



# ERUC – Annual seminar

## 31 March 2026

### Agenda:

- Welcome to new umpires and retirements and trainees.
- Update from ERRC & NUC
- Rules of Racing 2026
- Improving consistency across the region – ‘Umpiring Champions’
- The Start, When & How to Warn, Coordinating Umpire, Resolving Appeals
- Scenarios



## ERUC comings and goings:

- Welcome to new umpires
- Resignations, retirements
- Trainees and renewing your license

## ERRC updates:

- Some role shuffling and a full council
- Small bursary for trainee umpires in need agreed
- A repaired and rejuvenated website
- The Regional Reps and their role in BR elections
- Some new/old clubs



# 2026 Rules of Racing

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 we will continue with the 2025 RoR until further notice

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# A Reminder of the major changes last year

In 2025 there were a few major changes and other minor changes. These are the ones that most affect umpires on duty.

The main changes are:

- Standardisation of wording (Competitions/Events, Membership cards)
- Clarification when Summer and Winter weights apply for Lightweights
- Who provides Deadweights for coxes
- Keeping telemetry data within the boat during racing.
- Made it clear that rowers have to be physically in the boat to finish
- Removed the verdict of “*Not Rowed Out*”

# Standardisation

- The whole regatta/ head is called a **competition**
  - Worcester Head
  - Gloucester Junior & Masters Regatta
- The competition consists of **events**
  - Op 8s
  - W J18 4x-
- Events can be subdivided into **Bands** and **Groups**
  - Bands are separates crews by ability/ Crew Ranking Index
  - Groups are “horizontal” separation of groups of similar ability
- Membership cards can be digital or otherwise.

# Lightweight Weights

Definition changed to be type of competition/event rather than date related

- No competitor shall be allowed to compete in Lightweight **events** until they have reached the age of 18 years old.
- A competitor is a Lightweight if their weight does not exceed 72.5 kg (Open), 59 kg (Women) during the summer period (1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> September) and 75 kg (Open), 61.5 kg (Women) during the winter period (1<sup>st</sup> October – 31<sup>st</sup> March).
- **For a Head race (not a time trial in a regatta) held at any time of year the winter period weights for lightweights in Rule 2-2-1b will apply.**

## Coxes Deadweights (7-2-7f)

- Crews are responsible for providing their own dead-weight which shall consist of a single weight, or as few items as possible.
- The type of dead-weight carried and its weight should be noted when the cox weighs in. Containers of liquid, sand or similar material should only be allowed as dead-weight if the container is sealed and subsequently certified by Control Commission.

## The Start (Side-by-Side Racing) (7-3-1e)

- If all the competitors are in position and ready to race, and the Race Umpire and timing (where relevant) are ready, the Starter may start the race up to two minutes early (or earlier if agreed with the crews and **the Race Committee Chair** is advised accordingly, as provided at 7-3-4a).

## Outside assistance (7-5-9a)

- Any communication with a crew during a race, other than by means of an unaided voice, may be deemed outside assistance.
- *Outside assistance applies in the rule as stated however technology such as telemetry may be used so long as data **is not transmitted to, or received from outside the boat during the race***

## 7-6-1 The Finish – Completing the course

- a. A crew has completed the course when any part of its hull (usually the bow) crosses the finish line.
- b. A crew must complete the course with the same complement as that with which it started in order to be placed.
- c. The verdict will be **Did Not Finish**, if any crew member before the finish leaves the boat, and is unable to return into the boat before it crosses the finish line, or **receives physical assistance** to return to the boat (**including from safety personnel**).

**Not Rowed Out** is no longer a valid verdict. It is either covered by “**Unsporting Behaviour**” or “**DNF**”



# YOUR SCENARIOS

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