

NEW SOUTH WALES ROWING ASSOCIATION
LAWS OF BOAT RACING
As revised December 2016.

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1. INTERPRETATION

- (a) These Laws shall, in all cases, be read as subject to the Rules of the Association.
- (b) In these Laws unless the contrary intention appears:
 - "Association" means the New South Wales Rowing Association Incorporated;
 - "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Association;
 - "Club" means club and/or school.
 - "Crew" includes a sculler. A female may not be a member of a crew except in events restricted to females or events approved by the Association as mixed events;
 - "Commission" means the Regatta Commission
 - "Material facts of a race" means those matters which occur at the start or during the conduct of a race about which a decision is made by the Starter, Umpire, Judge, or Referee on any matter coming within the jurisdiction of that Starter, Umpire, Judge or Referee.
- (c) Words importing the singular or plural number shall extend to and include the plural and singular number respectively.

2. REGATTAS

- (i) (a) The Association may conduct or approve its constituent members conducting regattas From 1 June to 31 May of the following year (The Season). Such regattas shall be open to all competitors registered with this Association or with other State or National Associations acknowledged by this Association.
- (b) The Board shall require the Competition Commission to formulate a Regatta Program for each Season, which program, after the consideration of the recommendations of the Regatta Commission, shall be recommended by the Board to the June General Meeting in each year for adoption.
- (ii) All such regattas shall be conducted under the auspices of, and according to the Rules, Laws of Boat Racing and By-Laws of this Association unless otherwise specified by the Board.
- (iii) Championship Races and Regattas
 - (a) Championship races may be held for such competition categories and classes of boat and over such distances as the Board shall determine.
 - (b) All State Championships shall be rowed at the Sydney International Regatta Centre unless the Board shall determine that it is impracticable to do so.
 - (c) A race shall not be deemed to be a State Championship unless at least three crews from two clubs or schools start in the event except for Masters and Adaptive crews. Notwithstanding the provisions of this clause in respect to number of starters, NSW Championship events shall be conducted in each of, and over the same distance as, the Interstate Championship categories.
 - (d) Championship Race Distances
 - (i) All Championship races shall be rowed over 2,000 metres except for
 - a) NSW Sprint Championships which shall be rowed over 500 metres,
 - b) NSW Masters Championships which shall be rowed over 1,000 metres
 - c) Under 16 State Championships Races shall be rowed over 1,000 metres.
 - (e) Championship Medals Policy
 - (i) Those crews placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in all NSW Championship and NSW Sprint Championship events shall be presented with a suitable medallion inscribed with the event code and year of competition.
 - (ii) Suitable medals inscribed with the event code and year of competition shall be presented to placegetters in each age category in NSW Masters Championships according to entries received on the following basis:
 - a) Four entries – 1st, 2nd and 3rd place medals
 - b) Three entries – 1st and 2nd place medals only
 - c) Two entries – 1st place medals only

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3. CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS CONDUCTING CHAMPIONSHIP RACES

In cases where championship races are included in Constituent Member regatta programmes, the Club or Committee controlling such regatta shall enter into an Agreement with the Association on the organisation, conduct and funding of the races and/or regatta.

4. TIME TRIALS

The Association may conduct Time Trials. Competitors status will not be affected however points will be awarded in accordance with the Racing Programme as approved by the June General Meeting.

5. RACING COLOURS

Each Constituent Member Club, club associated with an affiliated Rowing Association, Regional Rowing Association or School shall register its racing colours including blade colours and racing uniform with this Association Registrar of Colours who shall maintain a register of all such colours and uniforms in the form set out in Schedule 10 to the Rules. The application for registration or any changes in Registered Colours or uniform proposed by any Constituent Member Club or Club associated with an Affiliated Rowing Association or a School must be submitted in writing to the Registrar of Colours for his consideration at least two months prior to the change. A recommendation will then be made to the Chief Executive Officer for deliberation. No crew shall be eligible to compete in any regatta or race held under the control or auspices of this Association until the Chief Executive Officer has approved the racing colours and the racing uniform of the Club for which that crew is competing in accordance with this Law.

6. CLOTHING, REGISTERED COLOURS AND NUMBERING OF CREWS

- (a) All competitors shall wear such clothing as the Chief Executive Officer decides or approves. All members of a crew shall be dressed alike and all crews shall wear the registered colours of their Club and their blades shall display registered colours.
- (b) All crews competing in boat races shall carry lane numbers of the type approved by the Board. Failure to do so will attract a warning and a fine under Law 34 (b)(iii).
- (c) Coxswains may wear warm clothing or wet weather gear under the registered colours of their Club. Such clothing must be the same colour as at least one of those same registered colours.

7. BOATS AND EQUIPMENT

- (a) All races may be rowed in boats of free construction provided that all equipment shall comply with the standards and requirements from time to time of Federation Internationale des Societes d'Aviron (FISA), the Rowing Australia Inc., (RA) and this Law.
- (b) The bows of all boats shall be fitted with a white ball 4cm in diameter in soft rubber or similar material unless the bow is so constructed as to afford equivalent protection and visibility. Such ball shall be in position at all competitions and during all training periods.
- (c) The name and trademark of a sponsor may only appear once on each side of the boat at the bow.
- (d) During any race the use of electronic or manual equipment for communication with a third party is prohibited.
- (e) No substances or structures (such as riblets) capable of enhancing the natural properties of water or of the surface contact shall be applied to the hull.
- (f) The edges of blades must have a minimum thickness throughout as follows:
oars: 5 millimetres
sculls: 3 millimetres;
the thickness shall be measured 3 millimetres from the outer edge of oars and 2 millimetres from the outer edge of sculls.
- (g) To avoid accidents arising from capsizing, all boats must be equipped with stretchers or shoes which allow competitors to get clear of the boat without using their hands and with the least possible delay.
- (h) The use of sliding riggers in any class of boat shall not be allowed.
- (i) Minimum weights for boats are the following:

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Type of Boat	Arms Only 1x	Trunk & Arms 1x	1x	2x	2-	2+	4x	4x+	4-	4+	8+
Weight in kg	22	20	14	27	27	32	52	54	50	51	96

- (j) The minimum weight of the boat shall include the fittings essential to its use, in particular: riggers, stretchers, shoes, slides, seats and hull extensions. The minimum weight shall not include the oars or sculls or the bow number. It shall include sound amplification equipment or any other kind of electronic equipment, including cables or wires carried in the boat for connecting such equipment within the boat, housing or fixing for electronic or other equipment and any loud speakers, only when such equipment is firmly fixed to the boat. Additional weight carried in the boat to achieve the required weight shall be firmly fastened to the boat or to the essential fittings described above.
- (k) The opening for the coxswain's seat must be at least 70 cm. long and it must be as wide as the boat for at least 50 cm. The inner surface of the enclosed part must be smooth with and no structure of any sort that may restrict the inner width of the coxswain's section.
- (l) Eight oared boats manufactured after 1st January 1995 shall be built in two sections with no section more than 11.9 metres in length.
- (m) All four oared races in Lightweight, A Grade, B Grade, Under 23 and Masters may be rowed in coxless boats provided that competitors may choose to row in a coxed boat, and carry a coxswain, in any such event.

8. STATUS RULES – ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE

(1) WEIGHT DIVISIONS

Except as herein provided Status Rules shall apply separately to events for each of two weight divisions, namely:

(A) LIGHTWEIGHT

- (i) restricted to male competitors weighing 72.5 kilograms or less and female competitors weighing 59kg or less in the case of single scullers and in all other classes of boat to male competitors weighing 72.5 kilograms or less and female competitors weighing 59kg or less provided that the average weight of the crew in which that competitor races (excluding the coxswain) does not exceed 70 kilograms in the case male crews and 57 kilograms in the case of female crews.
- (ii) Lightweight competitors must weigh-in on the day of the Regatta not more than two hours nor less than one hour prior to the advertised starting time of their first Lightweight race and may weigh in for any subsequent races for which they are entered no earlier than two hours and no later than one hour prior to any such race. Where a regatta is held over two or more days lightweight competitors must weigh-in as herein provided on each day on which they compete notwithstanding that they may already have weighed-in for the heat of a race for which the final is raced on a subsequent day. Lightweight competitors weighing-in shall be attired in their racing uniform.
- (iii) Except in Championships, an Elite lightweight crew or sculler failing to make weight, in accordance with this rule for an Under 23, Open or Elite event, shall be permitted to race in the event for which he had entered but shall not be judged.
- (iv) Subject to the approval of the Board the Lightweight limit may be varied to be consistent with the National Selection Policy

(B) OPEN WEIGHT

Not restricted by the weight of competitors.

(2) CATEGORIES

Competition at regattas may be divided into the following categories:

(A) Grade Categories

- (i) Competitors may be graded into four grade categories, which shall apply separately to rowing (eights, fours and pairs), and to sculling (quadruple sculls, double sculls and single sculls).

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- (ii) Rowing Grade Scores and Sculling Grade Scores shall be based on a formula or formulas approved by the Board, and may be applied to each registered competing member as follows:

A GRADE	2,000m	0.00 > 1.2499 points
B GRADE	2,000m	1.25 > 2.2499 points
C GRADE	1,000m	2.25 > 3.2499 points
D GRADE	1,000m	3.25 > 4.00 points

- (iii) For the purpose of determining the grade in which a crew may compete, the grade score for the crew shall be calculated by dividing the total of the grade scores for each crew member (excluding the coxswain) by the number of members of the crew (excluding the coxswain).

- (iv) Competitors who win an Age Category event including State, National and International Championship events shall have Grade Scores relevant to that class of boat applied as follows:

(a) Elite	0.75
(b) Under 23	1.00
(c) Under 21	1.75
(d) Under 19	2.00
(e) Under 17	3.00

Where a competitors Grade score is already below the adjusted score it shall not be changed.

- (v) Competitors who win a School Championship event including State and National Championship events shall have their Grade Score relevant to that class of boat lowered to 2.00. Where a competitor's Grade Score is already below the adjusted score it shall not be changed.

- (vi) Competitors who are competing in Schoolboy or Schoolgirl events shall have Grade Scores applied as follows:

	Rowing	Sculling
(a) School Year 8 events	4.00	4.00
(b) School Year 9 events	4.00	3.50
(c) Schoolboy 1 st and 2 nd Year 10 Eight or Schoolgirl 1 st and 2 nd Year 10 Quad or Four	3.00	3.00
(d) Schoolboy 1 st and 2 nd Eight and 1 st Four or Schoolgirl 1 st Eight	2.00	2.00
(e) All other Senior or Open School events	2.50	2.50

Where a competitors Grade score is already below the adjusted score it shall not be changed.

- (vii) The Board may nominate the regattas at which the results of races may be used to determine or adjust the grade scores of competitors.

- (viii) Where less than three scullers or crews finish a race the Grade Scores of the crews shall not be affected.

- (ix) Competitors who are eligible to compete in Under 16 events shall have a minimum grade score of 2.25.

- (x) Competitors shall not be eligible to compete in Grade events if:

- (a) They have been a member of a National Senior A or National Under 23 team in the current or previous season, or
- (b) They have been a member of their state Senior team in the current or previous season, or
- (c) They are nominating for National selection in Senior A or Under 23 teams in the year of competition.

- (xi) Except for competitors who are current Australian representatives in Senior A competition or were representatives in the preceding season, competitors who are over 43 years of age shall have a minimum grade score of 2.25.

(B) Age/Open Categories:

Competitors shall be eligible to compete in the following age categories:

- (i) UNDER 16

A competitor ceases to be Under 16 on 31st December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of 15 years.

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- (ii) **UNDER 17**
A competitor ceases to be Under 17 on 31st December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of 16 years.
 - (iii) **UNDER 19**
A competitor ceases to be Under 19 on 31st December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of 18 years.
 - (iv) **UNDER 21 (Youth)**
A competitor ceases to be Under 21 on 31st December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of 20 years.
 - (v) **UNDER 23**
A competitor ceases to be Under 23 on 31st December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of 22 years.
 - (vi) **ELITE**
An Elite competitor is one who has won a State, National/Interstate or International Elite Championship event and/or is one who is participating in the RA recognised High Performance Program.
 - (vii) **OPEN**
Competition in Open Classification shall be open to all competitors. Any win in Open classification shall not affect a competitor's competition status.
 - (viii) **MASTERS**
A rower may compete as a Masters rower from the beginning of the year in which he/she reaches the age of 27.
 - (ix) **PARA**
An Para competitor is a rower with a disability who has been classified according to the criteria set down from time to time by (Rowing New South Wales, Rowing Australia or FISA), i.e., is:
 - a) able bodied with sensory impairment, intellectual impairment, head injury or similar, or
 - b) physically disabled being a paraplegic, amputee, Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida or similar.
 - (x) **NOVICE**
A novice competitor is one who has not competed in any previous season and who has not won any grade or age race in the current season. There shall be no Novice event at any Championship regatta.
- (3) **COXSWAINS**
- (a) Status rules shall not apply to coxswains except in Under 19, Under 21 and Under 23 Championship events.
 - (b) The Coxswain of a coxed crew shall be deemed to be a member of that crew.
 - (c) Coxswains may be weighed wearing racing uniform by a person duly authorised by the Organising Committee on tested scales not less than one hour and not more than twenty four hours before their first race at each regatta in which they are competing. Where two regattas are conducted at the same venue on consecutive days, a coxswain who has weighed in for the first regatta is not required to weigh in for the second regatta if at the first regatta he/she weighed in at the required weight.
 - (d) The minimum weight for a coxswain shall be:
 - (i) for all men's crew (other than Under 19,17,16, and Schoolboy crews) - 55kg.
 - (ii) for men's Under 19,17,16, and Schoolboy and women's crews (other than women's lightweight and women's Under 19,17,16, and Schoolgirl crews) and mixed crews - 50kg.
 - (iii) for women's lightweight and Under 19,17,16, and Schoolgirl crews - 45kg.
 - (e) Coxswains who are under the above minimum weights shall carry sufficient metallic weight in the boat as close possible to the coxswain's person to make up the specified weight; no article of racing equipment or clothing other than their racing uniform [Law 6(c)], shall be considered as part of this dead weight.
 - (f) Coxswains may be of either gender
 - (g) Coxswains of Para crews may be able bodied.

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(4) SCHOOL COMPETITORS

- a) A school competitor is one who is a bona fide school student of a registered school and who is under 19 years of age throughout the current season. This definition also applies to the coxswain of a school crew.
- b) Grade rules shall apply to school competitors.
- c) Schoolgirl competitors shall be eligible to compete in the following categories:
 - i) Year 8:
A Year 8 competitor is one who is currently enrolled in Year 7 at the start of the season (Term 4) and will progress into Year 8 of the respective rowing season for the Head of the River (Term 1).
 - ii) Year 9:
A Year 9 competitor is one who is currently enrolled in Year 8 (or below) at the start of the season (Term 4) and will progress into Year 9 (or below) of the respective rowing season for the Head of the River (Term 1).
 - iii) Year 10
A Year 10 competitor is one who is currently enrolled in Year 9 (or below) at the start of the season (Term 4) and will progress into Year 10 (or below) of the respective rowing season for the Head of the River (Term 1).
 - iv) Open
An open competitor in School competitions is one who is currently enrolled in Year 9 or Year 10 or Year 11 at the start of the rowing season (Term 4) and will progress into year 10, year 11 or year 12 of the respective rowing season for head of the River (Term 1).
- d) Schoolgirls are required to enter their crews in consecutive top down Divisions e.g. Quad 1 entered in Division 1, Quad 2 entered in Division 2 etc
- e) Schoolgirls may lodge a seeding request. Seeding requests are made directly to RNSW using the appropriate form for consideration PRIOR to the close of entries.
- f) Schoolgirl competitors may race in more than one event in a regatta, except that they may only compete in one division of each boat class in each year group. All eligibility for each category must be adhered to.
- g) Schoolgirl coxswains shall carry a maximum of 15kg dead weight in a boat to meet the minimum weight requirement as per rule 8 section 3d.
- h) Schoolgirl coxswains may cox in as many races as they wish as long as they do not cox "down" a crew.

(5) MASTERS

- (a) Masters rower shall be placed in the age category corresponding to the age he or she attains during the current calendar year.
 - Age Categories
 - A Minimum age of 27 years
 - B 36 years or more
 - C 43 years or more
 - D 50 years or more
 - E 55 years or more
 - F 60 years or more
 - G 65 years or more
 - H 70 years or more

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- I 75 years or more
- J 80 years or more
- K 85 years or more

The age of the crew (excluding any coxswain) for the purpose of determining eligibility of such category shall be calculated by dividing the total number of years of age of the crew by the number of members of the crew.

- (b) Every Masters rower must be in possession of an approved document, if formally called upon to provide proof of age.
- (c) An online entry and late entry form for a Masters event shall clearly state:
 - (i) the event number and code entered
 - (ii) the age category of the event
 - (iii) the age in the current year of each competitor (excluding the coxswain) & the average age of the crew.
 - (iv) where women competitors enter for mixed races (mark 'W').
- (d) Should the age/category information detailed in (D) above not be indicated on the entry form then the crew or sculler will be deemed to have entered in category A.
- (e) Mixed crew events may be held for Masters crews in which half of the crew excluding the coxswain, shall be women and half shall be men. The coxswain may be of either gender.
- (f) The Board may approve other categories of competition and conditions of entry for Masters regattas that will be notified to competitors when the regatta organising committee is requesting entries.
- (g) The Board may order Masters events to be conducted as combined category events or as handicapped events and may determine such method(s) of handicapping between the various age categories as it sees fit from time to time.
- (h) Notwithstanding provisions of Law 13(f) the following handicaps shall apply for male, female and combined events:

M8+

A	97	65	44	31	23	17	12	7	4	1	0
B	96	64	43	30	22	16	11	6	3	0	
C	93	61	40	27	19	13	8	3	0		
D	90	58	37	24	16	10	5	0			
E	85	53	32	19	11	5	0				
F	80	48	27	14	6	0					
G	74	42	21	8	0						
H	66	34	13	0							
I	53	21	0								
J	32	0									
K	0										

W8+

A	163	91	56	38	27	19	13	8	4	1	0
B	162	90	55	37	26	18	12	7	3	0	
C	159	87	52	34	23	15	9	4	0		
D	155	83	48	30	19	11	5	0			
E	150	78	43	25	14	6	0				
F	144	72	37	19	8	0					
G	136	64	29	11	0						
H	125	53	18	0							
I	107	35	0								
J	72	0									
K	0										

M4x

A	100	67	45	32	24	18	12	8	4	1	0
B	99	66	44	31	23	17	11	7	3	0	
C	96	63	41	28	20	14	8	4	0		
D	92	59	37	24	16	10	4	0			
E	88	55	33	20	12	6	0				
F	82	49	27	14	6	0					
G	76	43	21	8	0						
H	68	35	13	0							
I	55	22	0								
J	33	0									
K	0										

W4x

A	168	94	58	39	28	20	14	9	4	1	0
B	167	93	57	38	27	19	13	8	3	0	
C	164	90	54	35	24	16	10	5	0		
D	159	85	49	30	19	11	5	0			
E	154	80	44	25	14	6	0				
F	148	74	38	19	8	0					
G	140	66	30	11	0						
H	129	55	19	0							
I	110	36	0								
J	74	0									
K	0										

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M4-

A	103	69	47	33	25	18	13	8	4	1	0
B	102	68	46	32	24	17	12	7	3	0	
C	99	65	43	29	21	14	9	4	0		
D	95	61	39	25	17	10	5	0			
E	90	56	34	20	12	5	0				
F	85	51	29	15	7	0					
G	78	44	22	8	0						
H	70	36	14	0							
I	56	22	0								
J	34	0									
K	0										

W4-

A	173	97	59	40	29	21	14	9	4	1	0
B	172	96	58	39	28	20	13	8	3	0	
C	169	93	55	36	25	17	10	5	0		
D	164	88	50	31	20	12	5	0			
E	159	83	45	26	15	7	0				
F	152	76	38	19	8	0					
G	144	68	30	11	0						
H	133	57	19	0							
I	114	38	0								
J	76	0									
K	0										

M4+, M2x

A	107	71	48	35	26	19	13	8	4	1	0
B	106	70	47	34	25	18	12	7	3	0	
C	103	67	44	31	22	15	9	4	0		
D	99	63	40	27	18	11	5	0			
E	94	58	35	22	13	6	0				
F	88	52	29	16	7	0					
G	81	45	22	9	0						
H	72	36	13	0							
I	59	23	0								
J	36	0									
K	0										

W4+, W2x

A	180	100	62	42	30	21	15	9	5	1	0
B	179	99	61	41	29	20	14	8	4	0	
C	175	95	57	37	25	16	10	4	0		
D	171	91	53	33	21	12	6	0			
E	165	85	47	27	15	6	0				
F	159	79	41	21	9	0					
G	150	70	32	12	0						
H	138	58	20	0							
I	118	38	0								
J	80	0									
K	0										

M2-

A	113	76	51	37	27	20	14	9	4	1	0
B	112	75	50	36	26	19	13	8	3	0	
C	109	72	47	33	23	16	10	5	0		
D	104	67	42	28	18	11	5	0			
E	99	62	37	23	13	6	0				
F	93	56	31	17	7	0					
G	86	49	24	10	0						
H	76	39	14	0							
I	62	25	0								
J	37	0									
K	0										

W2-

A	191	106	65	44	31	23	16	10	5	1	0
B	190	105	64	43	30	22	15	9	4	0	
C	186	101	60	39	26	18	11	5	0		
D	181	96	55	34	21	13	6	0			
E	175	90	49	28	15	7	0				
F	168	83	42	21	8	0					
G	160	75	34	13	0						
H	147	62	21	0							
I	126	41	0								
J	85	0									
K	0										

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M1x

A	115	77	52	37	28	20	14	9	4	1	0
B	114	76	51	36	27	19	13	8	3	0	
C	111	73	48	33	24	16	10	5	0		
D	106	68	43	28	19	11	5	0			
E	101	63	38	23	14	6	0				
F	95	57	32	17	8	0					
G	87	49	24	9	0						
H	78	40	15	0							
I	63	25	0								
J	38	0									
K	0										

W1x

A	194	108	66	45	32	23	16	10	5	1	0
B	193	107	65	44	31	22	15	9	4	0	
C	189	103	61	40	27	18	11	5	0		
D	184	98	56	35	22	13	6	0			
E	178	92	50	29	16	7	0				
F	171	85	43	22	9	0					
G	162	76	34	13	0						
H	149	63	21	0							
I	128	42	0								
J	86	0									
K	0										

Mix 8+

A	130	78	50	35	25	18	13	8	4	1	0
B	129	77	49	34	24	17	12	7	3	0	
C	126	74	46	31	21	14	9	4	0		
D	123	71	43	27	18	11	5	0			
E	118	66	38	22	13	6	0				
F	112	60	32	17	7	0					
G	105	53	25	10	0						
H	96	44	16	0							
I	80	28	0								
J	52	0									
K	0										

Mix 4-

A	138	83	53	37	27	20	14	9	4	1	0
B	137	82	52	36	26	19	13	8	3	0	
C	134	79	49	33	23	16	10	5	0		
D	130	75	45	28	19	11	5	0			
E	125	70	40	23	14	6	0				
F	119	64	34	17	8	0					
G	111	56	26	10	0						
H	102	47	17	0							
I	85	30	0								
J	55	0									
K	0										

Mix 4x

A	134	81	52	36	26	19	13	9	4	1	0
B	133	80	51	35	25	18	12	8	3	0	
C	130	77	48	32	22	15	9	5	0		
D	126	72	43	27	18	11	5	0			
E	121	68	39	23	13	6	0				
F	115	62	33	17	7	0					
G	108	55	26	10	0						
H	99	45	16	0							
I	83	29	0								
J	54	0									
K	0										

Mix4+, Mix 2x

A	144	86	55	39	28	20	14	9	5	1	0
B	143	85	54	38	27	19	13	8	4	0	
C	139	81	51	34	24	16	10	4	0		
D	135	77	47	30	20	12	6	0			
E	130	72	41	25	14	6	0				
F	124	66	35	19	8	0					
G	116	58	27	11	0						
H	105	47	17	0							
I	89	31	0								
J	58	0									
K	0										

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(6) COMPOSITE CREWS

- (a) Crews comprising representatives of more than one Club MAY race in:
 - a. Age events (except Under 16 and Under 17 Events)
 - b. State Championships except
 - i. Sprint Championship Events
 - ii. Championship Men's Eight
 - iii. Championship Men's Coxed Four
 - iv. Championship Men's Lightweight Quad Scull
 - v. Championship Women's Eight
 - vi. Championship Women's Quad ScullCrews representing regional rowing associations may be entered in Championship events only.
- (b) Notwithstanding Law of Boat Racing 9(b) clubs and schools which are affiliated with either the Central Districts Rowing Association or the Northern Rivers Rowing Association may enter into championship events as composite crews representing their respective Associations.
- (c) School crews must comprise members who are students of one secondary school or one Club.
- (d) Any Club whose member(s) are entered in a composite crew may object to its member(s) so competing. Such objection must be lodged with the rostered Referee and the Clubs concerned by no later than one day prior to the regatta. The Referee may withdraw the crew from the race and include such course of action in the Referee's report.

(7) REGISTRATION OF A COMPETITOR'S STATUS

- (a) Every new competing member, at the time of lodging their application to join the Association shall complete Schedule 8 "Status Registration Form".
- (b) For the purposes of this Law, the Club or School for which such a competitor competes shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with this Law by each competitor.
- (c) The Recorder of this Association shall maintain status records in accordance with this Law and shall, by means of applicable entries, maintain a record of the status of each competitor in accordance with these Laws and shall provide information from such records as requested.

(8) TRANSFERS

- (a) When a registered member (current or past) who has competed for a constituent member Club or a club associated with an affiliated Rowing Association (excluding a School) in a race held under the auspices of this Association wishes to compete for another such Club, he shall make application to this Association in the form of Schedule 11 to the Rules for permission to so compete.
- (b) All such applications shall be referred to the Chief Executive Officer, who shall approve the same provided that a person may not lodge more than one such application in any one fiscal year and further provided that such person be not financially indebted to the Club from which he/she is applying to transfer.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Law 8 (8)(b) a person who is a registered member or who was last registered with a different State Association shall apply for a transfer from that Association in accordance with the requirements as set out in the Rules of Rowing Australia Inc. in particular Rule 6.2 "Transfer Between Interstate Clubs". Such application shall be made to that prior State Association in the form of this Association's Form 8 for permission to compete.
- (d) All applications must be accompanied by the appropriate transfer fee.

9. REGATTA ENTRIES

- (a) Only clubs and schools that are Constituent Members, or members of Clubs and Schools that are Constituent Members, may compete in events governed by the Rules and the Laws of Boat Racing where approval of this Association for the holding of those events has first been obtained;
- (b) Only current Competing Members shall be allowed to enter into approved regattas in events referred to in Law 9(a). The penalty for any person who is in breach of this Law shall be disqualification of the crew in which the person competes or that person, if a single sculler, and the imposition of a fine of thirty dollars (\$30) in addition to the registration fee;

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- (c) No events will be approved by this Association for any regatta or other competition unless the entries in all races held at those regattas or competitions are restricted to members of a club or school that is affiliated. In the case of entries by crews and scullers from interstate and overseas, permission must be first obtained from the Chief Executive Officer and the details of the entry lodged on the entry forms prescribed in Schedules 9 (a), (b) and (c) in accordance with Law 9 of the Laws of Boat Racing.
- (d) Entries from affiliated clubs and schools for all events in regattas under the control of this Association shall be lodged over the internet using the "online" entry system;
- (e) Notwithstanding Law 9 (a) the Board may determine by resolution in what events entries may be accepted from persons other than registered members and the fee payable by each person so entered.
- (f) Entries from Constituent Members may only be lodged by authorised officers of clubs and schools who will be annually allocated website access passwords. Entries will close at 5.00pm on the date published on the NSWRA Rowing Calendar.
- (g) Where there are two or more entries by a club or school in an event then for the purpose of seeding the draw, the No 1 crew or sculler will be deemed to have a higher ranking than the No. 2 crew or sculler and so forth in ascending numerical order.
- (h) For all races conducted under the auspices of this Association the crew as lodged on such entry shall report to the Starter except as provided for in Law 10.
- (i) Every entry must be accompanied by the prescribed entrance fee. Clubs and schools are required to annually register a credit card to effect automatic payment of "online" entries. The Board may also require a deposit to be lodged in the case of Championship events, which shall be refunded subject to Law 9 (l), within fourteen days after the regatta.
- (j) The Board may refuse any entry without being called upon to give reason for so doing.
- (k) If a crew desires to withdraw from a race notice thereof shall be given in accordance with Schedule 14 of the Rules by a representative of the Club concerned, not later than sixty (60) minutes before the advertised starting time of such race, to the Referee who shall enter such withdrawal in the Withdrawal Register..
- (l) In the event of a crew's removal or disqualification or withdrawal from a race the entrance fee will not be returned and in the case of a Championship event if a deposit shall be prescribed therefore, such deposit shall be forfeited at the discretion of the Board if a crew or sculler fails to start in such event without a good and sufficient reason therefore.
- (m) If less than three crews enter for a particular event [subject to the provisions of Law 2(iii)] then the entry fees shall be refunded and the event not rowed. In the case of combined events, such an event will be deemed to require two crews or scullers in each grade of the event.
- (n) Any false declaration concerning name or status of a competitor will result in the exclusion of the crew concerned from the race for which it was entered.
- (o) The Association may accept a late entry or late entries for events approved as accepting late entries up until 2.00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the advertised date of the regatta provided:
 - (i) there is a lane available to accommodate that crew/sculler in the event.
 - (ii) the entry must be accompanied by the applicable entry fee plus a late fee of ten dollars (\$10) per rower with a minimum late fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00).
 - (iii) that where there is more than one late entry then they be accepted and allowed to race in the first available lane.
- (p) No crew or sculler will be permitted to row "by invitation."

10. SUBSTITUTES IN CREWS

- (a) Any crew has the right to replace up to 50% of its number and the coxswain. No substitute shall be allowed in a single sculling race.
- (b) When a crew desires to make a substitution a representative of the club shall inform the Referee in writing in, accordance with Schedule 15 to the Rules, thirty (30) minutes prior to the commencement of the race and obtain permission to do so.
- (c) Except in the case of substitute coxswains or a Masters crew, a substitute must be a member of the same club as the crew member for whom such competitor is substituting.
- (d) In the case of a composite crew, a substitute must be a member of one of the Clubs comprising the crew as entered (except in a Masters crew).
- (e) In the case of a substitute in a crew in a grade race under Law 9 (2) the crew must still be eligible to race in the grade in which it was entered

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- (f) A substitution form submitted for a Masters crew must indicate the revised age category of the crew and contain the ages of all crew members. Non compliance will result in the crew being placed in Category A as per Law 8 (5)(e).
- (g) A substitution form submitted for a Grade crew must indicate the revised Grade Score of the crew and contain the Grade Scores of all crew members.

11. LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF STARTERS

The number of starters in races for:

- (a) Each category of boat shall be ratified by the Board having regard for the recommendations by the Boat Race Official Examiners Panel for each course from time to time;
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Law 11 (a) the maximum number of crews of scullers that may start in any heat, final or division is nine (9).

12. DIVISIONS, HEATS AND CONSOLIDATION OF RACES

- (a)
 - (i) All events shall be rowed in divisions except Elite, Under 23, Schoolboy, Schoolgirl Medals and Championship events which shall be rowed in heats and finals.
 - (ii) The Board shall have the power to order divisions or races in all Grade Categories to be seeded.
 - (iii) When more than one crew is entered by a club in a race the draw for positions at the start shall be so arranged as to ensure that all crews from such club are not drawn in the same heat.
 - (iv) Where heats are programmed all crews shall be at the start five (5) minutes before the advertised starting time of the first heat.
 - (v) Where events are rowed in divisions and in all finals all crews shall be at the start five (5) minutes before the advertised starting time of the first division or the final.
 - (vi) Should the number of crews arriving at the start for divisions or heats of an event be within the number of starters permitted on the course under Law 11 the race may be started as a final at the time set down for the divisions or heats thereof unless the Referee shall otherwise determine or the race is a State Championship event.
 - (vii) The Starter may warn any crew arriving at the start less than five minutes before the advertised starting time. A warning has the same effect as one given for a false start. The Starter may exclude a crew that arrives after the advertised starting time. The Starter must inform the Referee of any warning or exclusion.
- (b) When a race is rowed in heats the number of crews eligible to start in the final shall not exceed the number of starters as provided in Law 11 except in the case of State Championship and Medals events when the finals shall be rowed at the advertised starting time of the final provided however that the Referee is empowered to increase the number of starters in the final by one should he deem it expedient so to do.
- (c) In the event of a dead-heat involving a crew or crews which would otherwise but for such dead-heat have proceeded to the final, all such dead-heating crews shall proceed to the final irrespective of the course limit unless the Referee shall otherwise direct.
- (d) The rowing members of a crew competing in a final must be the same as those who competed in the heat. The coxswain competing in the final must be the same as the coxswain competing in the heat.
- (e) Notwithstanding the limit to the number of starters in a race, where a race is rowed in heats the number of crews proceeding to the final from any one heat shall always be at least one less than the number of crews actually starting in that heat.

13. POSITIONS AT THE START

- (a) The draw for positions at the start, other than in handicap events, shall be drawn using the "Regattas" administration software as soon as possible after the closing of entries. The order of events shall be as previously decided by the Association at the June General Meeting.
- (b) For all races sanctioned by the Association a representative from each competing club shall be entitled to be present at the draw for positions, having given a minimum of 24 hours notice of that intention.

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- (c) No. 1 position shall be on the left-hand side looking from the starting line to the finish followed by the succeeding positions in numerical order as drawn.
- (d) The Referee for the day shall be responsible to draw the stations for the finals of races rowed in heats, and may only make public the draw for any such final after the last of the heats for that particular race has been rowed. The Referee shall endeavour to draw the best performing crews in the heats in the centre lanes for the final of that particular race.
- (e) When a race drawn in heats is started as a final under Law 12(a) the starting positions of the crews shall be the crew originally drawn No.1 in the first heat in the No.1 position; the crew drawn No.1 in the second heat in No.2 position and so forth.
- (f) In the case of a handicap race, the crew starting from scratch shall start from the position closest to the Starter's or Aligner's position and all other crews in sequence to the limit crew which shall start from the position furthest from the Starter's or Aligner's position. If two or more crews are allotted the same handicap their relative positions will be drawn by the Referee.
- (g) No crew may start in a position or heat other than that in which it was drawn except as herein provided or as the Chief Executive Officer or the Referee shall in exceptional circumstances so determine.

14. THE COURSE

- (a) Subject to Law 14(b) courses used for the conduct of pointscore regattas must fulfil the following requirements:
 - (i) Length
Unless the Board shall otherwise determine, two thousand metres in a straight line shall be the distance for all races except D Grade, Masters, Under 16, and School Girl Year 9 & Year 10 which will be contested over 1000 metres.
 - (ii) Width
Must allow for the alignment of not less than three crews; the width of the course for each crew must be fifteen metres; there must be a free space of at least five metres between the outer boundary of the course and the bank or any fixed installation.
 - (iii) Start
The start must be clearly defined by buoys topped by a flag or by posts on either side of the course where the course covers the whole of the waterway upon which the races are rowed. Where possible there will be a fixed installation for starts. The Starter shall be placed on an elevated platform behind the starting line and in the centre of the course and the Starter must have at his disposal a microphone connected with loudspeaker enabling all crews to hear his instructions simultaneously. In such circumstances an Aligner shall be placed on a fixed platform or boat on one side of the starting line for the purposes of aligning the bows of boats.
Where fixed installations for the start cannot be installed the Starter shall be placed on a fixed platform or boat at one side of the starting line.
 - (iv) Markers
Steering markers must, where possible, be installed behind the starting line to enable crews without coxswains to take bearings; such markers must be visible for the first five hundred (500) metres of the course.
 - (v) Course
If the race course does not cover the entire width of the stretch of water upon which the course is situated it must where possible be marked out on both sides by buoys of a supple material with a maximum distance of two hundred and fifty (250) metres between them; buoys of a different colour or dimension, posts or panels must be used to indicate the five hundred (500), one thousand (1000), and one thousand five hundred (1500) metre marks of the course.
 - (vi) Finish
The finishing line must be fixed and marked by buoys or posts as provided for the start. Beyond that line and at least fifty (50) metres away from it numbered or coloured panels shall where possible be placed on the centre line of each lane of the course and parallel to the finishing line. Each boat crossing the finishing line must be recognised by an audible signal where practicable. At Sydney International Regatta Centre the finish, where possible, will be recorded by video caption.

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(vii) **Layout**
The distance zero (0) shall be at the start. Every subsequent 250 metres shall be indicated (0, 250, 500, 750, 1000, 1250, 1500, 1750, finish) as well as the exact length of the course at the finish line. The length of the course, and all intermediate distances, must be marked by a qualified surveyor and a copy of the plan of the course must be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer.

- (b) A club that seeks to conduct a regatta to which these Laws apply, but on a course that does not fulfil the requirements of Law 14(a) in any respect shall apply in writing to the Commission for permission to conduct such regatta. The application shall specify the aspects by which the proposed course will not meet such requirements and the Board may approve any variations. All such applications shall be lodged at the Association Office or its Postal Address for the consideration of the Commission not later than 28th February each year.
- (c) A member of the Jury nominated by the Referee shall, at least one hour prior to the start of the first race of each regatta inspect the course and its installations to ensure that they conform to the requirements of Law 14(a). The Club or school conducting the regatta on the course that day shall have a speedboat available for the use of that member of the Jury.

15. COURSE WITH TURN INVOLVED

- (a) In races on courses where a turn must be navigated then on reaching the turn, the leading boats shall be entitled to turn first provided no inside boat is within one boat length or likely to be fouled by the boat so turning.
- (b) A boat which, after turning, notwithstanding Law 26, has taken the water of another boat, must not alter its course to prevent any boat passing on its then proper side.

16. COMMUNICATIONS

The Club or Organisation conducting an official N.S.W.R.A. regatta is required to provide in accordance with accepted standards a dedicated two-way radio communications system between the Referee at the control point and the Start, Umpires, the Finish, and the Announcer. The system must be available for use one half-hour before the start of the regatta until its finish.

A public address system must be present to provide clear communication to spectators and competitors within the precinct of the finish.

17. POSTPONEMENT AND CANCELLATION OF REGATTAS

- (a) For regattas conducted under the auspices of the Association the Jury shall be responsible for the fairness of the course and competition conditions on and during the day(s) programmed for the conduct of such regattas.
- (b) The Jury shall decide if unequal conditions in the different lanes justify the postponement of a race or else make it impossible to conduct a regatta on the programme date(s).
- (c) The Jury shall decide if any unforeseen circumstance that may arise justifies the postponement of a race or else make it impossible to conduct a regatta on the programmed date(s).
- (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Law, those regattas organised and conducted by the Association, or such regattas delegated to its affiliated regional Associations, the organising committee shall be responsible for such fairness and competition conditions and shall appoint an Executive Sub-Committee that will include the Organising Committee Chairman, Competition Commission Chairman, Regatta Co-ordinator and the Referee.
- (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of (a) and (c) of this Law, should any unforeseen circumstances occur prior to the programmed date(s) of a regatta, which will render the conduct of that regatta at the venue or on the date(s) programmed, the host club in consultation with the Competition Commission provide the Board with a recommendation which may provide for the cancellation or conduct of the regatta at, an alternate venue.
- (f) In the case of the cancellation for any reason then all entry fees shall be forfeited unless otherwise determined by the Board.

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18. ALTERATION OF COURSE OR TIME OF RACE

Notwithstanding the provisions of Law 17 (d) the Jury for the regatta and a representative of the Club or Association conducting the regatta, acting conjointly, may alter the course of a race, or the starting time of same, or may postpone a race to another day, or if they determine that any race or races at a regatta by reason of the weather conditions are unrowable, may cancel a regatta in whole or in part. In such case the entry fees for such cancelled race or races shall not be refunded.

19. DUTIES OF THE REFEREE AND JURY

- (a) At regattas conducted under these Laws a Referee shall be appointed from the panel of licensed Boat Race Officials. The Referee shall be responsible for making decisions on any unforeseen matters arising during the conduct of the Regatta, and may confer with other members of the Jury of the day on anything he deems contentious.
He shall maintain the Withdrawal Register for the regatta.
The decisions of the Referee shall be conveyed to the Jury for discussion at the Jury meeting.
The Referee of the day will be stationed at the communication control point at regatta headquarters and is in charge of the officials of the day. He will re-allocate duties if necessary.
The Referee must receive reports from all officials of the day and forward a master regatta programme to the Association's Office or Postal Address within seven (7) days of the regatta which records the time each race commenced, crews withdrawn, crews failed to start, any substitutes, judges' results, and times.
Any Boat Race Official unable to be present to officiate at the Regatta shall contact the Referee in order to arrange a replacement.
- (b) A Jury is compulsory for all Association regattas; its members must be in possession of a valid NSWRA Boat Race Officials Licence.
- (c) The Jury holds office during the whole regatta.
- (d) The Jury responsible for the implementation of these Laws is comprised of the Referee, Umpires, Starters, Aligner's, Judges, Weight Stewards, and Timekeepers who officiate at the regatta.
- (e) Races shall be under the control of Starters, Aligners, Umpires, Timekeepers, Weight Stewards, and Judges appointed by the Board, all of whom shall be chosen from the list of licensed Boat Race Officials and such other persons as the Referee may appoint for the regatta.
- (f) The Umpire officiating in any race assumes the direction of the other members of the Jury for that race other than the Referee and can direct the Starter.
- (g) The Jury will meet immediately after the regatta to make its report on the races and any disputes which may have arisen. Any decision arising must be announced within two (2) hours of the last race of the day.

20. DUTIES OF THE STARTER & ALIGNER

- (a) The Starter shall have charge of crews from a time five minutes before the time appointed for starting such race until he has duly started that race. The Umpire shall, if requested by the Starter, act conjointly with him to assemble the crews and move the crews onto the starting line and away.
- (b) The Starter gives the signal to start and is responsible for its precision.
If an Aligner is appointed he shall proceed as quickly as possible to align the bows of the boats and when he considers them correctly aligned he shall raise a white flag to inform the Starter.
Should the Aligner deem the start to be faulty he shall inform the Starter and the Umpire by horn or other prearranged signal and indicating to the Starter the name of the crew at fault. The Starter shall stop the race.
- (c) A crew not complying with the Starter's instructions, or not reporting to the Starter as prescribed in these Laws, may be removed from the race or may be warned. Having reported to the Starter, any crew causing any delay or interference with the start may be warned. A warning shall have the same effect as if such crew made or caused a false start in that race.
- (d) If the Starter considers the start unsatisfactory he may within twenty seconds thereafter recall the crews to their starting positions and a crew refusing to start again shall take no further part in the race. The signal recalling the crews shall be by horn or other prearranged signal. A crew that makes or causes two false starts shall be disqualified from competing in the event for which it is entered.

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- (e) The signal to start shall, as far as possible, be by horn and the Starter shall tell the crews his method of starting which shall be in the following manner, viz by saying "attention" and then giving the signal to start.
- (f) All races shall be started as far as is practicable at the advertised starting time unless the Referee shall determine that a crew or crews may be disadvantaged by adhering to the advertised starting time of a race or races in which case he shall cause the new starting time thereof to be announced publicly at the regatta.
- (g) The start area is a quiet zone and the Starter shall award a yellow card (false start) to the crew/s of any coach or supporter who is:
 - (i) in the precinct of the start, and/or
 - (ii) causing noise or interference.Should the party concerned remain within the precinct after the awarding of the yellow card then the crew/s concerned may be removed from the race at the discretion of the Starter.

21. DUTIES OF THE UMPIRE

The jurisdiction of an Umpire shall extend over the race and all matters connected with it from the time the crews are under the control of the Starter until he has checked the coxswain's weights at the finish. For a fully buoyed course, the jurisdiction of Umpires may comprise the whole, or a section of a race; all matters (as outlined below) connected with that section shall be the responsibility of each successive Umpire. An Umpire:

- (a) Shall be the sole judge of a boat's true course during every part of the race.
- (b) May pass a crew that he considers to be out of the race.
- (c) Must require a crew which is about to foul or has fouled another crew to take remedial action before he may invoke one of the disciplinary sanctions provided in Law 21(f).
- (d) May in the case of a foul:
 - (i) Continue the race, accept the order of arrival at the finish and award the trophies in consequence, except to the crew which has caused the foul and to whom one of the disciplinary sanctions provided in Law 21(f) may be applied;
 - (ii) Stop the race and send the qualifying crews back to the original starting line to be restarted.

If a crew is placed at a disadvantage, the Umpire's first priority is to restore its chances of winning. The imposition of any appropriate penalties takes second place. Should a crew's chance of winning be lost, the Umpire must take the most appropriate of the courses of action provided by these Laws. The Umpire may not simply penalise the crew at fault whilst the crew that has suffered interference does not have its chances of winning restored to it.
- (e) Shall signal to stop the race by waving a red flag or other prearranged signal.
- (f) In the exercise of his duties the Umpire may apply disciplinary sanctions to a crew or person that commits an offence against these Laws, refuses to obey instructions or does not show deference to a member of the Jury.

Such sanctions may include:

 - (i) A Yellow Card. Such Yellow Card shall have the same effect as if such crew made or caused a false start in the race in which such crew was about to compete.
 - (ii) Removal from the race.
 - (iii) Disqualification from the regatta. The crew or person concerned must be notified of such disqualification forthwith.
 - (iv) A recommendation to the Jury that a penalty be imposed.

Any disqualification going beyond the duration of the regatta must be decided by the Board after examination of the Jury's reports and consideration of any submissions on the question of the recommended penalty lodged by the crew or person proposed to be so disqualified. Such a decision must be communicated to all constituent members of the Association.
- (g) May reserve his decision, but in all cases must give the same within two hours of the finishing time of the last race, after consultation with the Jury. The Umpire must ensure that a representative of any crew or club, where any such reserved decision may result in a penalty or disqualification being imposed by the Jury, is invited to attend the meeting of Jury at which such a decision may be made.
- (h) May remove from the race any crew that he considers has been assisted over the course by direction, pacing, or otherwise.

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- (i) Shall not allow any person to accompany him on his launch unless such person has permission of the Referee to do so.
- (j) Shall control the race by the use of a white flag, first naming the crew, then holding the white flag in a vertical position and then pointing the flag in the direction to which the crew must move. In principle, the umpire may not steer a crew unless its safety is in jeopardy.
- (k) If in his opinion a crew is not making an effort to reach the finish line within a reasonable time, he shall inform the crew accordingly and unless satisfied thereafter may apply one of the disciplinary sanctions provided in Law 21 (f).
- (l) In the event of removal of a crew from the race and/or disqualification he shall display a white flag and name the crew to which the sanction is being applied.
- (m) Immediately after the finish of a race, if he considers it regular, announce it to the Judge at the finish by lifting the white flag in a vertical position (after having checked the weight, if any, assigned to coxswains).

22. DUTIES OF TIMEKEEPER

- (a) The Timekeeper shall be stationed in the Umpire's boat and it shall be his duty to take and record the time it takes the winning crew to row each race.
- (b) The Timekeeper shall advise the Umpire when the first thirty (30) seconds of a race have expired. However when the race is conducted on the Sydney International Regatta Centre or similar Albano course the timekeeper shall advise the Umpire when the first one hundred (100) metres of the race has been travelled.
- (c) Assistant Timekeepers may be stationed near the Judge for the purpose of recording the interval of time between each placed boat as it crosses the finishing line.
- (d) Alternative methods of recording times may be adopted with the approval of the Board.

23. DUTIES OF JUDGE

- (a) The Judge shall be stationed opposite to the winning post and on the water line, or an approved position, and all boats must pass between him and the finish.
- (b) The sounding of the Judge's horn or the falling of the Judge's flag shall indicate the finish of a race.
- (c) Subject to the application of any disciplinary sanctions provided in Law 21 (f), places shall be awarded according to the Judge's decision.
- (d) The Judge shall judge all crews that finish in each race and the margins between them.
- (e) Upon seeing the Umpire's flag raised in a vertical position immediately after the finish of a race the Judge shall similarly raise a white flag in a vertical position to indicate receipt of the message.

24. DUTIES OF THE WEIGHT STEWARD/S

The Weight Steward/s shall be responsible to the Referee for the conduct of the weigh-in of lightweight competitors and coxswains as prescribed. Such weight Stewards shall maintain at each regatta a register of those weigh-ins in accordance with Schedule 16; produce it to the Referee at the Jury meeting and report any discrepancies or breaches of the Rules relating to weights to him as they may occur.

25. HOW BOATS STARTED AND JUDGED

- (a) Crews shall be started (aligned) and judged by the bows of their boats.
- (b) Unless a crew finishes over the line of the finish and in front of the Judges it shall neither be judged nor be placed.

26. DEFINITION OF A BOAT'S TRUE COURSE

- (a) Each boat shall keep its own true course throughout the race.
- (b) A boat's true course is the shortest way to the finishing line, except as provided in Law 15(a), leaving room for all opposing crews' boats to come up level in the position in which they started at any point during the race.
- (c) Each crew is entitled to sufficient room on its true course in which to row without interference.

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27. DEFINITION OF A FOUL

It shall be considered a foul when, after a race is commenced, a crew, by way of an oar, the boat, or a crew member comes into contact with an oar, the boat or a crew member of another crew or else impedes that other crew by the wash of its boat or oars, unless in the opinion of the Umpire such contact or wash is so slight as not to influence the race.

28. DISQUALIFICATIONS

- (a) In addition to the disciplinary sanctions provided in Law 21(f), the Board if in receipt of a report by an officiating Boat Race Official may:
 - (i) disqualify for a term a crew, a member of a crew or club; and
 - (ii) disqualify for a term, a person who has aided or caused a crew or member of a crew to break any of these Laws.
- (b) A crew to whom one of the disciplinary sanctions provided in Law 21(f) has been applied shall stop rowing if ordered to do so by the Umpire.

29. BOATS ON THE COURSE

- (a) Only competing boats and regatta official's boats shall be allowed on the course during the conduct of the regatta.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Law 29 (a) no motor vessel other than those engaged in the control or conduct of the regatta or any vessel specifically authorised by the Referee shall be permitted on the course or the waters alongside the course during the regatta. The Referee, upon being satisfied that any motor vessel owned or operated by a member club or a club of an affiliated association or school organisation or any member thereof is in breach of this Law, shall disqualify all or any members of such club, association or school from the regatta.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Law 29 (a) no crew that is not actually racing shall be permitted on the course whilst any race is in progress. The Referee may disqualify all personnel in any crew in breach of this Law from one or more events in which such personnel have entered, or acting on the recommendation of the Umpire penalise the crew by way of a warning, if in the opinion of the Referee that crew interfered with the running of the race then in progress.

30. APPEALS AND PROTESTS

- (a) Any appeal or protest shall be made to a member of the Jury by the sculler and the stroke or coxswain of the crew before leaving the water, except in circumstances beyond their control, and must be submitted in writing immediately after the finish of the race by a representative of the Club or School concerned to a member of the Jury.
- (b) Decisions of the Referee, the Umpire, the Starter and the Judge or where no appeal or protest has been made as provided in Law 30(a) to a member of the Jury, are without appeal with respect to the material facts of the race. The Jury is entitled to make any decisions it deems necessary respecting any matter that is not included in the present Laws, but may refer any matter concerning the interpretation of these Laws or penalties to be imposed thereunder to the Board if it is deemed desirable to do so.
- (c) An appeal within eight days may be made only against decisions that are contrary to these Laws and will be judged without appeal by the Board.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Law, a protest on the status of a competitor must be made in writing setting out the specific grounds thereof and lodged at the Association's Office or Postal Address within seven days of the alleged breach of the Status Rule. The Chief Executive Officer will examine the protest with respect to the records of wins kept by the Association and present a report on the protest to the Competition Commission at its next meeting together with any comments from the Club of the competitor(s) alleged to have breached the Status Rule.
- (e) The jurisdiction of this Association to act as the arbiter in rowing and sculling matters in New South Wales shall be vested in the Board.

31. NOTIFICATION OF PLACED CREWS

At the conclusion of each race the order of crews at the finish, the time for the race, and the margins between each crew shall be publicly announced.

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32. DEAD HEAT IN FINAL

- (a) In the event of a dead-heat in a final any points which would have been allotted to such dead heating crews had such crews finished the race in consecutive places shall be added together and divided equally amongst the crews so dead-heating.
- (b) In the event of a dead-heat for first place, all crew members so dead-heating shall forfeit their status in accordance with the Law 8 (2).

33. REPORT BY REFEREE

The Referee at each regatta shall furnish to the Association within seven days of that regatta:

- (a) A report in writing of any untoward occurrence that may have transpired at the regatta and any infringement of Law 14(a).
- (b) A report in writing showing:
 - (i) the actual time each race was started;
 - (ii) the names of substitute competitors and the crews and races in which they started;
 - (iii) the name of each crew and the race where it did not report to him a substitute in that crew;
 - (iv) the names of each crew which did not start in the race for which it was entered and the race in which it did not start;
 - (v) the result of each race as determined by the Judge(s) including the time taken by the first crew to complete the course.

34. PENALTIES

- (a) The Chief Executive Officer may impose a penalty of not less than thirty dollars (\$30) and not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100) upon an affiliated or associated club, school, member or members of a crew found guilty by the Jury of infringement of the following Laws.
 - (i) Law 9 (b) (f): lodgement of entry.
 - (ii) Law 9 (n): false declaration in entry
 - (iii) Law 10 (c&d): substitute not member of same club
 - (iv) Law 29 (b): motor vessel on or in proximity of course.
 - (v) Law 29 (c): crew on course during racing.
 - (vi) Law 21 (f): refusing to obey instructions.
 - (vi) Law 7: compliance with equipment standards.
 - (viii) Law 8: violation of status rules.
 - (ix) Law 8 (8): failure to transfer.
- (b) The Jury or the Chief Executive Officer may impose a penalty of at least of ten dollars (\$10) upon an affiliated or associated club, school, member or members of a crew for an infringement of the following laws:
 - (i) Law 9 (k): by a failure to withdraw in time.
 - (ii) Law 10 (b): by a failure to notify substitute.
 - (iii) Law 6: by not using registered colours or lane numbers.
 - (iv) Law 8 (3)(c): by not weigh in coxswain immediately.
 - (v) Law 28 (b): by a failure to stop rowing when directed.

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35. ACCIDENTS

- (a) A crew must stand by its own accidents to its boat, oars and equipment during a race, but in the event of its boat, oars or equipment being broken or interfered with during the race by outside influences the Umpire may stop the race and send the crews back to the original starting line to be restarted, if in his opinion that crew's chance of winning has been lessened by such breakage or interference.
- (b) In the event of a breakage to a boat, its oars or equipment which is at the regatta venue and proceeding to the start of a race, other than a championship race, the Starter shall upon being notified, delay the start for not more than five minutes, and in the event of such a breakage occurring within the prescribed time or distance after the start of a race he shall allow not more than five minutes for repairs to be effected. In the case of a Championship race in either instance, the Starter shall allow up to thirty minutes for repairs to be effected.

36. DOPING AND GENDER VERIFICATION

- (a) Doping is strictly prohibited.
Doping consists of the use whether intentional or negligent of one or more prohibited therapeutic substances (appearing on the FISA's list of prohibited substances valid at the moment of taking of the sample), or of blood or blood products, and/or pharmacological, physical or chemical manipulation aimed at making these substances difficult to detect.
The presence of such a substance in the urine or in the blood of a rower or of a coxswain shall constitute a revocable presumption of voluntary use.
- (b) The Association may require dope and sex tests at any regatta, or other rowing competition. The Association may also order out of competition tests, particularly during the preparation period on any rower or coxswain.
- (c) A rower or coxswain who infringes these doping provisions, who refuses to submit to a test, or who commits any sort of manipulation or irregularity during a test, shall be disqualified in accordance with Law 21. The Board may also impose on such rower or coxswain a supplementary penalty, extending to, in a relevant case, a life ban from all competition.
Any crew with a rower or coxswain who has been declared to have been guilty of a doping offence at a particular regatta shall not in any circumstance be ranked at that regatta, and all the crews finishing after it shall gain a rank.
The Board may also impose such penalties against any person, club or school implicated in the doping of a rower or coxswain, or who does not cooperate in the conduct of anti doping test, including a test conducted outside competition.