

## Whanganui Bridge 2 Bridge Eights race

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### Format:

A time trial rowing race, with the start line being at the Upokongaro Cycle Bridge, the finish at the Nth edge of the Town Bridge, a distance of approx. 10.5km.

First boat away will be at 10.00 am on Saturday 18th Nov 2023. Start position allocation will be from the slowest to fastest (similar to Winter series).

The winning boat will be determined by comparing prognostic times as per the 2023 Winter Series.

The status in which any crew competes will be determined by an average of the individual status of the individuals in the boat. Classification per NZ Rowing status as at season commencing 1 Sept. 2023 (e.g. whatever the person will be at the 2024 NZ Champs) Age is determined as at 1st Jan 2024 (e.g. whatever the person will be at the 2024 NZSS (Maadi Cup)

**It is the preference that Clubs enter Eights as the priority boat, reserves may row smaller craft.**

**ENTRIES:** Each Club to provide entries including name, age, status of each crew using the Winter series entry spreadsheet.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$5.00 per seat (incl GST) Club will be invoiced.

**ENTRIES CLOSE WITH:** Whanganui Rowing - [whanganuirowing@gmail.com](mailto:whanganuirowing@gmail.com)  
at 8:00 pm on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023

### Conditions of Entry, Safety & Rules

#### General

1. As a safety precaution, any non-participants of this race will be discouraged from using the area of the river advertised as the course.
2. All participants do so at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety whilst participating in the event. The Whanganui Rowing Assn. accepts no liability for any accidents which occur.
3. Reps of the Whanganui R.A. will endeavour to make an early call and notify participants beforehand should river / weather conditions not be suitable for the race to take place.
4. Coxswains MUST wear lifejackets.
5. All rowing skiffs must comply with all FISA / RNZ rules for safety (i.e. heel restraints / bow balls). Whanganui R.A. accepts no responsibility for checking heel restraints or bow balls which shall at all times remain the responsibility of the individual crew using the skiff.
6. Each participating crew will have an identifying bow number allocated to them.
7. A safety briefing will take place at each of: UBC, AWRC & WCS involving a Club representative, the coxswain and stroke of each competing crew between 8.00am and 8.40am on Saturday 18th Nov 2023. Bow numbers will be distributed at this briefing.

#### Safety Boats

1. Four Safety boats will be positioned at the Start zone and along the Course.
2. The start Safety boat will follow the last crew away and the others will also follow as the last placed crew passes them and then all accompany the flotilla to the Finish line.
3. All safety boat drivers must carry PFDs and equipment as required by the NZ Rowing Water Safety Code, have the ability to contact each other by supplied radio or mobile phone should an emergency arise and be suitably qualified coach / safety boat operators.
4. The starter shall also carry a radio & mobile phone.

#### Start Procedure:

1. Each crew will be started individually beginning with the slowest crew (based on prognostic times).

2. The Starter will call your crew by bow number at approx 20 sec intervals. When your crew is called you can start rowing so you hit the start line at race speed. The timing device starts as you cross the start line.
3. A crew not at the start at the appropriate time or numerical order may not have a time recorded.
4. Any crew crossing the start line prior to being called will be disqualified.
5. Crews must not engage in “practise starts” in the start zone.
6. Crews must obey all instructions and proceed as directed by the Starter or Safety Boat Operators.

#### **Safety & Navigation during the race:**

1. The safety of all competitors is of obvious prime concern and all participants need to be aware of the rules of river usage, particularly the need to remain on the correct side of the river, which is the Eastern side (Whanganui East) going up stream, and Western side (Aramoho) while racing downstream.
2. Marshall boats or buoys will be positioned on all bends where a crew crossing to the incorrect (Wgi East) side of the river would achieve an advantage or endanger other river users. All crews shall pass such boats or buoys on the western (Aramoho) side. Any crew failing to do so shall be disqualified.
3. When overtaking during racing, the overtaking boat must always pass on the port side (stroke side or left side) of the boat being overtaken and not on the bow side /right side of the boat being overtaken i.e. the overtaking boat should not pass between the boat being overtaken and the Aramoho bank.
4. The boat being correctly overtaken must give way to the boat attempting to overtake by moving to their bow side / closer to the Aramoho bank. A failure to do so can incur disqualification.
5. This assumes that there is sufficient room to move to their bow side / right side without incident. In the event that there is insufficient room to move over, the boat being overtaken should warn the overtaking boat that they must move further out in order to complete the manoeuvre safely.
6. **Any crew passing on the incorrect side does so at their own risk.**
7. **Should a crew member go overboard, the crew must standby to assist recovery.**

#### **The Finish:**

1. On crossing the finish line all crews are to quickly move their craft downstream so as not to impede following boats.
2. Move away from the finish line before commencing to turn around, especially important on an incoming tide.
3. Any crew heading back upstream must ensure they are as close as possible to the Whanganui East Bank and must pay particular attention to those other boats still racing.

#### **Sanctions:**

The Whanganui Rowing Association reserves the right to impose any penalties or sanctions which it considers appropriate for any transgressions of these conditions.

#### **Known Hazards:**

1. **All bridge pylons.**
2. **Sandbar and large log adjacent to Kowhai Park.**
3. **Sandbar and snags around the Motorboat Club curve, Whanganui East side.**
4. **A large log approx. 500m down-stream of the Rail bridge, 25m out from the Aramoho bank.**
5. **Other river users**

Please let the organisers know if there are others that we need to warn about please.

#### **Morning tea:**

This will take place at the Aramoho-Whanganui Rowing Club Lounge approx. 45 minutes after the race finish.

**Bow Numbers:** All numbers are to be returned to the race officials at the morning tea.