

Birmingham Regatta (organised by Birmingham RC)

Last updated 18th April 2016

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 on-street parking in Osler Street and Reservoir Road. **Please note** that the Tower Ballroom has a function this year and there should be no regatta parking in front of the ballroom or in their car park. Please follow the instructions of the marshals.

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 British Rowing rules regarding registration and points. We will check racing licences at registration for non-BROE crews or any substitutes, 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. Medals will be presented at any time after the completion of each event and confirmation of the crew.

Please note that most 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. All crews in a round robin should boat together so that they are all on the water at the same time. 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.

3. Safety Instructions

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 Row Safe 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 Row Safe, they follow the instructions of umpires and regatta officials and that they follow the local rules below.

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

Facing the dam wall from the boating area 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. **Please note that the lines of buoys mark the edge of the course and crews should not go outside them.** Umpires 2 and 3 are generally static but may move to warn crews who are going astray.

Boating

All crews in an event and remain on the water until they have completed **ALL their races** in that event or league.

The boating area are the club steps **and these are to be used for going onto the water only. Boats come off the water along the bank in front of the regatta control caravan.** Please listen to the marshals when boating. You should use wellies to prevent any cuts – please do not wade in bare feet. You must go through the Control Commission each time you boat for a division, and your boat may be checked each time you race. If it does not comply with Row Safe 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, i.e.,** go round the circulation pattern in an anti-clockwise direction. 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 at each end of the circulation loop 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 **least 5 minutes** before their race time. All crew members and scullers must ensure that they are stripped ready to race before moving onto the course. The finish is in the creek. Please be aware that there are nesting swans at the end of the creek and the birth is imminent – the male has been aggressive. Crews should turn quickly at the end of the race to port and return to the circulation pattern if having another race. If they have completed their races they should go straight to the bank in front of the regatta control caravan at the end of the circulation loop. Follow the marshals' instructions when landing.

Some events WJ14A.4x+, J15B.1x, J14B.4x+, WJ15B.2x and WJ14A.2x will have finals. Crews should come off the water at the end of the round robin stage and boat together for the finals. Please ensure your crews know how many races they should take part in before they come off the water.

Inclement weather

If inclement weather is expected, for example a squall or thunderstorm then the Safety Adviser will monitor the water conditions. If necessary the reservoir will be evacuated and all umpires and marshals will instruct crews to go back to the boating area and get off the water. Please do so as promptly as possible whilst maintaining safety. A decision will then be made if the regatta can be continued or abandoned, and also whether the course will need to be changed or amended in any other way.

The weather forecast suggests that it will be cold with a maximum of 8°C. Please ensure that your rowers have enough kit with them to keep them warm for about 30–40 minutes on the water.

Child protection

The Regatta's Welfare Officer is Rhian Prichard. If you have any concerns about any issue regarding child protection, for example a missing child, inappropriate behaviour, bullying, then please speak to any regatta official who will ensure that the message is passed on to the Welfare Officer or ring her direct on **07886 605 643**.

4. First aid and emergencies

The rescue launches are on the water. Umpires should summon these boats in the event of an emergency on the water and racing should be stopped if this has happened on the racing course. In this event, all crews must follow the umpires' instructions. Any injured persons will be landed in front of the boathouse.

First aid kits are available in the registration tent, the rescue launch, the marshal's launch and the tea tent. There are fire extinguishers in the tea tent and the boathouse. Mercia will be the primary first aiders at the regatta and the first aid station will be at the Mercia (rescue boats) base by the registration tent.

In case an ambulance should be needed, the nearest pay phone in Reservoir Road. The site address is Edgbaston Reservoir off Reservoir Road. There is also a mobile phone available at the registration tent and the race control caravan, and most regatta officials carry mobile phones if required. The main city centre A&E department is within half a mile.

The ambulance should be directed to the front of the boathouse. There is plenty of space in the park to leave boats and trestles, but it is vital that all driveways be kept 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.