

COOKHAM REGATTA GENERAL RULES AND CONDITIONS 2021

1. This Regatta is held under the rules of the Cookham Regatta and all competitors must abide by them. In the case of persons under the age of 18 their parents or guardians must agree to abide by the rules of the Cookham Regatta and of each individual event therein.
2. Race entry requires payment of the Fees listed on the 2021 Entry Form. Entry fees for unsuccessful entries will be refunded in full, although, for administrative purposes, they may be banked by the Regatta in the short term. Entry fees will also be refunded should it be necessary to cancel the Regatta for whatever reason.
3. The completion and submission of an entry form will not in itself guarantee a place in an event. Entries will, however, be taken in the order they are received and where numbers are restricted, a waiting list will be compiled in case of cancellations.
4. Crew numbers and make-up should conform with the entry requirements as stipulated on the entry form. Canoe Cats and Dragon boats may list up to two reserves as possible substitutes should any of the starting team need to drop out during the course of the event heats, and subject to agreement of the Race Organisers on the day.
5. Competitors take part entirely at their own risk and must be competent swimmers. Life Jackets are compulsory wear in every event. Competitors are encouraged to provide their own life jackets, otherwise these will be provided by the organisers.
6. The Regatta organisers and any person acting for them with or without their knowledge shall not be liable for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused arising as a result of visiting or participating in the regatta.
7. Competitors should familiarise themselves with the race rules as outlined below and attend a safety briefing prior to their first race in any waterside event.
8. A signed entry for an event will be deemed by the organisers as acceptance of these rules and conditions by all the members of a crew as listed in the entry form

Race Rules:

1. Competitors must report to the boat raft ready for embarkation twenty minutes before the advertised time of their race or when called by the race organisers. Dragon boat competitors are obliged to attend a safety briefing prior to embarkation. Races will start at the time stated without reference to absentees. The race officers reserve the right to alter the programme at any time.
2. All boats, oars and paddles are provided by Cookham Regatta and competitors may not supply their own. Soft or gym shoes are the recommended footwear.
3. Competitors must remain on their own station during racing. In the event that craft stray from their station they may be disqualified, or the Umpire may order corrective action including a restart at any point on the course.
4. Craft straying outside the channel reserved for racing which is clearly marked with a line of yellow buoys face instant disqualification. Straying outside the course is DANGEROUS and if it should occur then competitors must take swift and effective action to ensure their craft returns to the racing course. If it is necessary for boats to use the section of the river reserved for non-Regatta traffic, then competitors must comply with the National Rivers Authority (NRA) regulations applicable to river traffic at all times. A special channel will be provided for travel to the start.
5. In the event of a dead heat for first place, the crews concerned will re-row immediately using the same stations.
6. All competitors should familiarise themselves with the safety arrangements. It should be assumed that passing river traffic will be unaware of potential hazards and particular care should be taken. Skylarking is not permitted and might result in disqualification.
7. **The decision of the judges and umpires is final.**