

Live information

- For live news/updates, follow the event on twitter: @CamAutumnHead
- The website will publish updates and final results: <http://robroyboatclub.net>
- We hope to publish provisional results as they stand after each division; provisional meaning the results will be unreviewed and will not have any masters adjustments or time penalties applied. Links will be posted on twitter and the website.

General Information

- Crews should collect their race numbers any time after 8:30am from Race Control at the Cambridgeshire Rowing Association (CRA) Boathouse (Kimberley Road).
- Please be aware that there are Residents-Parking restrictions on the roads behind the CRA boathouse. Some parking bays allow 2-4h parking. Parking is free before 9am and after 5pm on Saturdays. It is possible to find parking in nearby streets but free spaces are limited and you may have to walk some distance.
- Crews wishing to use facilities at any other boathouse along the river should secure permission from the host club.
- The races will be processional, following the code set out in British Rowing's 'Row Safe' Guide.
- The course will be from the A14 road bridge, upstream to the post by the Green Dragon Footbridge, with divisions starting at 10:00, 11:30, 13:00 and 14:30.
- Prizes and final result will be presented at approximately 16:30 at the CRA Boathouse.
- Prizes will be presented to the fastest crew in each event (CRA, BR or College), so long as there are more than 3 crew entered and 2 crews rowing in that event.
- Changes of either status or event will be accommodated if possible. Any changes must be cleared at Race Control before the race. Any crew found racing with the incorrect status or in the wrong event may be disqualified.
- Visiting crews from outside the Cam: EA licences are NOT required on the Cam, which is instead under the control of the Cam Conservators. A day licence to race on the Cam is included as part of the entry fee.
- Crews are reminded that a boat identification number (3-letter club code + 3 letter boat number) must be present as per British Rowing rules
- If the race is cancelled, the race committee cannot undertake to refund fees in full
- Rob Roy Boat Club will not be liable for any damage, loss of property or personal injury in connection with this race.

Boating & Timing Information

- All crews must make their own way to the start.
- On your way to the start, please tell the team at the finish line your number so they can register you as on your way to the start.
- At the start, please tell the team at the start line your number so they can register you as present at the start.
- Guide times and various cut off times for crews making their way to the start are detailed below for each Division.
- The finish marshal may prevent any crew from proceeding to the start after the relevant cut off time.
- The start marshal may prevent any crew from racing or award time penalties if it fails to arrive prior to the relevant cut off time.
- Time penalties will be awarded at the rate of 5 seconds per minute late for the first 5 minutes and then at the rate of 30 seconds thereafter.

Division 1 – Specific Information & Cut Off Times

- PLEASE NOTE DIVISION 1 HAS CUT-OFF TIMES THAT ARE EARLIER THAN OTHER DIVISIONS (to help get the event started on time)
- As a guide, crews should allow 60 minutes to get from the boat houses to the start, i.e. pushing off around 09:00.
- Cut Off 1: All crews must be downstream of the finish at Chesterton Footbridge (at Stourbridge Common) at least 35 minutes before the start, i.e. 09:25.
- Cut Off 2: Boats must muster below the motorway bridge (A14) 15 minutes before the start, i.e. 09:45.

All Other Divisions – Specific Information & Cut Off Times

- As a guide, crews should allow 50 minutes to get from the boat houses to the start.
- Cut Off 1: All crews must be downstream of the finish at Chesterton Footbridge (at Stourbridge Common) at least 25 minutes before the start of their Division.
- Cut Off 2: Boats must muster below the motorway bridge (A14) 10 minutes before the start of their division.

Race Numbers

- Two race numbers will be issued per crew
- These must be worn on the backs of Bow and Cox (Coxless boats just Bow)
- These **MUST** be clearly visible when racing. Ask your coaches, bank party, fellow competitors to confirm the numbers can be seen.
- These **MUST** be pinned in all **FOUR** corners, or it is very likely to flap over in the wind
- If your number cannot be seen clearly, you risk no time being taken.
- Crews without a race number will not be allowed to start.

Racing Information

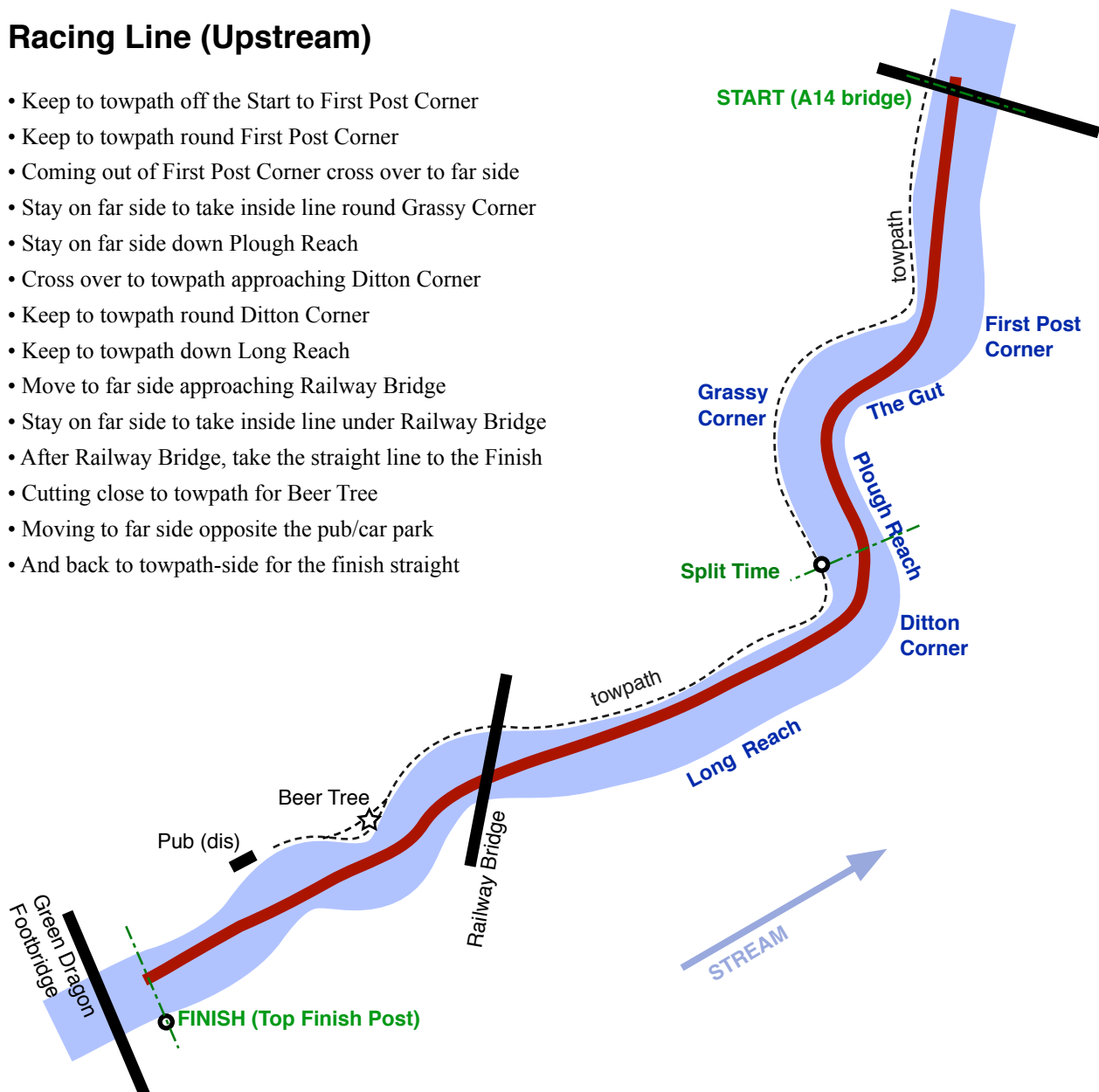
- Marshal's instructions must be followed at all times. Failure to observe any rule or instruction may result in either a time penalty or disqualification.
- If mutually agreed and approved by a start marshal, crews may swap starting positions between themselves, but crews must keep their allocated race numbers.
- Crews will be started at approximately 20/30 sec intervals. All times will be taken when a crew's bow ball crosses the line.
- The river is **NOT** closed to other river users. The marshals will do their best to hold other river users above the start/below the finish whilst racing is underway, but racing crews must not rely on an empty river. Crews **MUST** keep a good look-out for other crews and river users ahead.
- Less experienced crews are encouraged to provide a bank party to help steer a safe course.
- Any disputes or objections must be lodged with the Umpire at the Finish, within 20 mins of the end of the race. The Umpire's decision will be final in all disputes.

Course, Racing Line and Overtaking

- When racing upstream, again remember the river is NOT closed. Crews should take the racing line (as illustrated in the diagram below) which is mostly keeping to the tow path side, except round Grassy Corner, the Railway Bridge and opposite the Penny Ferry (dis).
- The racing line mostly puts crews where they should be on the river in non-racing conditions, with the exceptions of the Railway Bridge and opposite the Penny Ferry pub. Crews must therefore keep a good lookout at these points and must be ready to heed Marshals instructions to steer wide (towards the towpath) if there is an oncoming boat or other obstruction.
- Any crew about to be overtaken must give way, allowing the overtaking crew the fastest line as described above. This means in general that a crew being overtaken should move away from the towpath to let the faster crew through; but again with exceptions at Grassy Corner, approaching the Railway Bridge and opposite the Penny Ferry where slower crews should stay wide (closer to the towpath).
- Regardless of the fastest line, once the faster crew has committed to a side to overtake on, the slower crew must move away to allow the faster crew through.

Racing Line (Upstream)

- Keep to towpath off the Start to First Post Corner
- Keep to towpath round First Post Corner
- Coming out of First Post Corner cross over to far side
- Stay on far side to take inside line round Grassy Corner
- Stay on far side down Plough Reach
- Cross over to towpath approaching Ditton Corner
- Keep to towpath round Ditton Corner
- Keep to towpath down Long Reach
- Move to far side approaching Railway Bridge
- Stay on far side to take inside line under Railway Bridge
- After Railway Bridge, take the straight line to the Finish
- Cutting close to towpath for Beer Tree
- Moving to far side opposite the pub/car park
- And back to towpath-side for the finish straight

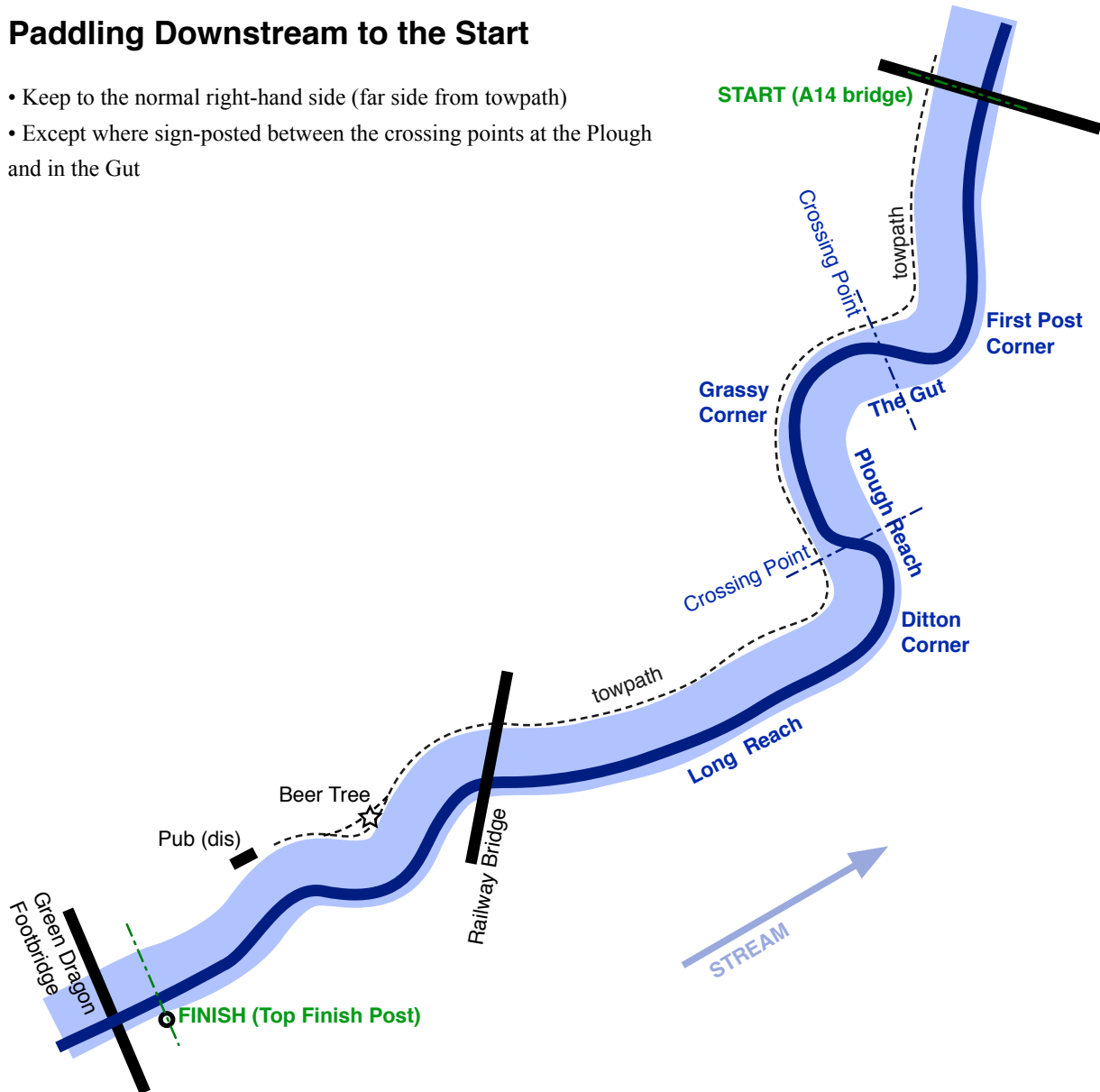


Getting to the Start

When rowing downstream towards the start, remember the river is NOT closed, and crews must stay on the normal side unless overtaking. There may well be other river users coming upstream; do not assume the river will be clear of on-coming traffic.

Padding Downstream to the Start

- Keep to the normal right-hand side (far side from towpath)
- Except where sign-posted between the crossing points at the Plough and in the Gut



Masters' Events Handicapping Information

The event will employ the British Rowing Masters handicapping system where crew's times in each category will be adjusted using the Handicap Table detailed in the British Rowing's Handicap Operating Notes 2010. Standard times for the day will be determined from the times of the fastest boats on the day, if of sufficient standard, otherwise an estimate of what an Open crew would have achieved will be made by the timing team.

Raw (unadjusted) times will be published in provisional results. Adjustments will appear in the final results.

Autumn Head 2015 Organisation

The Organising Committee for the Autumn Head 2015 are:

- Stefan Butlin
- Matt Castle (Start Director)
- Jo Burch (Welfare Officer)
- Vickie Rudkin (Race Committee)
- David Dix (Club Chairman)

The Race Committee and BR Umpires on race day are:

- Eric Smith
- Teresa Aslett
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Please direct all queries in advance of the race to Vickie Rudkin on events@robroyboatclub.org.uk.

On race day, please ask for help at Race Control (at CRA), or if afloat, one of the marshals at the Start, race monitors on the course or at the Finish.

Be safe, good luck, and have a good race!