

Rowing Victoria

RULES FOR COMPETITORS

Key points taken from complete RV Rule book



These Rules are intended as a reminder or adjunct to the RV Rule Book. In case of conflict, the RV Rules apply.

1. Punctual Starting

Crews should be positioned behind the start area five minutes before the scheduled race start time.

1.6 Late Arrival – The starter may award a Yellow Card to crews arriving late (less than 2 minutes before the start time) at their starting positions or not ready to race at the designated start time. He may exclude a crew arriving after the start time.

2. Coxswains

Rule 18 COXSWAINS

18.1 Coxswains are members of the crew. However, a women's crew may be steered by a man, a men's crew may be steered by a woman.

18.2 Age categories shall apply to coxswains, except in Under 23 and masters categories.

18.3 The minimum weight for a coxswain (wearing racing uniform) is 55kg for men's crews and 50 kg for women's crews and all school Championships events. The weighing scales shall indicate the weight of the coxswain to 0.1 kg.

18.4 To make up this weight, a coxswain may carry deadweight in a sealed bag which shall be placed in the boat as close as possible to his/her person. No article of racing equipment shall be considered as part of this deadweight. At any time, before or until immediately after the race, the Organising Committee or Jury may require the deadweight to be reweighed.

18.5 These provisions shall also apply to coxswains in lightweight races.

18.6 Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 12.4, a coxswain may steer for any number of Clubs at a regatta.

18.7 Coxswains must be accredited with RV in accordance with the RV coxswain accreditation policy to be able to steer a crew at an RV Regatta.

3. Non Starter

Non starters must notify the Secretary of the Regatta in writing.

22.1 Non-Starters and Scratchings

22.1.1 Non-starters will be regarded as anyone who fails to notify the RV office of a withdrawal by email by 2.30pm on the last working day immediately preceding the regatta, if a regatta is not on a weekend, the RV office will advise the cut off date for withdrawals.

22.1.2 non-starters in any event who notify the Regatta Secretary or RV Office after the time mentioned in this law 22.1.1 - forfeiture of entrance fee and a fine set out in Appendix 13 of the RV Rules.

21.1.3 crews or scullers who notify the RV Office of their withdrawal prior to the time mentioned in this law 22.1.1 - forfeiture of entrance fee.

4. Substitutes:

By-Law to Rule 37- 24 Substitutes

The name of substitutes (including coxswains) must be notified not less than 1 hour before the advertised start time of a race to the Regatta Secretary. Failure to do so incurs a penalty set out in appendix 13 of the RV Rules.

5. Uniform

Rule 44.4

Each member of a Club or school competing in a RV Event shall wear the racing uniform of their Club or school and other garments which must all be identical in design and colour except for permitted

sponsor identifications which shall nonetheless be identical within each crew. Except as provided for composite crews, members of the same crew shall compete in identical clothing.

Rule 44.5 The racing uniform shall be designed so that the shoulders and arms of the t-shirts provided by RV (if any) are seen clearly.

Rule 44.6 If any members of a crew wear headwear, then the headwear worn by those crew members shall be identical.

6. Taking Opponents' Course

Crews need to keep in their designated lane. They may be warned or stopped from rowing if they fail to do this.

Rule 72 - Responsibility of the Rowers

All rowers shall compete in their races in accordance with the rules. Rowers are responsible for their own steering. Each crew shall have a lane reserved for its own use and shall remain completely (i.e., including its oars or sculls) within this lane throughout the race. If a crew leaves its own lane then it does so at its own risk. If it impedes or interferes with any of its opponents or gains any advantage thereby, it may be penalised. The same rules apply to non buoyed courses.

7. Signal to Stop

An Umpire may use a red flag and bell to stop the race.

To stop an individual crew the Umpire must raise the white flag, call the crew by name and give the command "stop"

8. Objections and Protests

Rule 68 – Objections at the Start

A crew excluded or disqualified at the start may make an objection to the Umpire or the Starter at the time. The Umpire or the Starter shall decide immediately on the objection and shall communicate his decision to the crews in the race and to the other race officials.

Rule 76 - Objections

A crew claiming that its race was not in order or was improperly judged may make an objection to the Umpire immediately after the finish of the race and before leaving the finish area by raising an arm. The Umpire of the race, or if no umpire was following the race the Judge at the Finish, decides on the objection and communicates his decision to the crews in the race and the other race officials.

Rule 78 - Protests

A crew whose objection has been rejected or crews affected by the acceptance of the objection or crews disputing the published results may lodge a protest in writing to the President of the Jury not later than one hour after the Umpire has communicated his decision regarding objection, or in the case of disputing published results, one hour after the results have been published. It shall be accompanied by a deposit of four (4) penalty units or equivalent, which amount shall be refunded if the protest or appeal is allowed.

The board of the Jury shall decide if the protest was justified. It will make its decision before the next round of races in the event concerned, and, in any case, no later than two hours after the last race of the day.

9. Delays

Races will not be held up for late arrivals.

10. Breakage in the Start Zone

If a crew, while still in the start zone, sustains damage to its boat or equipment then a member of the crew shall raise their arm to indicate that there is a problem. The Starter or the Umpire shall stop the race. The Umpire shall then decide on the steps to be taken, after consulting (if necessary) with the President of the Jury. This applies to all RV Regattas. The penalty for any crew indicating such damage where this does not exist is Exclusion.

11. Safety Equipment

Unsafe boats may not be put on the water. All boats shall have firmly fixed bow balls (unless the bow is manufactured so as to afford the same protection).

By-Laws to Rule 33 – Boats and Equipment

1 Requirements for racing boats

- 1.1.1 The bows of all boats shall be fitted with a solid white ball shape, minimum diameter 4 cm. If this is an external part it shall be firmly affixed to the bow of the boat such that it does not significantly deflect if a side force is applied. If it is an integral part of the hull construction it shall afford equivalent protection and visibility.

1.5 To avoid accidents arising from capsizing, all boats shall be equipped with stretchers or shoes that allow the rowers to get clear of the boat without using their hands and with the least possible delay. Where shoes are used, heel restraints must be used and they should not allow the heel to lift more than 7cm.

12. Coaching During Racing

Rule 74 - Coaching During Racing

It is prohibited to give any instructions, advice or directions to rowers or crews that are racing with any electric, electronic or other technical device, either directly or indirectly.

13. The classes of boats used in each event are as follows:

RS Boat Types and Class per Grade and Event (Male and Female) all 1,000 m (Vic)							
A		B		C		D	
Class	Type	Class	Type	Class	Type	Class	Type
1x	Any	1x	Any	1x	Any	1x	Any
2x	Any	2x	Any	2x	Any	2x	Any
4x+	Any	4x+	Any	4x+	Any	4x+	Regulation
2-	Any	2-	Any	2-	Any		
						2+	Regulation
4+	Any	4+	Any	4+	Any	4+	Regulation
8+	Any	8+	Any	8+	Any	8+	Any

Age based Boat Types and Class per Grade and Event (Male and Female) (all 2,000 metres)											
Open		Open Lightweight		Under 23		Under 21		Under 19		Under 17	
Class	Type	Class	Type	Class	Type	Class	Type	Class	Type	Class	Type
1x	Any	1x	Any	1x	Any			1x	Any	1x	Any
2x	Any	2x	Any	2x	Any			2x	Any	2x	Any
4X-	Any	F4X-	Any			W4x+	Any	4x+	Any	4x+	Any
2-	Any	M2-	Any	2-	Any			2-	Any		
4 -	Any	M4 -	Any								
4+	Any					4+	Any	4+	Any		
8+	Any					8+	Any	8+	Any		

Masters Boat Types & Class per Grade & Event (Male and Female)			
Open		Novice	
Class	Type	Class	Type
1x	Any		
2x	Any		
4x-	Any	4x+	Any
2-	Any		
4+	Any	4+	Any
8+	Any		