

Birmingham Regatta 2025 (organised by Birmingham RC)

Last updated 21st April 2025.

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 and at Midland Sailing Club (///palm.resist.gloves). Please follow the instructions of the parking marshals.

1. Directions to Edgbaston Reservoir

The Reservoir post code is B16 9EE (///candy.elaborate.pink) which will get you to the end of the ramp down to the Reservoir.

2. Registration

The Regatta Committee will be ensuring that all competitors comply with British Rowing rules regarding registration and points. Please declare any substitutes in BROE2. Any crew which wins and contains undeclared substitutes risks disqualification. Last minute substitutions can be done at the Registration tent. **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.

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 RowSafe 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, that **they follow the instructions of umpires and regatta officials and that they follow the local rules below.**

Circulation pattern (please see the maps)

Looking from the Rowing Club, the course runs down the far side of the reservoir. There are three lanes: the Sailing Club side, Middle and the Regatta side. Practising on the course is not allowed during the regatta. **The course is buoyed at intervals of about 50m.** Umpires 2 and 3 are generally static but may move to warn crews who are going astray. The course can operate in either direction and can be shortened in the event of adverse weather. This is shown on 4 maps sent to you. If possible, the chosen course map will be advised to you on Thursday evening before the regatta. We will use the circulation pattern on the appropriate map.

Boating

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

The boating areas are shown on the relevant map. The area shown as **Boating On is to be used for going onto the water only.** The area shown as **Boating Off is to be used for coming off the water only. Take care if going down or up the steps and in the soft ground.** 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 RowSafe 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 maps) 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. **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.

For those new to the event all events (except straight finals) are run as round robins with 3, 4 or 5 crews in each. Large events have been banded as per BROE2 according to ranking indexes of the crews and each of these bands will get winners' medals. Please ensure that all the crews are aware of this.

2-boat events – straight final in outer lanes.

3-boat events – each crew has 2 2-lane races and all boats should stay on the water until they have had their 2 races. The marshals on the water and on the dam will try and pair you up but please assist them by approaching the start with your opponents for the next race. The event winner is the crew with the most wins, or in the event of a tie the result of the race between the tied boats and then fastest time.

4-boat events – each crew has 3 3-lane races and all boats should stay on the water until they have had their 3 races. The marshals will try and pair you up but please assist them by approaching the start with your opponents for the next race. The event winner is the crew with the most wins, or in the event of a tie the result of the race between the tied boats and then fastest time.

5-boat events – each crew has 3 3-lane races and all boats should stay on the water until they have had their 3 races. The marshals will try and pair you up but please assist them by approaching the start with your opponents for the next race.

In the event of scratchings then those round robin races affected will be altered or not take place. Please look out for communications or ask at Registration or Race Control. Please let us know of any scratchings.

BROE2 remains open for substitutions and payments until Friday evening. It's important with the new ranking index that all substitutions are accurately recorded in BROE2.

The start is stern-on.

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 is currently forecast to be 14-17°C and damp. The wind direction is not yet clear but is predicted to be light. Please ensure the crews are dressed adequately for up to 1 hour on the water and are practised at keeping straight when attached to a pontoon. We will advise the course on Thursday evening but expect to be using map 1.

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.

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. If an injured person cannot be removed from the rowing boat, the crew should row to the boathouse as quickly as reasonably possible.

First aid kits are available in the registration tent, the rescue launch and the tea tent. There are fire extinguishers in the tea tent and the boathouse. There will be qualified first aiders available via registration and defibrillators will also be available at the Boathouse and at Midland Sailing Club.

In case an ambulance should be needed the site address is Edgbaston Reservoir off Reservoir Road (///fees.liner.range). 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 three-quarters of a mile (MMUH).

The ambulance should be directed to the front of the boathouse (///fees.liner.range). 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.

Please ensure that all crews have read these instructions.