may enter this category.
- 1.4 **U 17** – Any athlete eligible to race at this level at the New Zealand National Secondary School Championships in the season of the event may enter this category.
- 1.5 **Masters 40+** - Any person forty years of age or older on the day of the event may enter this category
- 1.6 **Masters 60+** - Any person sixty years of age or older on the day of the event may enter this category

- 2) **CAPABILITY** – By completing and submitting the entry form for this event, individuals are assuring the persons managing the event that those entrants are suitably qualified to enter, compete and safely complete an event of this nature.
- 3) **CHIEF UMPIRE** - The conduct of the race is under the sole control of the Chief Umpire who shall endeavour to ensure that each crew has an equal opportunity to win the race. The decisions of the Umpire will be final and not subject to appeal.
- 4) **THE RACE** – Shall be an approximately 5 Kilometre event starting near the start of the Aramoho 2000 Metre rowing course with the finish line in front of the Union Boat Club. Crews shall be aligned, as per their entered race category, and each category shall receive an independent start. The starting order of the categories shall be determined by the organising committee and advised to all entrants prior to the event. The overall winner shall be the first finisher across the line in both men and women's divisions. The winners within each category will also receive a cash prize.
- 5) **STATIONS** - Stations refer to the starting position of each athlete - described as being Lanes 1 to 6. Lane 1 being on the Aramoho (Western) side of the River and Lane 6 on the Wanganui East (Eastern) side of the River
- 6) **STATION SELECTION**– The defending champions shall always have the right to choose the Lane from which they shall defend their title. The Lanes allotted to all other competitors will be determined by random draw, within each race division. Should there be more than six entrants in any category those drawing Lane 7 onward will start in a second row.
- 7) **START** - The athletes shall start on their respective stations across the river. Alignment of those athletes shall be the responsibility of the Starter. When the Starter is satisfied with his alignment he shall start the race by first calling the persons in that particular category to attention and then sounding a horn to indicate the start.

- 8) **FALSE START** – Due to the nature of the event it is impractical to recall the field should a false start occur. In that event the persons so starting shall be disqualified.
- 9) **UMPIRING** – Umpires shall be stationed at regular points along the course and will note any behavior which is deemed to be undue interference to another competitor. If an individual is observed behaving in such a manner on two separate occasions that individual will be disqualified.
- 10) **PROPER COURSE** – The proper course for each boat is determined by its crew providing that it allows ample water for the other boat to steer its proper course. For the avoidance of doubt:
- a) A leading crew with clear water may determine its own course;
  - b) However, a catching crew is entitled to row around the leading crew without undue interference;
  - c) Where the crews are alongside each other to any degree, each crew is to ensure that the other crew can maintain its course without interference;
  - d) The umpire is the sole and final judge of a boat's proper course. The umpire may warn a crew that it is off its proper course or about to foul another crew and may direct the steering of the offending crew or crews. The crews are to heed the umpire's warnings and comply immediately with the umpire's directions.
  - e) The boats must not pass through the outside spans of any of the bridges;
- 11) **THE COURSE** – A Nominal distance of 5500 metres (3.42 Miles). The course follows a nominal central line on the Whanganui River and extends laterally to the banks of the River. Buoys may be placed in the river to mark a hazard i.e. snag or other impediment that could cause damage to a competitors boat
- 12) **FINISH LINE** - The finish line is a line at right angles to the river bank and directly in front of the Union Boat Club and will be marked accordingly. The Race Controller is the sole judge of the finish and shall determine and declare the ranking of the crews in accordance with the order in which they finish.

## **DISCLAIMER**

**NO LIABILITY** - The Wanganui Rowing Association reminds all entrants participating in this event that every care will be taken by the event officials to ensure the regatta is conducted safely and efficiently and in accordance with the Rules of the event and those established by Rowing New Zealand. It is the responsibility of the entrants to ensure those rules are complied with. It is a condition of participation in this event that no liability whatsoever will attach to or be accepted by the Wanganui Rowing Association for any damage to equipment or injury to persons incurred in the course of the event regardless of whether any negligence on the part of any regatta official may be established.