



HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE 2024

The HORR 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 **15:15 GMT on 23 March 2024** and is a competition for open eights.
2. Entries will **open on the 6th January 2024 at 09:00.**
3. The entry fee is £136 per crew.
4. Entries will close at **17:00 GMT 15th February 2024 for Overseas Crews**, and at **17:00 GMT 1st March 2024 for British Rowing, Welsh Rowing, and Scottish Rowing crews.**
5. Only 400 crews will be accepted. This number includes a maximum of 60 Overseas crews.

Entry Instructions

1. Submitting entries

All entries (including Overseas and Scottish entries) must be made on the British Rowing Online Entries system (BROE2). All competitors must be registered to race with British Rowing or another association recognised by BR or FISA (BRRoR 2-1-1 a).

Crews not registered to use BROE2 should visit <https://www.britishrowing.org/events/entering-competitons/online-entry/>. Overseas crews are advised to register well in advance of the entry deadline.

2. BROE2 Categories

Please enter club crews in the relevant category as detailed below. Clubs with more than one entry, should designate their crews in order of priority "1", "2", "3", etc. (not A, B, C/I, II, III).

British (non-academic) Crew Entry Categories

BROE2 Category	Description	Eligible Pennants	Page, Vernon, Jackson*	Small Medium Club**
CO – Club Open	This is the category for all non-academic and non-overseas crews that do not fall into the categories below.	Fastest non-academic club/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	y	y
BC – Club Beginner	This is offered to crews composed of newcomers to the sport. 'Beginner' is defined as a crew comprised of rowers from any British Rowing Club who have been rowing for no more than 12 months at the date of the race. All crews entered in the 'Beginner' category must have a coxswain with more than a year's experience and have 3 PRI points. Note Rules of the Race 7. Captains of clubs are responsible for ensuring that all coxes are sufficiently competent to navigate and control an eight on the Tideway. All members the crew must be <i>in statu pupillary</i> .	Fastest Beginner Club/ Fastest non-academic club/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	y	y
CL – Club and Lightweight	All rowers weigh-in at a maximum of 75.0 kg on race day (BRROR 2-2-1). Weighing-in to be held at Ranelagh Sailing Club, Putney Embankment and Tideway Scullers School, Chiswick Bridge from 11 am to 12 noon on Saturday 18th March.	Fastest Lightweight Crew/ Fastest non-academic club/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	y	y
CB – Club Masters B	Crews (excluding coxswains) should have an average age no lower than 36 years old on the day of the race. This is based on the average age of crew, measured in whole years attained during current year. Each competitor must be qualified as Masters, i.e. qualified as Masters A (BRROR 4-4a).	Fastest Junior Club Crew/ Fastest non-academic club/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	y	y
CC – Club Masters C	Crews (excluding coxswains) should have an average age no lower than 43 years old on the day of the race. This is based on the average age of crew, measured in whole years attained during current year. Each competitor must be qualified as Masters, i.e. qualified as Masters A (BRROR 4-4a).	Fastest Masters B/ Fastest non-academic club/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	y	y
CD – Club Masters D	Crews (excluding coxswains) should have an average age no lower than 50 years old on the day of the race. This is based on the average age of crew, measured in whole years attained during current year. Each competitor must be qualified as Masters, i.e. qualified as Masters A (BRROR 4-4a).	Fastest Masters C/ Fastest non-academic club/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	y	y
JC – Club Junior	This is not open to academic institutions. We reserve the right to refuse entry in this category to umbrella or high performance clubs. Schools, umbrella clubs and high performance clubs should enter JO. The crew must have at least an average age of J16 (BRRoR 2-3c). No rower may be J14 (BRRoR 2-3d) or younger.	Fastest Masters D/ Fastest non-academic club/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	y	y
HMF	Restricted to crews comprised of serving members of His Majesty's Forces.	Forces Pennant/Fastest non-academic club/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	y	y

Academic Crew Entry Categories

AO – Academic Open	All members the crew must be <i>in statu pupillary</i> – that is, registered as students of the relevant University or College as at Race day. <i>Crews consisting of alumni/ or other affiliated members must enter CO – Club Open.</i>	Bernard Churcher Pennant/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	y
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BA – Academic Beginner	Academic Beginner is defined as a crew comprised of rowers who have been rowing for no more than 12 months at the date of the race. All British Rowing university & college crews must have BUCS “Beginner” status. All crews entered in the ‘Beginner’ category must have a coxswain with more than a year’s experience and have 3 PRI points. Note Rules of the Race 7. Captains of clubs are responsible for ensuring that all coxes are sufficiently competent to navigate and control an eight on the Tideway. All members the crew must be <i>in statu pupillary</i> .	Fastest Beginner Club/ Bernard Churcher Pennant/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	y
AL – Academic and Lightweight	All rowers weigh-in at a maximum of 75.0 kg on race day (BRRoR 2-2-1). All members the crew must be <i>in statu pupillary</i> . Weighing-in to be held at Ranelagh Sailing Club, Putney Embankment and Tideway Scullers School, Chiswick Bridge from 11am to 12 noon on Saturday 18th March.	Fastest Lightweight Crew/ Bernard Churcher Pennant/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	y
JO – Junior Open	Open to academic institutions, umbrella clubs and high performance clubs. The crew must have at least an average age of J16 (BRRoR 2-3 c). No rower may be J14 (BRRoR 2-3 d) or younger.	Fastest Junior Crew/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	y

Overseas Crew Entry Categories

OO – Overseas Open	This is the category for all overseas crews that do not fall into the categories below.	Fastest Overseas Crew/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	n
OU – Overseas University	All members the crew must be <i>in statu pupillary</i> – that is, registered as students of the relevant university or College as at race day.	Bernard Churcher Pennant/ Fastest Overseas Crew/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	n
OL – Overseas and Lightweight	All rowers weigh-in at a maximum of 75.0 kg on race day (BRRoR 2-2-1). Weighing-in to be held at Ranelagh Sailing Club, Putney Embankment and Tideway Scullers School, Chiswick Bridge from 11am to 12 noon on Saturday 18th March.	Fastest Lightweight Crew/ Fastest Overseas Crew/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	n
OB – Overseas Masters B	Crews (excluding coxswains) should have an average age no lower than 36 years old on the day of the race. This is based on the average age of crew, measured in whole years attained during current year. Each competitor must be qualified as Masters, i.e. qualified as Masters A (BRROR 4-4a).	Fastest Masters B/ Fastest Overseas Crew/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	n
OC – Overseas Masters C	Crews (excluding coxswains) should have an average age no lower than 43 years old on the day of the race. This is based on the average age of crew, measured in whole years attained during current year. Each competitor must be qualified as Masters, i.e. qualified as Masters A (BRROR 4-4a).	Fastest Masters C/ Fastest Overseas Crew/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	n
OD – Overseas Masters D	Crews (excluding coxswains) should have an average age no lower than 50 years old on the day of the race. This is based on the average age of crew, measured in whole years attained during current year. Each competitor must be qualified as Masters, i.e. qualified as Masters A (BRROR 4-4a).	Fastest Masters D/ Fastest Overseas Crew/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	n
OJ – Overseas Junior	The crew must have at least an average age of J16 (BRRoR 2-3c). No rower may be J14 (BRRoR 2-3d) or younger.	Fastest Junior Club Crew/ Fastest Overseas Crew/ Fairbairn Trophy, 2nd & 3rd placed crew	n	n

Eligibility for trophies and awards will be determined by the Committee.

*High performance centres are only eligible for 1st, 2nd or 3rd place pennants.

**Please see www.horr.co.uk for eligibility

3. Payment

Payment must be made via BROE2. Any payment not made in BROE2 by the close of respective entries may be rejected.

4. Composite Crews

No entries from composite crews will be accepted.

5. Inclusion and Diversity

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

6. Boating Information

On entry, clubs will be required to submit details of the Tideway club from which they are boating. Permission must be secured in advance of submitting the entry. If this section of the entry remains blank at close of entries, or if the Tideway club named has not given its permission, the entry will be rejected.

7. Additional Club Information

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

a. Speed Order of crews

In the text field please list the speed order of entered crews.

b. Trailing Information

Space on the Putney Embankment is very limited and therefore fully loaded trailers will be given priority access to Putney. The Committee suggests clubs from the same region or country share a trailer; please indicate this on entry when prompted.

8. Additional Crew Information

The following additional information is required at entry. Please submit this in the relevant fields as prompted in BROE2. This is a condition of entry.

a. Scottish crews

To ensure that you are given the appropriate starting position, it is important that you provide a note of the SR points for each crew member as prompted.

b. British crews with less than 20 Rowing points

To ensure that a crew has a basic level of experience to cope with Tideway conditions we expect that crews have at least 20 RPs. If you are entering a crew with less than 20 RPs, please explain your crew's relevant experience. All crews entered in the 'Beginner' category must have a coxswain with more than a year's experience and have 3 PRI points. Note Rules of the Race 7. Captains of clubs are responsible for ensuring that all coxes are sufficiently competent to navigate and control an eight on the Tideway.

c. Overseas crews

To ensure that your crews race alongside crews of a similar pace, please indicate your expected finish position by placing the letter A-D and a justification for this in the relevant additional entry field. Use the information below to work out your expected finish position.

A	Expected finish position 1 to 75	Crew would expect to finish in top six in National Championships.
B	Expected finish 76 to 175	Good club crew – perhaps National Championships standard.
C	Expected finish 176 to 275	Average club crew – might win three or four events during a season
D	Expected finish below 276	Novice club level

NB. If you give your crew a letter that is seen to be clearly wrong when the results are published, the club may be barred from entering in 2025.

d. Eligibility for the Vernon, Page and Jackson Trophies

British clubs will be asked whether they are eligible for the Vernon, Page and Jackson trophies. High Performance Clubs are not eligible for these trophies.

Please use the information below to determine your eligibility.

Vernon	Any British Rowing club crew normally rowing on the Thames Tideway (between Teddington Lock and the mouth of the Thames).
Page	Any British Rowing club crew normally rowing on the Thames or its tributaries.

Jackson	Any British Rowing club crew not normally rowing on the Thames or its tributaries – and therefore ineligible for the Vernon or Page Trophies.
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e. Eligibility for Small/Medium Academic/Club Pennants

British clubs will be asked whether they are eligible for the Small/Medium Academic/Club Pennants. Please refer to horr.co.uk for eligibility. Please note that the deadline for appeals is the 8th February 2024.

The Draw

1. Draw for Overseas Crews

If the Overseas entry exceeds 60 completed entries at **17:00 GMT 15th February 2024** entries will be accepted as follows:

- All those crews which finished in the top 280 in 2023 are guaranteed a place in HERR 2024.
- All those crews not having a place under the above will go into a draw for the remaining places up to a total of 60. The draw will take place on **Monday 19th February 2024**, and clubs will be informed of the result as soon as possible thereafter by e-mail.

2. Draw for British Crews

If the entry exceeds 400 completed entries at **17:00 GMT 1st March 2024** entries will be accepted as follows:

- a. Third and subsequent entries from school clubs will not be accepted. If the remaining entry still exceeds 400 the first 280 crews in the 2023 finishing order will be entitled to a place in the 2024 Race.
- b. All clubs who enter but have no place under (a) will be given one place.
- c. All crews who finished below 280 in 2023 and are not entitled to a place under (b) will go into a draw for the remaining places up to a limit of 400. The Draw for places will be held on Saturday 9th March at noon. Clubs will be notified as to whether their entries have been accepted on Sunday 10th March. The full Start list will be on the website on Sunday 10th March.

3. 2024 Start Order, classifications and related matters

The start order will be determined in the following way:

- The top 30 finishers from HERR 2023 will inherit that finishing place, subject to their Ranking Points not otherwise placing them below 60th in the PRI ranked start order.
- With the exception of the top 30 finishers from HERR 2023, the start order will be compiled solely on the basis of each crew's Ranking Points total as declared at the time entries close.
- Overseas crews will be allotted a ranking by the Committee.
- The first c.120 in the start order, plus approx. 30 Overseas and Scottish Rowing crews of a similar standard, will form the Championship Group of exactly 150 crews. These will form the first 3 divisions, marshalling as usual above Chiswick Bridge.

- The remaining crews will be divided into two groups, Academic and Club, and ranked according to their RP totals (or equivalent for overseas & SR). Each group will then be cut off after the 50th-ranked crew, and be arranged in the following start order:
 - Division 4 – Academic (50 crews)
 - Division 5 – Club (50 crews)
 - Division 6 – Academic (variable size)
 - Division 7 – Club (variable size)
 - Divisions 6 and/or 7 will, if necessary, also be limited to 50 crews, with further crews forming a Division 8.

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.

Names of crew members entered may be inspected after 10th March on application to the Hon. Secretary.

Safety

Adverse Conditions may affect the running of the HERR, 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 posted on this website by the Chief Marshal not later than 31st January and marshalling instructions will be updated to match the draw by the 10th of March. It is a crew's responsibility to read these prior to arriving for training.

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.

It is strongly recommended that any crew with average age 55 or more (i.e. FISA Masters E or older) only enter the Vesta Masters HOR instead, and for reasons of capacity any such entries to HERR may be refused.

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 14 is normally expected.

Child Protection

It is a condition of entry that all clubs have read and understand the contents of the HARR Welfare Policy and Plan 2024; 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.

A crew no longer eligible for pennants entered must immediately notify the Hon. Secretary by email. The ultimate sanction for not doing so may result in exclusion from the 2025 race if not doing so prohibits a winning crew from being presented with their pennant on race day.

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 HARR will attract action under BROR 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 will take place on the evening of the race at Ranelagh Sailing Club in Putney.

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, HARR Welfare Policy & Plan and the document "Rules of the Race 2024".
2. I have read and accept the Regulations relating to the Draw in the event of over-subscription.
3. I accept that there will be little or no refund in the event of weather-related cancellation.
4. I confirm that this Club has Public Liability insurance for at least £ 1,000,000.
5. I confirm that all members of any crew entered in Academic categories are currently in statu pupillari at the university/college concerned.
6. I certify that all competitors are experienced to a sufficient standard to compete in this Race.

7. 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 (or of Scottish Rowing / Welsh Rowing) or an Association recognized by British Rowing or FISA licensed to race **and eligible to compete in the Award for which they are entered.**

Bryony Gough
Entries Secretary
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