THE HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE CENTENARY 2026 – ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

The Head of the River Race (HORR) Centenary will be run under British Rowing Rules of Racing, (BRRoR)

https://www.britishrowing.org/events/entering-competitons/rules-of-racing/

1. The Race from Mortlake to Putney will start at **09:30 GMT on Saturday 12th December 2026** and is a competition for open eights and is by invitation only.

2. Entries will **open on Friday 6th November 2026 at 12:00 noon.**

3. There will be no entry fee. The costs of the race will be covered by the Head of the River Race to celebrate the centenary year.

4. Entries are requested by **5pm GMT on Monday 23rd November 2026.** This is the guaranteed deadline for the 3 initial entries per club**.** Further capacity can then be reviewed and granted at the committee's discretion.

    a. The official close of entries is **12:00 noon GMT on Friday 4th December 2026** and full substitutions will be allowed until this deadline.

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5. Invited clubs will be initially limited to 3 crews per club. Additional entries may be granted upon request to the committee, please email entries@horr.co.uk by 5pm on Monday 23rd November 2026.

Entry Instructions

1. Submitting entries

All entries must be made on the British Rowing Online Entries system (BROE2). All competitors must be registered to race with British Rowing and be members of the club they are representing.

2. Composite Crews

No entries from composite crews will be accepted.

3. BROE2 Category

The race will have one category: Open Eights

4. BROE2 Crew Entry

Clubs with more than one entry, should designate their crews A, B, C etc. in order of speed.

5. Payment

No payment is required and your entry will be marked as paid before the close of entries.

6. Inclusion and Diversity

HORR Centenary follows British Rowing's Trans and Non-Binary Inclusion Competition Policy and Procedures.

7. Boating Information

We expect that Tideway clubs will be boating from their own boathouse. Please inform the organisers if any crew will be boating from an alternative location. Any non-Tideway club will be contacted to confirm their boating location.

8. Additional Club Information

The following additional club information is required at entry. Please submit this in the relevant fields as prompted in BROE2.

Speed Order of crews

Clubs with more than one entry, should designate their crews A, B, C etc. in order of speed

9. Additional Crew Information

Please consider the competency and safety of each crew for navigating in tidal conditions. Please submit this in the relevant fields as prompted in BROE2.

Competency and safety of less experienced crews or coxswains

Crews with under 60 CRI or Crews that have a cox who is unfamiliar with the Tideway should provide further detail to ensure the crews are sufficiently competent to marshal, navigate and control an eight on the Tideway.

The Draw

1. Draw for Invited Crews

- **The Draw will be held on Saturday 5th December 2026 at noon.**
- Clubs will be notified as to whether their entries have been accepted on Saturday 5th December 2026.

- The full Start list will be published by Monday 7th December 2026.

2. 2026 Start Order, classifications and related matters

The start order will be determined in the following way:

- The finish position from competing crews at HORR 2026 will determine the starting order, subject to their Ranking Points not otherwise placing them considerably higher or lower than surrounding crews.
- Additional entries to competing crews at HORR 2026 will be allocated a position based on their Ranking Points.

If substitutions made between close of entries and Race Day, meaning that the RP total of a crew goes up or down, any such crew will simply start in its already-allocated place.

If a Club has concerns following substitutions that the race pace of the Crew has been dramatically reduced, they should email the Hon. Secretary who will pass this information to the Chief Marshal.

Safety

Adverse Conditions may affect the running of the HORR Centenary, at worst a full cancellation, the safety of all participants is always the first priority of the Committee. If weather and/or river conditions are poor, but not bad enough to force cancellation, the Committee may decide to hold the Race over a shorter course, and possibly with fewer crews. The full review and notification protocol is available on the website.

General Race Instructions will be published by the Chief Marshal with. It is a crew's responsibility to read these prior to arriving for racing.

All crews should be aware that they should be fully aware of the guidance within British Rowing's RowSafe document https://www.britishrowing.org/about-us/policies-guidance/rowsafe/ .

Bow coxed hulls are not permitted.

In view of the nature of the course, the character of the Race and safety considerations you are strongly urged to ensure that inexperienced coxes are placed with experienced crews and vice versa. Captains of clubs are responsible for ensuring that all coxswains have appropriate experience

and knowledge to undertake coxing on the Tideway. A minimum age of 15 is expected, any club entering a cox younger than 15 must list their experience and confirm their ability.

Child Protection

It is a condition of entry that all clubs have read and understand the contents of the Centenary Race Welfare Policy and Plan 2026; by submitting an entry a club is accepting its conditions and requirements.

Substitutes and Scratchings

Names of substitutes (maximum FOUR only apart from the coxswain) who are to row in the Race must be notified through the BROE system by the start of the Race.

Failure to record all substitutions will very likely result in the misallocation of ranking points. Accordingly, any failure to record substitutions that requires the after-Race attention of HORR Centenary will attract action under BRRoR 8-4.

Notice of withdrawal ("scratching") should be made through the BROE2 system before the start of the Race. This is a safety requirement to aid the Marshals.

Prize giving

The prize-giving for the fastest crew will take place at approximately **11am GMT on race day** at London Rowing Club, on the Putney Embankment. The fastest crew will be invited to join a celebration brunch at London Rowing Club after the race.

Insurance

The Race requires that you confirm that your club carries public liability cover for at least £1,000,000 (British Rowing Row Safe); this is usually incorporated in your club's general policy, but you are strongly urged to consult your insurers if there is any doubt.

IMPORTANT - By submitting the entry, the Club's representative is confirming the following:

1. I have read and understand the requirements of the BRITISH ROWING Row Safe Code, Rules of Racing Section 7, Centenary Race Welfare Policy & Plan and Rules of the Centenary Race 2026 in the Competitors Instructions.
2. I confirm that this Club has Public Liability insurance for at least £ 1,000,000.
3. I certify that all competitors are experienced to a sufficient standard to compete in this Race.
4. I certify that all the competitors named in the on-line entry and any substitute who may be introduced, are members of this Club which is a member by affiliation of British Rowing and eligible to compete in the category for which they are entered.

Dan Baillache
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