

GROA training

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Agenda

- Flag protocol
- Timing between races
- Handling an objection
- Radio protocol
- Calling in changes to hymn sheet
- Regatta time
- New technology

Flag protocol

- Flags must not be seen unless being used
 - Don't let it flap in the wind
- Aligner must only show white flag when crews are aligned
- When holding out red flag ensure that finish box can see it – even if your pilot goes in a circle
- When telling a crew to move over – Raise white flag and call crew. Drop flag in direction they must move.

Timing between races

- Some races held for too long due to slow rowers ahead
- At St Dunstan's regatta, the following was observed:
- Fastest times:
 - JM19 8+ 6:36; JW19 4x 7:43;
- Slowest times:
 - JW16C 1x 14:54; JM16C 1x 13:10; JW19 3rd 1x 12:24
- Biggest catch up:
 - Slowest JW19 3rd 1x to Fastest JM19 2nd 4x+ was 4:46
- Should be fine if race gap is maintained (usually 6:00)
- Can move slower rowers to side of course
- Remember it usually takes 2 minutes to align

Handling an objection

- Listen to objection
 - Don't assume what the objection is for
- Get additional info if required
 - Finish order or times, input from other umpires
- You cannot ask PoJ to make the decision for you
 - You must make a decision on the water and notify crews
- You cannot adjust race times
- You can exclude a crew to restore a crew's chances

Analysis of an incident

- Has a crew been disadvantaged?
 - No -> regular race
- Has the disadvantage affected the ranking of the obstructed crew?
 - No -> confirm the result
- Exclude the offending crew - Does this exclusion restore chances of obstructed crew?
 - Yes -> confirm the result
- Re-row those crews whose ranking has been affected

Radio protocol

- Listen before speaking on radio
 - Check that there is not another conversation going on
- Press button and wait half a second before speaking
 - “.. come in for umpire”
- When windy shield the microphone

Calling in changes to hymn sheet

- Check that time box is not busy with a finish
- Try to keep track of starts so aligner can take changes
- Don't call in too many changes at a time
 - Call in one race at a time, and pause
 - Don't send changes for too many races ahead
 - Send changes for current page if possible
- Always call Race no; lane no; club and stroke so its easier to find on hymn sheet

Regatta time

- Be careful about telling coaches that we are running behind schedule
- Rather says that we are on time, though some races may be a bit late
- We will try to catch up time and we will not wait for crews who have no reason for not being on time
- When catching up time we need to be mindful of athletes or boats from previous races – need to keep same time interval

New technology

- A boat from Hilton raised concern at CC as the shoes of the rower was not attached to the foot board as we are accustomed too. There were also no heel straps.
- This shoe works similar to a cycling shoe and clips onto the foot board mechanism.
- However after demonstrating to us how easy it is to unclip from the foot board (without using hands) we allowed the boat to race.

Have Fun