**Pangbourne Hasler 2021 - Race Briefing**

**COVID -19**

This event will operate under government Covid guidelines. Everybody is required to comply with the procedures and policies put in place by Pangbourne Canoe Club/Adventure Dolphin. Please do not attend if you, your family or any contacts have symptoms of Covid 19 or if you have been asked to isolate. We strongly encourage all attendees to make use of the rapid flow tests which can be found on the NHS and PHE websites.

**SITE INFORMATION**

We are here on Pangbourne Meadow with kind permission of Pangbourne Parish Council. Please remember that the meadow is open to all and the riverside path forms part of the Thames Path.Please keep dogs on a lead at all times and respect all other users, especially at the portage.

The Dolphin Centre will be open with a one-way system in place. **We ask that everyone wears a face mask when inside the centre.**

* Entry is by the front door and follow the arrows!
* Race check in for TEAM LEADERS ONLY will be upstairs in the hall.
* Toilets will be open but the Changing Rooms will be closed
* £1 Car Parking

**RACE INFORMATION**

* This race is run under British Canoeing Marathon Racing Rules.
* Competitors ranked divisions 7/8/9 and U14s must wear a buoyancy aid.
* Your boat must be fitted with its full complement of buoyancy. Marshals will be carrying out random checks and boats that are not compliant will be refused entry onto the water.
* Your race number must be displayed on your boat before entering the boat holding area.
* Be aware of motorised craft/other users on River Thames – **stay river right** and keep a look out for boats leaving and entering the locks at both ends of the course.
* Please follow all instructions given by Marshals on the course. They are wearing High-Vis jackets, both on the water and on the bank.
* If you see someone in need of help please assist/inform a marshal as appropriate. There will be time allowances if you do stop to help .
* If you retire from your race you must inform the marshals at the finish line.
* Refreshments – please take your race number to competitors food or give to your club team leader.

**ENTRY TO RIVER**

* Please only get onto the river when instructed to by Marshals. Entry will be in start order.
* The GET IN/OUT AREA is the landing stage.
* Do not go into the lock cut or the Mill Pond - they are strictly OUT OF BOUNDS
* Warm up in the area above the bridge, keeping well clear of Whitchurch weir.

**START PROCEDURES**

* Group in start order above the bridge facing downstream. Listen for instructions from Marshals in boats and on the bank.
* You will be called to Pre-Start, at ‘walking pace’.
* You will then be called forward at ‘walking pace’ to the Start line - use the whole width of the river.
* **It will be a stationary start.** If you attempt to start before any instruction is given to do so, this will be a false start. If you cross the line before the starter’s start signal, this will be a false start.
* Any competitor who attempts a false or unfair start will be warned a maximum of two times. A third offence will result in a two-minute penalty. A further offence by the same competitor will result in disqualification from the event and must leave the water immediately.
* In the event of a false/unfair start, you will hear a hooter and a flag will be waved on this bank. You should return to the start line and regroup as instructed by the Starter.

**THE COURSE**

**Rules of the River apply - stay river right at all times.**

**All turns are anticlockwise.**

**Marshals will be along the course. You will be disqualified if you take the wrong course or are seen littering.**

**GS A/B/C and Open/Mini K2s**

* Start going downstream, staying right of the buoys.
* Continue downstream to the buoy at the Boathouse and turn anticlockwise. There will be a Marshal at the turn.
* Come back upstream, staying right of the buoys.
* Once you pass the striped buoy, cross to the left side of the river to enter the finish channel to the finish line- marked by the Finish flag.

**Div 7/8/9**

* Start downstream, passing either side of the striped buoy **C** positioned down the meadow.
* Pass right of the white SEPARATION BUOY, approx. 0.5km downstream.
* Continue downstream to TURN A, a striped buoy above Mapledurham weir/lock. Be aware that there may be boats coming in/out of the lock cut.
* Return upstream, staying right of the island, right of the white SEPARATION BUOY and right of striped buoy **C**.
* Once you pass the striped buoy **C,**  cross to the left side of the river to enter the finish channel to the finish line- marked by the Finish flag.

**Div 4/5/6**

* Start downstream, passing either side of the striped buoy **C** positioned down the meadow.
* Stay right of the white SEPARATION BUOY, approx. 0.5km downstream.
* Continue downstream to PORTAGE on the right bank. \*\*PLEASE NOTE PORTAGE AREA HAS MOVED\*\* The GET OUT is bank step up. The GET IN is a beach.
* Continue downstream to TURN A, a striped buoy above Mapledurham weir/lock. Be aware that there may be boats coming in/out of the lock cut.
* Return upstream, staying RIGHT of the island and RIGHT of all buoys.
* Continue upstream through the centre arch of the bridge to TURN B.
* Return downstream for a second time, staying right of ALL buoys to PORTAGE and TURN A, and return upstream staying right.
* Once you pass the striped buoy **C,**  cross to the left side of the river to enter the finish channel to the finish line- marked by the Finish flag.

**Div 1/2/3**

* Start downstream, passing either side of the striped buoy **C** positioned down the meadow.
* Stay right of the white SEPARATION BUOY, approx. 0.5km downstream.
* Continue downstream to PORTAGE on the right bank. \*\*PLEASE NOTE PORTAGE AREA HAS MOVED\*\* The GET OUT is bank step up. The GET IN is a beach.
* Continue downstream to TURN A, a striped buoy above Mapledurham weir/lock. Be aware that there may be boats coming in/out of the lock cut.
* Return upstream, staying RIGHT of the island and RIGHT of all buoys.
* Continue upstream through the centre arch of the bridge to TURN B.
* Return downstream for a second time, staying right of ALL buoys to PORTAGE and TURN A.
* Return upstream and turn at striped buoy **C.**
* Continue downstream for a third time, staying right of ALL buoys to PORTAGE and TURN A, and return upstream staying right.
* Once you pass the striped buoy **C,**  cross to the left side of the river to enter the finish channel to the finish line- marked by the Finish flag.

**START ORDERS**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **9:30 STARTS**  GS A K1  GS B K1  GS C K1 | **10:30 STARTS**  Div 7 K2  Div 8 K2  Div 7 K1  Div 9 K2  Div 8 K1  Div 9 K1 | **11:45 STARTS**  GS Open K2  GS Mini K2 | **13:00 STARTS**  Div 2 K2  Div 1 K1  Div 3 K2  Div 2 K1  Div 3 K1  Div 4 K2  Div 5 K2  Div 4 K1  Div 6 K2  Div 5 K1  Div 6 K1 |

**AND FINALLY…**

Pangbourne Canoe Club/Adventure Dolphin draws your attention to taking necessary precautions should you have any medical conditions or concerns. Medication must be easily accessible.

We ask that you discuss any arrangements with your Club team Leader who should have informed us.

**THANK YOU, GOOD LUCK AND HAVE A GOOD RACE!**