**Changes to format you should be aware of for bumps this year**

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14. **Racedesk Layout**

Anyone who has been involved in a bumps regatta will probably be used to the way racedesk is normally set out. However, to avoid crowding at particular times, this year the layout will be somewhat different. Please do make sure you are aware of where you should report to for marshal and umpire briefings

**Marshals: Please meet at Univ Boathouse** to receive your position and kit, read and sign to confirm you have understood the briefing sheet, and ask any questions of the committee before starting your shift.

**Umpires: Please meet at the Top Gut (just downstream of longbridges)** to collect your kit and position.

**You should not have any other reason to need to interact in person with racedesk**, but in an emergency, the core team will be running out of Longbridges as usual.

1. **Bankriders**

**Bankriders do not need to sign in at race desk this year. You will instead sign in your marshals at the bunglines –** **please bring photographic ID** to show them before the race begins and be at the bungline before the 5 minute gun. The names will be reported to the committee, and as usual **all bankriders need to have had a bankrider briefing in the previous 18 months.**

1. **Briefings and prior notice of who will be marshalling**

All briefings (marshal, umpire, coxing, and bankrider) will be held online this year. The marshal, umpire and bankrider briefings are fully E-learning based, and must be completed before acting in the relevant role. The marshal and umpire briefings have quizzes that you must pass before acting in the role – there are unlimited attempts. **This must be done no earlier than 1/6/2021 to be valid for the current regatta.**

***This year’s coxing briefing will be held on Microsoft Teams from 7:45 on 2nd June 2021. Attendance is mandatory for anyone who is coxing or may be subbed in to cox Summer Torpids 2021.***

**Please complete the E-learning using your Oxford email address if you have one.** [**https://canvas.instructure.com/enroll/8DX7YA**](https://canvas.instructure.com/enroll/8DX7YA) **- when signing in again, you should google “Canvas free for teachers” – just googling canvas will not let you in!**

**Marshals will be required to let the committee know before 9pm the night before the shift in question their name and relevant experience.** This will allow the committee to assign positions in advance, so we can avoid groups of people being gathered to determine positions. The on the day briefing will be replaced by the same information to read individually, and there will be event committee on hand to answer any questions you have. You should not have to change who is coming to marshal after 9pm the night before the shift, but if there is a good reason, you should phone racedesk to let them know of this change, and aim to make the substitution to someone with similar or more relevant coxing/rowing experience.

1. **Coxing**

Coxing restrictions have been relaxed slightly with the TEMP rules passed at the end of Hilary term. **College coxes will be allowed to cox more than one boat if it is the safer course of action and is in compliance with the college’s substitution rules.**

**Use of associate coxes in fixed divisions may be granted at the discretion of the event committee.** Permission for this can be sought by emailing the Captain of Coxes and the OURCs Secretary at coxing@ourcs.co.uk and secretary@ourcs.co.uk respectively.

1. **Subs Rules**

**Subs Rules will stand as normal, except if you have agreed with your college a subs policy as part of your COVID risk assessment which contradicts this**. In this situation, your case must be made to the event committee, who will want to see evidence of this policy in order to make a decision on an extraordinary substitution.

1. **Contact free Umpire debriefing, Appeals launching and evidence gathering**

Umpire debriefing will be happening over the phone. Please bring a suitably charged phone with a working number with you to your shift. In the case of technical issues, the umpire debriefers will be stationed at Univ Boathouse, and will be able to carry out a socially distanced in-person debriefing.

* You should text your debriefer when you are ready to debrief, and a quick overview (e.g. **“Bungline 7, MDiv2, Queens rowed over, uncomplicated”)** – they will call you back to debrief
* **Umpires have the extra role of taking bankrider names and reporting them to the umpire debriefers this year. Please text this name to your umpire debriefer either before the race or with your results.**

Launching an appeal will happen over the phone. The appeals chief will ask you for some details and then give you an appeal number. Evidence should be submitted via google forms, and any photo or video evidence should be sent to racedesk@ourcs.co.uk. This will only be considered if you have filled in the google form and indicated on there that you have emailed this evidence to racedesk. Open appeals and any results will be shown online.

* **You should text the appeals number, including the following information:**
	+ **Name**
	+ **Club**
	+ **Crew**
	+ **Division**
	+ **Result appealed**
* **You will either be texted or called back to confirm receipt of this – if you do not get a response you should assume your text has not been received, and call or try again** – you may try the general racedesk number if you are repeatedly not getting appeals chief response.
1. **Site Security**

The towpath will have a security team stationed on it, who will report back to the event committee if the towpath is too crowded and ask large groups to disperse. In this event, racing will be stopped until the towpath traffic is safe for racing to continue.

Similarly, Christ Church will likely be introducing riverside and boathouse island restrictions.

1. **Associates**

The associate rules will apply as normal regardless of the additional crews being required to row on. Associate members are only allowed in crews which did not finish Torpids 2019 in fixed divisions, or if you have no crews fitting that description, in your lowest racing crew of that gender which must be outside Senior divisions. If your lowest crew is in Senior divisions you must have permission from a Captains’ meeting to use associate members in it, as usual.

1. **Rowing On**

**All crews lower than Division 3 should expect to row on.** Depending on the number of entries, there is a chance we will reduce the numbers rowing on. HOWEVER, all crews will be expected to demonstrate a certain level of competence in rowing on, and extra crews may be excluded if they do not meet this level**. Any normally fixed division crews who fail to row on will be treated as not entered – they will drop 6 places instead of losing their place altogether.**

Safe crews should be able to demonstrate:

* Rowing all 8 for the whole course
* Steering competently and obeying marshalling rules
* Not catching lots of crabs (one or two, well recovered is fine)
* Evidently trying to race (I.E. rowing at rate)

If your crew can demonstrate these competencies, they have a higher chance of rowing on than normal, given the larger number of rowing on crews, and very normal number of crews cut in rowing on - we have heard some crews were concerned about this, so hope this reassures them.

1. **Tannoy**

To avoid encouraging spectators, the tannoy will not be in use for bumps this year. We are considering use of a small number of speakers for safety announcements only. Results should be accessed online – they will be published by Anu on his website, circulated by OURCs, and put on the livestream. A top tip for accessing the internet on boathouse island is to move away from the boathouses or to stand on their roofs – the boathouses tend to block phone signal.

1. **Applying for reduced/no penalty withdrawals due to isolation or non-entries due to special situations.**

**The senior umpires will consider any requests for penalty free non-entry.** An example of a special situation in which the senior umpires would likely grant this request is if the club’s college has not let them train all term, and the club has been in contact with the OURCs sabbatical officer within the first couple of weeks of the term to try to resolve this issue, to no avail. An example of a situation in which the club would likely not be granted this request would be if they were not entering due to there being too many novices in their crew, or a lack of outings due to rower availability or captain organisation – this is not a situation unique to this year, and would as in a normal year result in the normal no entry penalty of 6 places.

Any requests for penalty free non-entry must be submitted before midday on 28/5/21. Any crew applying for this will not be allowed to enter their crew even if the senior umpires’ decision is not to grant this penalty free non-entry, and in this case the crew will have the normal 6 place penalty. All necessary evidence would have to be submitted at the time of the application. The SUs would look very unfavourably on any applications to withdraw a crew which is not the lowest of its gender.

 **Withdrawal due to self-isolation** - If a whole crew (or a large portion of one) is required to self-isolate by NHS Test & Trace or the University's contact tracers, it will be permitted to withdraw for one or more days without penalty and if it withdraws in the middle of the event, retain the place it has acquired at the point of withdrawal. Requests to withdraw on this basis should be submitted, with evidence, as soon as possible after receiving the self-isolation notification, via the racedesk email (racedesk@ourcs.co.uk). An individual rower being required or advised to self-isolate, without having themselves tested positive, should be treated as any other injury or illness and substitutions made normally.

1. **Livestreaming**

For the livestream, we will have the gaps between the divisions free to fill with footage. We are hoping to fill this with largely pre-recorded content.

We were thinking of including interviews with potential headship crews, captains, coaches and keen novices, to show the full range of people involved in bumps. We are open to any other ideas as well!

We would love for you to volunteer to do this, and we will also be approaching some people to ask. You can either send me (secretary@ourcs.co.uk) a self-filmed piece of 5-10 minutes, or get in contact if you need technical support.

Feel free to send me any other questions you have about this, or any ideas you have and want to run past us!

1. **Phone numbers and internet links to have saved.**
* Racedesk 1 – 07917643030
* Racedesk 2 - 07341500865
* Appeals Chief - 07425201325
* Even number Umpire debriefer – 07827696690
* Odd number umpire debriefer - 07787230870
* Online results
	+ OURCs – to be emailed out and posted on the website after the close of entries
	+ Anu - <http://eodg.atm.ox.ac.uk/user/dudhia/rowing/torpids/>
* Livestream – [youtube.com/ourcs](http://www.youtube.com/ourcs)
* Appeal evidence form - <https://forms.gle/NW2ULUqzNMtk3fRo9>
* Marshal sign up – <https://forms.gle/RM6Q1kkQipvREnRR7> - Responses will be opened when the marshal rota is out
* E-learning - <https://canvas.instructure.com/enroll/8DX7YA> - **when signing in again, you should google “Canvas free for teachers” – just googling canvas will not let you in!**