



BRITISH ROWING

2023 Rules of Racing

Changes from 2022 Rules of Racing

Issue History:

V1 8th January 2023
V2 15th February 2023

TEAMWORK | OPEN TO ALL | COMMITMENT

Rules of Racing changes 2023 to come into effect 1st April 2023

Rule	2022	2023 proposed	Notes
Heading	Rules of Racing 2022	Replace: “22” with “23”	
4-1	...Women and Mixed	Add: “(see 4-1-1)” after “Women”	
4-1-1 new rule	New rule	4-1-1 Women’s Events A rower is eligible to compete in a women’s event, or as a woman in a mixed event, if the gender of the rower is female in BROE.	Formalises BR definition of women into the rules. This can be subsequently changed without a change in the rules.
4-5a	Competition organisers may offer events that combine the conditions of two or more classes; (e.g. Masters B Event Band XX or Masters AR3). Masters B Event Band XX would be an event conforming to the general conditions of Masters B, but restricted to crews/scullers with a personal Ranking Index applicable to Event Band XX conditions. Masters AR3 would combine a Masters competitor(s) with Adaptive AR3 class competitor(s).	Competition organisers may offer events that combine the conditions of two or more classes; (e.g. Masters B Event Band XX or Masters AR3, or Mixed Ability AR2). Masters B Event Band XX would be an event conforming to the general conditions of Masters B, but restricted to crews/scullers with a personal Ranking Index applicable to Event Band XX conditions. Masters AR3 would combine a Masters competitor(s) with Adaptive AR3 class competitor(s). Mixed Ability AR2 would combine a Senior competitor with an AR2 competitor.	Adds a specific example to show how mixed ability events can be run under the current rules
5-5-2a	Competitions and clubs are required to use BROE to manage their entries	Competitions and clubs shall use BROE to manage their entries	Matches the results requirement (5-5-6a)
5-5-3h	...the entry forms shall...	Replace: “forms” with “details”	We no longer have entry forms
7-2-7d	The minimum weight for coxes shall be: 55 kg for Senior Open, Masters Open, J18, J17, J16 and Mixed crews; 50 kg for Senior Women, Masters Women, WJ18, WJ17 and WJ16 crews; 45 kg for all J15 and younger crews.	Delete: “55 kg for Senior Open, Masters Open, J18, J17, J16 and Mixed crews; 50 kg for Senior Women, Masters Women, WJ18, WJ17 and WJ16 crews;” Add: “ and 55 kg for all other crews” after “and younger crews”	Equalises cox’s weights for seniors with World Rowing
7-2-7e	New guidance	<i>Competitions should ensure that officials responsible for weighing should follow best practice guidelines and remain sensitive to the feelings of athletes and any concerns about welfare.</i>	Guidance as suggested by Medical Committee
7-3-1c	The Starter shall then announce ‘ Two Minutes ’.	<i>Add at end:</i> “At events where racing is over two or three lanes, and at the discretion of the Race Committee Chair, the Starter shall omit the words ‘Two Minutes’ and proceed with the start procedure given in 7-3-4b when all other conditions for racing are met. Regattas where the omission of the ‘two minutes’ wording has been approved by the Race Committee Chair, must publish this in the instructions to competitors. <i>This shall then be consistently applied by the Starter.</i> ”	Whilst the need for the crews to be at the start two minutes before race time has been in the Rules of Racing (RoR) for a considerable time (at least since 1994), the announcing by the Starter of “two

Rule	2022	2023 proposed	Notes
7-3-4a	If all crews agree, the starter shall call 'Two minutes'...	Add after “Two minutes”: “(except when its omission has been approved as at 7-3-1c)”	minutes” is more recent. It appears to have been fully brought into the RoR in 2017, having appeared earlier in the Multi Lane Umpiring Guide.
7-3-4b	At ‘two minutes’ or when all crews are attached whichever is later.	Replace with: At two minutes before race time or when all crews are at the start line (and attached where relevant) whichever is later	<p>Feedback has been received by some events, Race Committee Chairs and umpires that there are times when the inclusion of the “two minute” announcement is misleading and could cause confusion for athletes (i.e. when the race is started significantly less than two minutes after the “two minutes” call). This was first raised in preparation for the 2022 RoR, but the proposal by the RoR Panel (to substitute with alternative wording that indicated that the race may start from that point onwards without including a time) was rejected during the NCC/NUC approval phase. An alternative proposal is now put forward based on feedback received by the RoRP.</p> <p>It is proposed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Race Committee Chairs have discretion to permit the starter to omit the words “two minutes” ● If “two minutes” is to be omitted then this must be published in the instructions to competitors

Rule	2022	2023 proposed	Notes
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This only applies to 2- and 3-lane racing and not to multi-lane racing when “two minutes” must always be called “Two minutes” may only be omitted when all other conditions for racing are met
9u	... card issued annually to all paid up card issued to all paid up ...	Remove “annual” to allow for new membership offers and dynamic digital membership cards
9v	New definition and all subsequent renumbered v>w, w>x etc. until new 9ll	National Competition: A National Competition is a competition overseen by the British Rowing Events Committee.	Currently undefined
9mm	New definition and all subsequent renumbered ll>nn, mm>oo etc. until end	Re-Row: A re-row is an extension of the original race. All Official Warnings and handicap starts which were awarded or forfeited in the initial race apply equally to the re-row.	Currently undefined
14-14-2	<p>The Starter will raise the start flag. There shall be no Roll Call. If music is being played, it shall stop.</p> <p>At the Start time, the Starter shall give the signal to start by standing clearly visible and dropping in one downward motion the raised start flag, simultaneously sounding a hooter in one long blast.</p>	<p>Add: “first say “Attention” and then after a clear pause will slowly and deliberately” after “The Starter will”</p> <p>Replace: “start flag” with “red flag” x 2</p> <p>Add: “saying “Go” or” after “simultaneously”</p>	Corrects the wrong start procedure which has been in the rule since first formulated and allows flexibility to say “Go” which is usually what happens in practice
15-1-2b	The patterns for the course shall be slalom out and straight back.	<p>Add: For a processional format time trial when crews are in their boats, they shall race from the beach in a slalom fashion around each of the three buoys in turn in the out-bound racing lane, turning at the end buoy, before rowing parallel to the beach to the end buoy of the in-bound lane. After rounding the last buoy on the inbound lane, they shall then race directly in a straight line back to the designated point on the beach.</p> <p>If a crew is caught by any crew that starts behind them then they must move out of the lane (this may be into the inner zone) to give sufficient room to allow the overtaking crew to pass safely and without interference. Once the crew has overtaken them they must move back into the original lane racing line and continue to pass all the required buoys in the correct order and direction. It is the responsibility of a crew overtaking another crew to avoid a severe</p>	Defines how processional time trials will work as developed and tested for last year’s BROCC

Rule	2022	2023 proposed	Notes
		collision with the crew being overtaken; a crew which is being overtaken must not obstruct the course of an overtaking crew. This requirement also applies when the crews are rounding a buoy. A crew obstructing or interfering with an overtaking crew may be awarded a time penalty.” after “straight back.”	
15-2	Time trials	Add: “– either side-by-side or processional” after “trials”	Makes clear that time trials can be the old way or the new way
15-8b	<p>Starter and Race Umpire - The Starter shall act also as the Race Umpire having a clear view of all crews during the race. The Race Umpire shall have precedence over the Lane Umpires. The Race Umpire shall in general not communicate with crews during the race but will make decisions based on his observations and on the advice of the Lane Umpires. The Race Umpire shall not give any steering indications to crews.</p> <p>When all crews have finished the race the Race Umpire shall note any flags raised by the Lane Umpires and indicate if the race was in order by raising a white flag. If the race was not in order the Race Umpire shall raise a red flag.</p>	<p>Delete: “and Race Umpire”</p> <p>Replace: “shall act also as the Race Umpire having a clear view of all crews during the race. The Race Umpire shall have precedence over the Lane Umpires. The Race Umpire shall in general not communicate with crews during the race but will make decisions based on his observations and on the advice of the Lane Umpires. The Race Umpire shall not give any steering indications to crews.</p> <p>When all crews have finished the race the Race Umpire shall note any flags raised by the Lane Umpires and indicate if the race was in order by raising a white flag. If the race was not in order the Race Umpire shall raise a red flag”</p> <p>with “shall start the race and shall be responsible for the fairness of the Start (see 14-14-2 and 15-4).”</p>	The position of Race Umpire has not been used at beach sprints and these changes introduce the role of co-ordinating umpire (who may be doubled up with another umpiring position) who will listen to and observe the Lane Umpires decisions about penalties as they are in the best positions to determine
15-8c	... At the finish of the race the Lane Umpires should signify to the Race Umpire with a white flag...	Replace: “Race” with “Co-ordinating”	
15-8d	New rule with 15-8d renumbered as 15-8e	Co-ordinating Umpire - the Co-ordinating umpire shall receive all communications from the Lane Umpires about any penalties which crews may have incurred and pass their decision to the Finish judge.	
15-8e	...and act also as the Judge at the finish (i.e. Chief Judge). The Chief Judge at the Finish shall not release any results of the race until the Race Umpire makes a determination...	<p>Add: “and may also act as Co-ordinating Umpire” after “Chief Judge)”</p> <p>Replace: “Race Umpire” with “Co-ordinating Umpire”</p>	
16-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Standard Times will be established on the basis of local knowledge of the fastest time that a winning Masters A or Senior crew or sculler would take to cover the course, in the conditions 	Replace: “and adjusted as per the following table for different boat categories” with “for the different boat types and genders that are listed in the draw.”	Makes it clearer how competitions are to determine their standard time and that the example in the rules is just that - an example

Rule	2022	2023 proposed	Notes
	<p>prevailing that day, and adjusted as per the following table for different boat categories.</p> <p>Note: Should the anticipated Standard Time be other than 3:00 minutes then the Table should be adjusted pro rata.</p>	<p>Delete: “Note: Should the anticipated Standard Time be other than 3:00 minutes then the Table should be adjusted pro rata.”</p>	
16-4	16-4 Standard Times	<p>Delete: “16-4”</p> <p>Add: “Example” before “Standard”</p> <p>Add: “The handicap to be applied to a race shall be the difference, in whole seconds, between the handicaps for the age categories involved at the appropriate Standard Time.” as third bullet point</p>	Clarifies how the handicap is to be applied