



Head of the River Race 2026 Awards

Eligibility for all awards is subject to the Committee's absolute discretion.

The Awards for the 2026 race with BROE entry categories in brackets are:

The Fairbairn Trophy – to the crew finishing Head and individual medals for the members of the crew. (all categories)

The Vernon Trophy – to the fastest eligible British Rowing club crew normally rowing on the Thames Tideway (between Teddington Lock and the mouth of the Thames), and individual medals for the members of the crew. (All “Club” categories, eligibility will be designated by the committee)

The Page Trophy – to the fastest eligible British Rowing club crew normally rowing on the Thames or its tributaries and ineligible for the Vernon Trophy, and individual medals for the members of the crew. (All “Club” categories, eligibility will be designated by the committee)

The Jackson Trophy – to the fastest eligible British or Scottish Rowing club crew not normally rowing on the Thames or its tributaries – and therefore ineligible for the Vernon or Page Trophies – and individual medals for the members of the crew. (All “Club” categories, eligibility will be designated by the committee)

The Bernard Churcher Trophy – to the fastest crew from any university or college club including those from overseas. To be eligible for this trophy, all members of such crews must be in *statu pupillari* – that is, registered as students of the relevant university or college as at Race Day. (All “Academic” categories)

The Scott Skirving Trophy – to the fastest academic crew outside the Thames valley and individual medals to the crew. To be eligible for this trophy all members of such crews must be in *statu pupillari* – that is, registered as students of the relevant school, university or college as at race day. A boat will not be eligible if any member of the crew has competed in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta, a World Rowing Championships, Senior European Championships, has won a medal at a world Rowing Under 23 Championships, or is a current senior national squad member. This is open to anyone from the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. (All “Academic” categories)

The Thames Valley Academic Award- to the fastest academic crew from the Thames valley and individual medals to the crew. To be eligible for this award all members of such crews must be in *statu pupillari* – that is, registered as students of the relevant school, university or college as at race day. A boat will not be eligible if any member of the crew has competed in an Olympic Games, a Final Olympic Qualification Regatta, a World Rowing Championships, Senior European Championships, has won a medal

at a world Rowing Under 23 Championships, or is a current senior national squad member. (All “Academic” categories)

Head of the River, 2nd & 3rd placed crews – Pennants, plaques and individual medals.

Fastest (non-Academic) club affiliated to British Rowing, Scottish Rowing or Welsh Rowing – A pennant, plaque and individual medals. (All “Club” categories)

Fastest overseas crew – A trophy, plaque and individual medals. (All “Overseas” categories)

Fastest medium and small club crews – Plaques and individual medals to the fastest medium and small sized club crews (excluding junior crews), for clubs who have not finished in the top 100 and 200 crews respectively in the last seven years. (All “Club” categories, eligibility will be designated by the committee**)

Fastest medium and small sized academic crew – Plaques and individual medals to the fastest medium and small sized academic crew, for academic institutions (excluding junior crews) who have not finished in the top 100 and 200 crews respectively in the last four years. (All “Academic” categories, eligibility will be designated by the committee**)

Fastest lightweight crew – A pennant, plaque and individual medals to the fastest lightweight crew from any club – including those from overseas clubs (qualification to be that all crew members weigh-in at a maximum of 75.0 kg. on Race Day BRRoR 2-2-1 (CL, AL, OL categories).

The Aitken Trophy - to the fastest academic beginner crew and individual medals for the members of the crew. This is only open to student oarsmen who have taken up the sport on the water (regardless of their discipline) after 1 June of the preceding academic year. A crew may be entered with fewer than the required number of points, in the expectation that it will earn the extra required between close of entries and Race Day, but if it does not the entry may be refused on the basis of insufficient experience to safely race. Any crew so affected will have its entry fee refunded. It is compulsory that the cox has more than 12 months’ experience. (BA category)

The Jack Sheppard Trophy – to the fastest British Rowing, or Scottish Rowing club beginner crew and individual medals for the members of the crew. This is offered to crews composed of newcomers to the sport. Beginner is defined as a crew comprised of oarsmen who have been rowing for no more than 12 months at the date of the Race. A crew may be entered with fewer than the required number of points, in the expectation that it will earn the extra required between close of entries and Race Day, but if it does not the entry may be refused on the basis of insufficient experience to safely race. Any crew so affected will have its entry fee refunded. ‘ It is compulsory that the cox has more than 12 months’ experience. (BC category)

Fastest Junior Crew – Plaques and individual medals to the fastest junior crew (BRRoR 2-3 a) The crew must have at least an average age of J16 (BRRoR 2-3 c). No Rower may be J14 (BRRoR 2-3 f) or younger. (JO and OJ categories)

Fastest Junior Club Crew – Plaques and individual medals to the fastest junior club crew (BRRoR 2-3 a) The crew must have at least an average age of J16 (BRRoR 2-3 f). No Rower may be J14 (BRRoR 2-3 f) or younger. All crew members must have been a member of the (non-academic/school) club entering them to race from the 31st of October 2024. The committee reserves the right to refuse entry to “umbrella” clubs seeking to draw members from other clubs. Collections of small clubs who would not be able to enter individual club eights due to a lack of available members should contact the entries secretary directly for special consideration of their proposal. (CJ category)

Fastest mixed club crew – Plaques and individual medals to the fastest mixed club crew. (All “Club” categories, eligibility will be designated by the committee).

Fastest PR3 crew – Plaques and individual medals to the fastest AR3 or PR3 classification club crew. (All “Club” categories, eligibility will be designated by the committee).

Fastest Masters B, C and D – Plaques and individual medals to the fastest masters crew in Masters B, Masters C and Masters D age categories (BRRoR 4-4). Crews wishing to be considered for this event must enter the HRR as ‘GB – Masters B, C or D’ or ‘Overseas – Masters B, C or D’. No handicapping will be applied to crews times for the final finish order. (CB, CC, CD categories)

*BRRoR (*British Rowing Rules of Racing 2025*)

***The award of the medium and small sized academic and club crews is subject to the Committee’s absolute discretion.*

Dr D. Baillache

Hon. Secretary

The Head of the River Race

1 January 2026