

8th Harbour Regatta

Sunday 17 March 2024 - Race Bulletin

The Harbour Regatta sees Coastal rowing sprint races in a knock-out format, over a single 630m course with two turns. Two crews will take part in each heat, with the winning crew in each race progressing to the next round.

The Regatta will be held out of the RHKYC clubhouse at Kellett Island in Causeway Bay with races taking place in Hong Kong's Victoria Harbour. Racing is scheduled to start at 0800hrs and is expected to continue until around 1730hrs (depending upon the number of entries).

For detailed instructions on how to get to Kellett Island, please follow this link
– (<http://www.rhkyc.org.hk/KellettIsland.aspx>)

Race categories:

Category A		
Coastal 4x+	Coastal 2x	Coastal 1x
Women (CW4x+) Open (C4x+)	Women (CW2x) Open (C2x)	
Women's Masters B (Master CW4x+) Open Masters B (Master C4x+)	Women's Masters B (Master CW2x) Open Masters B (Master C2x)	
Women's Junior (Junior CW4x+) Open Junior (Junior C4x+)		
Category B		
Mixed Quad* (CMix4x+)	Mixed Double (CMix2x)	Women (CW1x) Open (C1x)

* Mixed Quad requires at least 50% of the crew to be female. Coxswain is exempt.

* Open can be any crew combination, independent of gender or boat composition.

Eligibility for each event will be based on the HKCRA status system and World Rowing eligibility rules:

- Masters B – **Average age 36** or higher (*calculated using competitors' ages as of 31st December 2024*).
- To be eligible for Junior category, rowers must have been born on or after 1st January 2007. Junior crews do not have to be coxed by junior coxswains.



Organiser



Supporting organiser



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Entries:

- Rowers **can only compete in ONE event under each category (i.e One in Cat. A and One in Cat. B).**
- The committee retains the right to limit the number of crews in if the event is over-subscribed. Places will be awarded in order of entries received (i.e. preference will be given to those entries received, and paid for, first).
- Club Captains must ensure that they only enter competent crews and that their crews are properly prepared for the race. All competitors should be able to swim at least 50m in light clothing.
- Entries will be charged at \$190 per seat. Coxswains race for free.
- After the registration has been submitted, crew changes can only be requested at the registration area, no **less** than one hour before the published race time. Changes limited to coxswain and up to 50% of the rowing crew.
- The committee reserves the right to cancel specific events **in the event of insufficient entries.**
- Coxswains are not required to weigh in.
- Junior crews do not have to be coxed by junior coxswains.
- All coxswains will be required to wear personal flotation devices (PFDs), whilst the boats must be equipped with PFDs for each rower to be used in an emergency – these will be provided by the organisers.

Registration:

- To register and pay for your entry, follow the link below to the RHKYC website:
- <https://www.rhkyc.org.hk/RowingSection/rowing/races-and-regattas/harbour-regatta>
- Entries close at 1200hrs on **Monday 4 March 2024.**

Boats and equipment:

- Boats, oars, and any other necessary rowing equipment will be provided.
- Please note that any damage to equipment will be charged to the crew deemed to be at fault.

Waiver forms & Safety Information:

- All competitors are required to sign a waiver form before racing in registration area.
- **Junior athletes must have their forms co-signed by a parent or guardian & submitted in advance.**
- Information related to the race will be provided in the registration area, and crews should ensure they are familiar with all aspects of the race including the course and waiting areas.
- Safety information will be provided in English and Chinese.
- To ensure that all competitors follow the correct course, and that all boats can complete the race safely, all steersmen of coxless boats and coxswains **MUST** attend a briefing before the race. **The briefing is scheduled for 1900hrs on Friday 15 March.**
- There will be boats providing safety cover on the race course at all times. If you require assistance, please shout and wave to attract their attention.
- Competitors should be able to swim at least 50m in light clothing. All coxswains will be required to wear personal flotation devices (PFDs), whilst the boats must be equipped with PFDs for each rower to be used in an emergency – these will be provided by the organisers.



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The Course:

The race will start and finish in front of the RHKYC Clubhouse at Kellett Island. Crews will race on a single rectangular course, approximately 630m in overall length, with two large marking buoys to round at the western end. Please refer to the map below.

Starts will be handled by an umpire on a committee boat. From the start, crews will head west, first rounding the buoy positioned furthest from HK island and then rounding the one closest to HK island before heading back to the finish line.

The race umpire will sound an air-horn as each crew crosses the line and will declare a winner. The winning crew in each round will progress to the next round. There is no repechage for the second place crew.

The turn around the two marker buoys at the western end of the course will require skill and care. Crews must turn around the two buoys in accordance with the race rules. A crew may touch the turning buoys with their oars or their boat, but the hull of the boat must pass around the correct side of the buoys. Crews failing to turn around the buoys correctly will be subject to a time penalty or disqualification if they have gained any advantage or caused any interference or disadvantage to the other crew/s. Coastal racing rules will apply when turning around the two buoys.

Race Procedure

- Only one race will be in progress at any time on the course.
- The first named crew in each heat will line up on the southern-most (Hong Kong side) of the start line and the second named crew will line up on the northern (Kowloon side).
- Each crew will be pre-allocated a boat and also a boarding time. Crews can find out which boat has been allocated to them by checking the program at registration, and then looking for the boat with that name at the boat loading area, or if the boat is already on the water, when it comes in from the previous race.
- Crews will launch from their designated boarding area, OR, where the boat is already on the water, crews should be at the boarding area in time to take over the boat from the previous crew when it arrives at the pontoon / slipway.
- As soon as crews have boarded they must proceed directly to the Waiting Area near the start/finish line in sufficient time to be under the control of the starter and be ready to race at the designated start time
- Waiting crews must take care not to impede racing crews. Impeding a race crew may result in disqualification.
- Do not row away from the Waiting Area for a warm up as you will not hear instructions and may miss your start time. Crews not in the Waiting Area at the correct time may be disqualified. A race may be started without a crew if they are not at the start on time.



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The Start:

The Starter will ensure that both crews are ready to start (i.e. in the correct lane and aligned)

The Starter will announce the event and name the crews as listed in the programme.

The Starter will then say “Attention”. The Starter will then raise a red flag above his head. After a pause, he/she shall then say “Go”, at the same time dropping the flag sharply to one side. The race will start on the command “Go” and the movement of the flag.

A crew starting before the start command causes a false start and shall be awarded a Yellow Card. A crew having two Yellow Cards in one race shall be disqualified.

The Finish:

As each crew crosses the finish line (between the Committee Boat and a buoy on the Hong Kong side), the Finish Judges will sound a horn. The first crew to finish the race should ensure that they do not interfere with the other crew/s finishing behind them.

Crews who have finished should row back immediately to the boat launching area, to hand the boat to the next crew, making sure they follow any additional instructions given by race officials.

Penalties

The Umpire may award penalties to crews in the following circumstances. Such penalties shall be subject to the decision of the Umpire:

- Racing below status (disqualification)
- Racing with un-declared crew changes (including coxswains) (disqualification)
- Being late at the start (exclusion)
- Failure to follow official instructions (either written or verbal) (penalty will depend on the nature of the infraction – Yellow Card, exclusion, or disqualification)
- Leaving the designated racecourse and causing interference or danger to another crew, or gaining any advantage (exclusion)
- Failure to correctly turn around the designated turning buoys (exclusion)
- Offensive language or any other un-sportsmanlike behaviour (Yellow Card or disqualification)
- Collision with another crew if deemed dangerous or deliberate (exclusion)

***A crew wishing to object against another crew may only do so at the end of the race and before leaving the area of the Finish Line by raising their hand and calling to the Umpire on the Start / Finish line. The nature of the objection shall be explained to the Umpire who will make his decision and inform the crew or crews accordingly. A protest against the decision of the Umpire on the objection may only be made to the Chief Umpire in writing within 1 hour, accompanied by a protest fee of \$500. A decision on the protest shall be made before the next round of racing involving the crews concerned.**



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Additional Information for Competitors:

Food and Drink – Every team will be provided with a race day card at registration, which can be used to purchase food and beverages at the club with Octopus Card. (Please note that the club does not accept cash payment.)

What to wear – You **must** wear your correct HKCRA registered club uniform. Please also bring a change of clothes in case the weather is cold. Boats may be required to launch and return from a slipway – please ensure you bring water shoes to avoid foot injuries. Note: coastal boats do not have built in shoes, only straps.

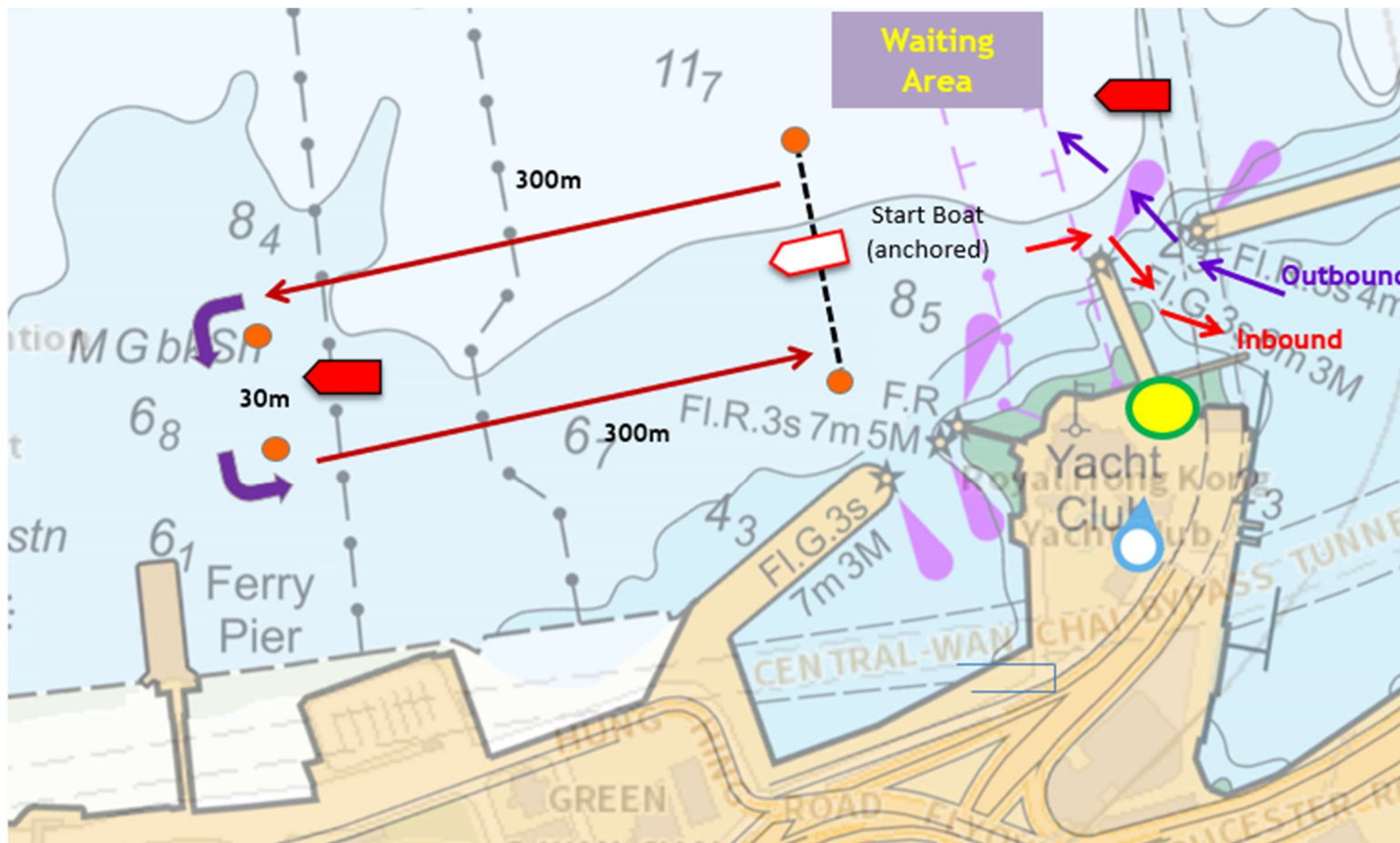
Results & Medal Ceremony:

Full copies of the results will be emailed out to each club following the event and a copy will be placed on the event website. Prizes will be awarded to crews who win their categories and to those who finish first runner-up.

The Medal Ceremony will take place on the KI Rooftop after racing.


END

8th Harbour Regatta - Race Course



 Safety Boat

 Start Boat

 Boat launch area



8th Harbour Regatta – Club Layout

