



Dates

Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th July 2024

Hosted By

Reading Canoe Club - nationals@reading-canoe.org.uk

Venue

Thames Promenade, Richfield Avenue, Caversham, Reading, RG1 8BD.

Entries & Fees

Entries to be made using the online entry system

<https://entries.gbcanoemarathon.co.uk/entries>

Entries will open on the 1st June 2024

Entries will close on the 5th July at 23:59

Late entries will be accepted online until 11th July at 23:59

£18.00 per seat for Adults

£12.00 per seat for Juniors

Late Entry fee £10

Payment for entries should be made online with race entry.

Amendments to confirmed entries will be permitted up until 2 hours prior to the race start.

Booking In

Team Leader Check in ONLY.

Number board packs can be collected Friday evening between 19:00 and 21:00 at Reading Canoe Club, or from Race Control on the event site from 07:30 Saturday.

Merchandise

Event merchandise is available for pre-order only. It can be collected from Race Control during the event. Pre-order your merchandise via the event website - <http://nationals.reading-canoe.org.uk>

National Championship Classes

Distance	Boat	Class
3.3 km	K1	Under 10 Men, Under 10 Women,
	K2	Under 10 Men, Under 10 Women
8 km	K1	Under 12 Men, Under 12 Women
		Under 14 Men, Under 14 Women
		Over 54 Men, Over 54 Women
		Over 59 Men, Over 59 Women
		Over 64 Men, Over 64 Women
		Over 69 Men, Over 69 Women
		Over 74 Men, Over 74 Women
		Para KL1, KL2 KL3
		Para VL1, VL2, VL3
	K2	Under 12 Men, Under 12 Women
		Under 14 Men, Under 14 Women
		Over 54 Men, Over 54 Women
		Over 64 Men, Over 64 Women
		Over 74 Men, Over 74 Women
	C1	Under 18
12.6 km	K1	Under 16 Men, Under 16 Women
		Over 34 Women, Over 39 Women
		Over 44 Men, Over 44 Women
		Over 49 Men, Over 49 Women
		Open B Men, Open B Women
	K2	Under 16 Men, Under 16 Women,
		Over 44 Men, Over 44 Women,
		Over 34 Women
		Open B Men, Open B Women
		Mixed
C1	Senior Men, Senior Women	
C2	Senior Men, Senior Women	
21 km	K1	Under 18 Men, Under 18 Women
		Over 34 Men, Over 39 Men
	K2	Under 18 Men, Under 18 Women
		Over 34 Men
25.2 km	K1	Senior Men, Senior Women
		Under 23 Men, Under 23 Women
	K2	Senior Men, Senior Women

All ages are calculated at 1st January 2024

The organisers reserve the right to combine starts or to split starts based on entry numbers. Where starts need to be split the organiser will seed paddlers based on Hasler divisions as detailed below.

Non Championship Classes

Non championship classes are intended for Geoff Sanders paddlers aged between U12 and U14 who are not ready for the main championship classes. These races are NON POINT SCORING.

Distance	Vehicle	Class
3.3 km	Mini K1	Introductory mini K1
	Mini K2	Introductory mini K2
		(Non championship events open to Geoff Sanders B and C paddlers ONLY).

New Race Classes

The MRC and the organisers are pleased to offer, on a trial basis, an Open B class for the paddlers who do not feel ready to race in the Senior classes. These races will be over the 12.6km course and be restricted to Division 4 and below for Men and Division 5 and below for Women.

Club points will be awarded, but there will be no national titles for these races.

Seeded and Combined Starts

Seeded Starts

The organisers reserve the right to seed starts where the number of entries to a class is larger than is suitable to reasonably fit on a single line. Where this is deemed necessary boats will be seeded based on Hasler Division.

The number of boats seeded will be determined based on the number and ability of the entries.

A list of classes where seedings are to be applied will be made available at the earliest possible point after entries have closed. Instructions for how these starts will work will also be issued. Late changes to crew boat may not result in re-seeding. This will be at the discretion of the organisers.

Combined Starts

Where races are sufficiently small to reasonably allow combining, the organisers may combine starts. A list of combined starts will be published at the earliest opportunity. Information on if combined starts will be treated as two sets of results or a single race will be issued with the list of combined starts.

Paddler Eligibility

Paddlers may compete in races specified for those of a higher ranking but will not be allowed to compete in races specified for those of a lower ranking. (E.g. an Under 18 may race as an Under 23 or Senior but not as an Under 16 or Over 34).

Senior and Veteran Women paddlers may compete in a doubles crew in Senior and Veteran Men kayak races of the same or higher ranking.

National Title Eligibility

An athlete must either be a British Citizen and a current member of Paddle UK; or have been both a resident in the United Kingdom and a member of Paddle UK for at least two years. Please look at page F13 of the Racing rules for clarification. [Racing Rules](#).

Affiliation

All paddlers must prove current comprehensive National Association membership or youth membership of an affiliated club.

All competitors must be valid members on race day.

Membership proof needs to be confirmed on the online entry system.

A competitor who has not raced before may buy an Event Ticket.

A competitor claiming to have a membership but unable to provide evidence may also purchase an Event Ticket.

Selection Races

Information on selection races can be found in the MRC selection documents [here](#).

Racing Rules

The Marathon Nationals is a GROUP A Divisional race and therefore all of Part A rules 1-18 and rules 42-48 in the [Racing Rules](#) apply.

Club Vests

Paddlers must race in their club vest to be eligible for points and trophies.

Promotions / Demotions

The Paddle UK Marathon Committee reserves the right under rules 32-33 to promote or demote based on the results at this event.

Boat Numbers

Team Leaders will be given a pack of pre-numbered vertical plates for each day. Paddlers must only use these number boards. Number boards must be returned after the race.

Buoyancy Aids

Buoyancy aids are compulsory for all Under 10 and Under 12 paddlers and those ranked in Division 7, 8 and 9, irrespective of the race they are entered in.

This applies in singles and doubles races. Team leaders should decide if other paddlers should wear a buoyancy aid according to prevailing conditions. Buoyancy aids must comply with either the European Standard 'EN393 or 395 or the International Standard 'ISO 12402'. RCC Race organisers may require life jackets or buoyancy aids and spray covers to be worn and will have the final say as to who should wear them (except where this is covered by rule 5a(v)) depending on weather and water conditions. Such equipment must be provided by the competitors. The penalty for infringing any safety rule is disqualification from the race.

Boat Checking

All boats must have sufficient buoyancy to remain afloat and to support the crew in rough water in the event of capsize. No boat will be deemed to be sufficiently buoyant purely as a result of its construction (e.g. vac bagged/sandwich or other construction) to fulfil this requirement, additional fixed buoyancy will be required in the form of foam, air bags and/or sealed bulkheads.

Once boats have been checked they must all remain in the pre-race holding/launching area. If you are taking part in the 'B' races, do not present your boat for checking before the 'A' races have started, 'C' races before 'B' race starts, and so on.

Once a boat has passed through boat checking it will be assumed that the paddler starts their race. If a paddler does not race it is their responsibility to notify Race Control.

Failure to go through Boat Control will result in disqualification from the race.

Disposable Drink Systems

All paddlers using disposable drinks systems are required to mark them with their boat number. Paddlers will not be allowed to proceed through boat control with un-numbered bags. Paddlers found with un-numbered bags at any time on the water will be asked to leave the course.

During the course of the competition, any items discarded by a competitor anywhere other than in a proper bin must be recovered by the athlete, or their bank support immediately. It is the athlete's responsibility to ensure that this has happened.

An event official witnessing non-compliance with this rule shall report the infringement to the race organiser and the offending competitor could be disqualified from the competition.

Any repeat infringements by the same competitor shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings by the Marathon Racing Committee.

Retirements

Please let Race Control know ASAP if you retire. Failure to do so will delay the results being processed.

General Safety

Competitors must be able to swim adequately in the waters on which the race is being held.

All paddlers are required to render assistance to other competitors in distress.

Photos, Media and Live Streaming

There will be photos taken throughout the event and Reading Canoe club along with the Marathon Racing Committee and Paddle UK will live stream parts of the event to their social media channels. By competing you are providing your consent to appear in photos, media and live streaming.

The Venue

Thames Promenade, Richfield Avenue, Caversham, Reading, RG1 8BD.

There will be NO PARKING on The Warren near Reading Canoe Club on the north side of the river other than for Team Leader check in on Friday evening. During the event, access to Reading Canoe Club will be via canoe ferry only.

Directions

Once in Reading, follow signs to Caversham. Richfield Avenue is accessed from the roundabout immediately south of Caversham Bridge, adjacent to the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The race site is accessed via the public car park next to the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Richfield Avenue.

Car Parking

Car parking is available within the marked areas on the Thames Promenade.

The car park will be open at the following times:

Friday - 19:00 to 22:00

Saturday - 07:00 to 22:00

Sunday - 07:00 to 17:30

The parking fee is £5 per day, payable on entry. Card payments only, please. If you require disabled parking please contact the organiser in advance to ensure that suitable space can be made available.

Gazebos

Clubs wishing to bring gazebos or other structures need to notify the race organiser. Clubs will be allocated a space to pitch these. Please see [Club Areas](#) on the event website for more information.

Camping

Camping is available on Friday and Saturday night (£5 per head, per night) within the marked area at the race site on Thames Promenade. Payment will be taken on entry, card payment only. It is officially open from 19:00 Friday. Earlier access by arrangement only.

Please note that vehicle access to the campsite will only be possible when the car park is open.

Breakfast baps and drinks will be available for purchase at the catering tent on Saturday and Sunday morning from 08:00.

Accommodation

Plenty of accommodation is available in the Reading area, some very close to the site. [Tripadvisor accommodation search](#).

A few options close by:

[Crowne Plaza](#)

[Premier Inn Richfield Avenue](#)

[Premier Inn Central Reading](#)

[Crown Lodge](#)

[The New Inn Kidmore End](#)

[easyHotel Reading](#)

Facilities

Toilets and stand-pipe water will be available on site. Disabled toilets will be available on site on the Promenade.

Dogs are allowed on site but please keep them under control, especially around the launch and disembarkment pontoons. Please ensure any fouling is cleared up.

Access

For parents/ guardians and coaches who wish to follow their paddlers the majority of the course can be followed by bicycle - [Cycling Directions can be found here](#).

Refreshments

Paddler refreshments will be issued free to all competitors.

Hot and cold refreshments will be available to purchase on the Thames Promenade site throughout the day.

Waitrose supermarket and Tesco Express in Caversham are less than 10 minutes' walk from the site.

Timetable

Friday 12 July

Reading Canoe Club, The Warren, Reading, RG4 7TH

19:00 Team Leader booking in opens at Reading Canoe Club

21:00 Booking in closes

Thames Promenade, Richfield Avenue, Reading, RG1 8EQ

19:00 Car park and campsite open

22:00 Car park and vehicle access to campsite closes

Saturday 13 July

Thames Promenade, Richfield Avenue, Reading, RG1 8EQ

07:00 Car park opens

07:30 Booking in opens at Race Control - Team Leaders only

08:30 A Race Briefing

09:00 A Starts

21 km:

- K1 - Over 34 Men
- K1 - Over 39 Men

12.6km:

- K1 - Over 44 Men
- K1 - Over 49 Men
- K1 - Open Mens B
- K1 - Over 34 Women
- K1 - Over 39 Women
- K1 - Over 44 Women
- K1 - Over 49 Women
- K1 - Open Womens B
- C1 - Senior Men
- C1 - Senior Women

3.3km:

- K1 - Under 10 Men
- K1 - Under 10 Women
- Mini K1 - Introductory Event

11:00 B Race Briefing

- 11:30 B Starts
8 km:
- K1 - Over 54 Men
 - K1 - Over 59 Men
 - K1 - Over 64 Men
 - K1 - Over 69 Men
 - K1 - Over 74 Men
 - C1 - Under 18
 - K1 - Over 54 Women
 - K1 - Over 59 Women
 - K1 - Over 64 Women
 - K1 - Over 69 Women
 - K1 - Over 74 Women
 - Para - KL1, KL2, KL3
 - Para - VL1, VL2, VL3
- 13:00 C Race Briefing
- 13:30 C starts – *These are assessment races and will be held under assessment rules. Wash hanging of boats in other classes will NOT be allowed.*
8 km:
- K1 - Under 14 Men
 - K1 - Under 14 Women
 - K1 - Under 12 Men
 - K1 - Under 12 Women
- 14:30 D Race Briefing
- 15:00 D starts: – *These are assessment races and will be held under assessment rules. Wash hanging of boats in other classes will NOT be allowed.*
25.2 km:
- K1 - Senior Men
 - K1 - Under 23 Men
 - K1 - Senior Women
 - K1 - Under 23 Women
- 21 km:
- K1 - Under 18 Men
 - K1 - Under 18 Women
- 13 km:
- K1 - Under 16 Men
 - K1 - Under 16 Women
- 18:00 Booking in closes
22:00 Car park and vehicle access to campsite closes

Sunday 14 July

Thames Promenade, Richfield Avenue, Reading, RG1 8EQ

- 07:00 Car park opens
- 07:30 Booking in opens at Race Control – Team leaders only

08:00 E Race Briefing

08:30 E Starts

21 km:

- K2 - Over 34 Men

12.6 km:

- K2 - Over 44 Men
- K2 - Open Mens B
- K2 - Over 34 Women
- K2 - Over 44 Women
- K2 - Open Womens B
- C2 - Senior Men
- C2 - Senior Women

3.3 km:

- Mini K2 Introductory Event
- K2 Under 10

10:15 F Race Briefing

10:45 F Starts

8 km:

- K2 - Over 54 Men
- K2 - Over 64 Men
- K2 - Over 69 Men
- K2 - Over 74 Men
- K2 - Over 54 Women
- K2 - Over 64 Women
- K2 - Over 69 Women
- K2 - Over 74 Women
- K2 - Under 14 Men
- K2 - Under 14 Women
- K2 - Under 12 Men
- K2 - Under 12 Women

12:00 G Race Briefing

12:30 G Starts

25.2 km:

- K2 - Senior Men
- K2 - Senior Women

21 km:

- K2 - Under 18 Men
- K2 - Under 18 Women

12.6km

- K2 - Under 16 Men
- K2 - Under 16 Women

15:00 H Race Briefing

15:30 H starts

12.6 km

- K2 Mixed

17:30 Site closes

COURSE MAPS





