

MERCER ROWING CLUB
Established 1909
"Perseverance Overcomes
Difficulties"



71 Mercer Ferry Road, Mercer
PO Box 690, Pukekohe 2340

www.mercerrowingclub.org.nz

Mercer Regatta 2023

Regatta Terms and Conditions

Regatta Overview

1. **Regatta Dates:** The event is a one-day event and shall commence at 8:00am on Saturday 9th December.
2. **Regatta Venue:** The regatta shall be held on the Waikato River at Mercer
3. **Regatta Status and Structure:** This regatta is authorised as a Local Regatta for the purposes of the NZRA Rules of Racing 2023 ("Rules") and these Rules apply to the Regatta, as applicable. The regatta is run under the control of the Auckland Rowing Association, who will appoint the Chief Umpire, Chief Starter, Chief Judge, and an ARA Representative.
4. **Distance of Races:** The distance of all events will be approximately 1500 metres upstream with the finish just downstream of the Mercer clubhouse. Lane 1 is closest to the clubhouse bank (western side of Waikato River). There will be no held starts.
5. **Minimum Number of Entries:** Where there are insufficient entries, Mercer Rowing Club reserves the right to alter or cancel any event as necessary.
6. **Maximum Number of Crews per Race:** There will be a maximum of 7 boats in any race though most races will contain 6 crews. Where there are more than 7 entries, races will be run in divisions.
7. **Trophies:** The Don Strachan Mercer Regatta Cup will be awarded to the club who gains the most points over the day.
8. **Pre-Regatta Safety Briefing:** A pre-regatta safety briefing will be held **on Wednesday, 6th December at 19:30 via Zoom**. A link will be distributed closer to the date. At least one representative from each club or school entered **MUST** attend, but all coaches are encouraged to participate. A second safety briefing will be held at 07:15 on the morning of the regatta and is compulsory for all coxes and at least one representative per club or school to receive on-the-day updates. Clubs or schools who do not attend these briefings will not be allowed to race until they have received instruction by officials.
9. **Disclaimer:** No responsibility or liability of any kind for loss or damage arising out of the conduct of the regatta shall attach to any of the regatta organisers or any of the regatta officials.
10. **Boat Types:** Boat Types that can be entered in this regatta are as published on RowIT.
11. **Closing Date for Entries:** Entries close at 10pm on Thursday 30th November 2023.
12. **Entry Mode:** Entries must be submitted electronically on the rowIT website (<http://rowit.nz>) prior to the closing date and time.
13. **Entry Fees:** Entry Fees are: \$6.20 (+ GST) per sliding seat. An amenity fee of \$2.50 (+ GST) per rower will also be charged.

Entry Conditions

14. **Eligibility:** Entry to this regatta is open to all clubs who are affiliated to the New Zealand Rowing Association Inc. and to all schools affiliated and currently members of the New Zealand Secondary Schools Rowing Association Inc.
15. **Entry Entities:**
 - a. Entries may be submitted by clubs and/or schools. Competitors may row in the colours registered to the organisation that submitted the entries and/or in their club colours.
 - b. Accounts for fees will be sent to the organisation (entity) that submitted the entry in all cases.

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16. **Composite Crews:** May be considered on application to the Regatta Secretary.
17. **Entries:**
- a. That by submitting entries to the regatta, the submitting entity agrees to abide by the:
 - i. NZRA Rules of Racing 2023 and those documents referenced at rule 6.2 of the [Rules](#), and
 - ii. these Regatta Terms and Conditions and shall pay all charges levied under these Terms and Conditions.
 - b. Entries shall include a record of any medical conditions or allergies that apply to athletes competing in the regatta. The Entry Entity shall ensure that this is accurate and up to date for all competing athletes.
 - c. Entries shall include accurate information on the swimming ability of each athlete competing as required by the form on RowIT.
 - d. **Payment by Direct Credit:** Direct Credit to the account of **Mercer Rowing Club Inc** at the **ASB** account number **12-3023-0465963-00** with the word REGATTA and the club or school name supplied as a reference.
18. **Amenity Fees:** An Amenity Fee must be paid for each and every competitor that is racing at the regatta.
19. **Late Entries:** Late entries may be accepted at the sole discretion of the Regatta Secretary.
20. **Supplementary Entries:** Supplementary Entries may be accepted for this regatta to fill vacant lanes on such terms and conditions as advised at the time of calling for such entries.
21. **Boat Park:** The car park area adjacent to the Mercer and WestEnd clubrooms is reserved for boats and boat trailers. Parking for cars is provided in the paddock behind the Mercer clubrooms and overflow parking is provided across from the truck stop on the Counties side. Large school buses MUST drop off rowers on the Counties side without crossing the Mercer Bridge, due to lack of turning space in the Mercer environs. Clubs will be informed after entries where their trailer must park. Boat trailers can enter the site from 6am on the morning of the regatta.
- Post Entry Conditions**
22. **Substitution of Competitors:**
- a. Substitution of competitors can done ONLINE on the rowIT web site (<http://rowit.nz>) up until 12pm on Friday 8th December 2023.
 - b. A Club making a competitor substitution after 12pm on Friday 8th December 2023 shall make that substitution at the Regatta Secretary's desk in the Mercer clubrooms or ONLINE on the rowIT website (<http://rowit.nz>) until 60 minutes prior to the last race for the athlete at the regatta.
23. **Scratchings / Non-Starters:**
- a. Scratchings must be notified ONLINE on the rowIT website (<http://rowit.nz>) by 5pm on Thursday 7th December 2023.
 - i. A club submitting a scratching after 5pm on Thursday 7th December shall make that substitution at the Regatta Secretary's desk in the Mercer clubrooms or ONLINE on the rowIT web site (<http://rowit.nz>) until 60 minutes prior to the race.
24. **Disputes and Refunds:** The regatta is run under the control of the ARA. Any disputes will be mediated by the ARA and their decision will be binding. Any protests lodged on the day will incur a fee of \$100. All clubs must pay the entry fees PRIOR to race day.



Race Day Conditions

25. **Racing Colours (uniform):** Competitors may row in the colours registered to the organisation that submitted the entries and/or in their club colours.
26. **Responsibility for Safety and Fitness:**
- a. Competitors shall take responsibility for their own health and fitness.
 - b. Club and school officials are responsible for every crew from their club/school and specifically:
 - i. that each crew's boat complies with rule 25 of the [Rules](#); and
 - ii. that the competitors are also fit to race.
 - c. Any continuing concerns as to safety and fitness are to be brought to the attention of the Chief Umpire or Safety Officer prior to the crew taking to the water.
27. **Responsibility and Failure to Disclose Medical Information:**
- a. Each competitor shall be primarily responsible for ensuring that the entity that submits entries to the regatta shall have up to date information on any medical conditions that the competitors have prior to the close of entries.
 - b. Each person who submits entries on behalf of an entity entering the regatta shall:
 - i. ensure that specified medical information about competitors is submitted to the regatta host by the closing date and time for the entries.
 - ii. in the case where a competitor is diagnosed with a medical condition after the close of entries, the person responsible for the crew shall submit that information to Regatta Secretary at least 60 minutes before the advertised start time of the first race of the regatta.
28. **Water Traffic Rules:**
- a. Crews should obey marshal instructions at all times when proceeding to the start and after finishing.
 - b. All crews must proceed to the start as directed. There will be traffic lanes which must not be crossed. Crews must not proceed to the start on the course or across the course at any stage during the Regatta. Crews must be above the start zone at least 5 minutes before the advertised start time of their race.
 - c. As of 2022, the finish line has been moved downstream. Crews must not row upstream of the Mercer Bridge after their finish unless directed by marshals. Crews must obey all marshal instructions and be aware at all times of the current, the bridge, and other crews.
29. **Coxswains:**
- a. Coxswains shall NOT be weighed at this regatta. However, clubs should make sure that the minimum weight for all coxes is 55kg.
 - b. Coxswains will not wear heavy cotton or woollen clothing (such as jeans, sweaters or sweatshirts) but suitable clothing that will keep them warm (e.g. poly-pros, polar fleeces etc) and that in an event of capsizing or sinking, the water will not render the clothing to become a hazard.
 - i. Life-jackets: coxswains must comply with rule 22.7 of the [Rules](#) or must wear a non-inflatable buoyancy aid which is substantially compliant with New Zealand Standards (NZS 5823:2005), suitable for their size and age and/or weight, and outside all other clothing.
 - ii. Lifejackets must be in good condition and have in a legible state, the manufacturer's label and certification intact.

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- iii. **Under no circumstances are inflatable (either manual or automatic) lifejackets to be worn by coxswains during the regatta.**
30. **Boat Numbers:** All boats must carry one of the supplied alpha numeric numbers indicating the race and lane number as shown in the programme. Numbers to be returned to Regatta Secretary after each race.
31. **Boat Safety Standards:** It is a matter of prime importance that all boats must be in a safe condition for rowing. Crews are responsible for this pursuant to rules 25 to 29 of the [Rules](#). BOW BALLS must be securely fitted on all boats. BOW COXED BOATS must allow easy egress for the coxswain. SHOES and FOOT STRETCHERS must fulfil all requirements of Rule 28. Race Officials will conduct boat safety compliance checks.
32. **Postponement or Cancellation:** The Regatta Organising Committee shall be under no obligation to refund any fees whatsoever because of the postponement or cancellation of the regatta for whatsoever reason. Rowing is an outdoor sport and as such is subject to the weather being suitable on any given day to conduct the regatta in a safe and responsible manner. The ARA will mediate any refunds if the regatta is cancelled.
33. **Exclusion of all Tort Liability of Whatsoever Nature:** All due care will be taken by the regatta organisers and officials to ensure the regatta is conducted safely and efficiently. However, it remains the prime and principal responsibility of individuals participating in the regatta (either as rowers, coxswains, coaches, or other club officials) to conduct themselves in a safe and responsible manner at all times. This includes making sure prior to racing that their boats are safe for racing and generally in compliance with these conditions. Also, that the rowers in each crew are fit for the ordeal of racing. They must also ensure that these conditions are complied with and that the directions of the regatta officials are followed. Further, it is a condition of participation in this regatta that all participants accept and note that no liability either in tort or any other nature whatsoever, is accepted by or will attach to the New Zealand Rowing Association Inc, the Auckland Rowing Association Incorporated, the Mercer Rowing Club Incorporated, the Counties Manukau Rowing Club Incorporated or Event Medic and Safety for any harm, damage, loss, costs, expenses, inconvenience, interference, of whatever nature and whatever kind, including any damage to equipment or injury to persons of whatever nature incurred in the course of, or in connection with, or in any way related to the regatta, regardless of whether any omission, wrongdoing, oversight, negligence, or other tort whatsoever on the part of any regatta official, or other person may be established.

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