

Sprint Technical Committee Race Briefing

- Be sun smart - apply sunscreen provided at numbers.
 - You must paddle in a top/shirt, club colours are optional at regattas and state events. You cannot paddle bare chested (male or female!)
 - A PFD must be worn by ALL paddlers 10 years and under. If Competition Manager deems conditions necessary, paddlers under 14 years may be asked to wear a PFD. If you who have a medical condition that may put you at risk or you are not a competent swimmer, you are advised to wear a PFD.
 - All craft must have positive or fixed buoyancy, or be constructed of material that floats horizontal when full of water.
 - Any competitor who displays behaviour detrimental to the good order and conduct of the competition may be disciplined or disqualified.
 - During the bush fire season, November to March, the helitacs (helicopter water bombers) may fill up from the back lake. If this is required, an alarm will sound and paddlers MUST immediately evacuate the area (confirm with Champion Lakes).
 - Entry for age-based competition is based on age on 1st January of the race year.
 - Juniors can race up, however cannot race down. Any age group can race Open.
 - Race decisions are at the discretion of the Chief Official. If you have any queries on race rules please ask your coach and let us know so we can update briefing, so all paddlers have a great race and avoid disqualification. WA Sprint Technical Committee
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- It is the competitor's responsibility to know the rules of the competition. Any competitor who is unsure of any detail, or has a problem concerning the running of the event, should seek clarification through their club/team manager or coach to the Chief Official.
 - Check the race schedule for ALL your races; ensure you know your race numbers and times. The schedule may change during the regatta.
 - Withdrawal or race changes: Complete a Race Change form available from numbers prior to Race 5. Your coach should submit completed form to tower and make request. If your coach is unavailable then you, or a parent/supporter, may submit the form.
 - Regattas may not run to schedule, so know what race is on. DO NOT rely on listed time.
 - Collect your boat number before race and ensure it is secured in place and visible. Return boat number immediately after the race.
 - Be at the start line at least 5 minutes before race, allow time to paddle to the start line.
 - You may paddle up the course for 200m events. However, do not paddle up while a race is in progress. Your boat must not create a wash or obstruct a race paddler.
 - You must not paddle in close proximity to the starting area unless called to the start line.
 - The starter will line up all paddlers, you may be asked to hold your line or paddle forward or backward. The instructions to go are READY... SET then either the Horn or GO. Start gates may be in use.
 - If you miss your start you may not be permitted to race in another heat and can be disqualified from the event. If you chose to continue in the regatta you will be required to pay a re-entry fee.
 - False starts: Any competitor who makes a second false start in a race will be disqualified.
 - Racing: ensure you remain in the middle of your lane. Paddling close to lane ropes may result in elimination.
 - If you fall out, swim to shore with your boat, do not complete the race.
 - Ensure you know which buoys mark the finish line and continue paddling until you pass them.
 - Competitors should not congregate in their boats in the vicinity of the finishing line.
 - Guppy escorts must not cross finish line until all race paddlers have finished.
 - Competitors wishing to protest on the result of an event must lodge their protest via their club team manager or coach to the Chief Official within 20 minutes of the completion of that event.
 - ICF Sprint craft minimum DRY weight for all racing: K1 12kg, K2 18kg, C1 16kg, C2 20kg. Boats may be checked and disqualified if under-weight. Correct race weight is the athlete's responsibility.