

Birmingham Regatta (organised by Birmingham RC)

Last updated 8th April 2008

N.B. because of the need to keep a route clear for emergency vehicles all trailers MUST be parked on the gravel leaving the tarmacked central path clear. NO cars will be allowed in the trailer park – there is adequate parking for cars in the car park of the Tower Ballroom which is a few yards down Osler Street from its junction with Reservoir Road.

1. Directions to Edgbaston Reservoir

We suggest you follow one of the routes below:

From the M6

Leave the M6 at Jct 6 ([Spaghetti Junction](#)) and head for the city centre on the A38(M). Use the left-hand lane and leave at the second exit ([Dartmouth Circus](#)). Follow the middle ring road to the right (A4540). Cross the A34 at traffic lights, after about half a mile bear left (2nd exit) at roundabout still following ring road towards Edgbaston and Harborne. Straight across at next two roundabouts onto Ladywood Middleway. At the next roundabout take the 2nd exit into Alston Street. Take the 2nd right into [Reservoir Road](#) and continue to the end. The general car park is just before the end of the road in Osler Street. If you are towing a trailer continue down the ramp into the trailer park. There are brown tourist information signs when you get to the Middleway: ignore the ones saying “Edgbaston Reservoir watersports” and follow the ones saying “Edgbaston Reservoir P”.

From the M5

Leave the M5 at [Jct 3](#), and follow the A456 right towards the city centre (about 5 miles). About 300m after the [Thistle Hotel](#) (cylindrical building on left), filter left and turn left at the traffic lights into Monument Road (at [Ivy Bush pub](#)). After 500m turn left into [Reservoir Road](#) and continue to the end. The general car park is just before the end of the road in Osler Street. If you are towing a trailer continue down the ramp into the trailer park.

From M40/M42 or A34 Stratford

Leave M42 at [Jct 4](#) and follow the A34 towards the city centre until reaching Sparkhill. At the [traffic lights](#) just before an Aldi Supermarket turn left into Highgate Road. Carry straight on about a mile until a [roundabout](#) and take the second exit onto the middle ring road (A4540). Go down the hill passing the mosque on the right and through the underpass. Go up the hill and straight through the lights until the next roundabout (Five Ways). Take the [third exit](#) passing Tesco on the right. Turn left at the next roundabout into Alston Street. Take the 2nd right into [Reservoir Road](#) and continue to the end. The general car park is just before the end of the road in Osler Street. If you are towing a trailer continue down the ramp into the trailer park. There are brown tourist information signs when you get to the Middleway: ignore the ones saying “Edgbaston Reservoir watersports” and follow the ones saying “Edgbaston Reservoir P”.

2. Registration

The Regatta Committee will be ensuring that all competitors comply with ARA rules regarding registration and points. We will check racing licences at registration for non-OARA crews, please ensure that you have all those for the crew you are registering. Please declare any substitutes when you register a crew – any crew which wins and contains undeclared substitutes risks disqualification. **Failure to produce a racing licence may mean that the crew is unable to race unless we can confirm**

someone's registration. No-one will be allowed to compete until a properly completed entry form and entry fees have been received. Pots will be presented at any time after the completion of each event and confirmation of the crew.

Please note that all events are being run as round robins and boats and crews should stay on the water until they have finished all their races in that particular event. If there a large number of crews entered then the batches of races will be split and crews can come off the water after they have completed each batch of races. Winners of each round robin event will be decided by:

a) the number of wins

b) if an equality of wins by the lowest aggregate time of the winning races

c) if for any reason a race isn't timed then points will be awarded for winning distances (<1L 1pt, 1-2L 2pts, 2-3L 3pts, >3L 4pts) and the winner the crew with the highest number of points

d) if there is still a tie then a deciding race will be held.

In certain events the event will be split into 2 leagues and the winner of each league will race each other in a final to determine the winner.

3. Safety

Birmingham Rowing Club Ltd, the organisers of the regatta, places the highest importance on safety. The safety adviser for the regatta is Mr C H Llewellyn, and the ARA Water Safety Code and Rules of Racing will be adhered to. All clubs, coaches, crews and officials are requested to co-operate by ensuring that their conduct and equipment is in compliance with the Water Safety Code, and that they follow the local rules below.

Circulation pattern (please see the [map](#))

Facing the dam wall from the landing stages the course runs down the left-hand side of the reservoir. There are two lanes: the Sailing Club side and the Regatta side. Practising on the course is not allowed during the regatta.

The boating steps are in front of the boathouse. The area in front of the steps is very muddy and shallow so please walk to the firmer beach which is more shelving. You must go through the Control Commission which is at the top of the steps each time you boat for a division and your boat may be checked each time you race. If it does not comply with the [Water Safety Code](#) in any respect you will not be allowed to use it until the problem has been rectified. On leaving the stage follow the right hand side of the reservoir keeping the three blue buoys (2, 3, and 4 on the map) to port (the cox's left) **at all times**. In this warm up area you must comply with the circulation pattern keeping the buoys to port at all times. Keep close to these buoys to avoid straying into the racing lanes. There will be a marshal situated on the water in a launch who will be policing this area. **Crews who flout this rule risk being disqualified.**

Reporting and racing

Crews and scullers should report to the marshals, who are stationed on the dam wall at the far end of the warm up area at **least 5 minutes** before their race time. They must remain close to the dam wall and move only when directed. They must not crowd the start or move away from the marshalling area without permission. All crew members and scullers must ensure that they are stripped ready to race before moving onto the course. At the end of the race crews should pull up quickly to avoid running aground. They should then turn to port and return to the circulation pattern if having another race. If they have completed their races they should follow the shore back to the boating area. Follow the marshals' instructions when landing.

J12 and under races over 400m

These races will be run in the opposite direction to the main regatta. Scullers should follow the shore under the directions of the marshals round into the creek and they will be started in the creek. The finish is marked by two large orange buoys. They should then turn to starboard and follow the shore back to the creek if they have another race, or back to the landing area if they have finished their races. Follow the marshals' instructions when landing.

4. First aid and emergencies

The rescue launch is located in front of the refreshment marquee. First aid kits are available in the boathouse, the rescue launch, the marshal's launch and the marquee. There are fire extinguishers in the marquee and the boathouse. Birmingham RC is grateful the first-aiders who have volunteered to provide cover during the regatta and the first aid station will be at the Secretary's tent. A qualified first-aider (in case of emergency) will be on duty throughout the regatta and may be contacted via the Secretary or any regatta official. In case an ambulance should be needed the nearest pay phone in Reservoir Road. There is also a mobile phone available at the Secretary's tent and the race control caravan. The main city centre A&E department is within half a mile. The address is Edgbaston Reservoir off Reservoir Road. Please keep all driveways clear to allow access to emergency vehicles. **It is especially important that access through the trailer park is maintained.**

The safety of crews and scullers on the water is paramount, and all launch operators are required to give priority to the safety of crews and scullers.

WE HOPE THAT YOU HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE REGATTA.