



O U R C s

Eights 2008 Static Umpires Instructions

Introduction

On Saturday of Eights there are large crowds on the tow path making it dangerous to cycle down it for both the cyclists and the spectators. To counter this we ban all bikes from the tow path from Donnington Bridge to the Head of the River. Obviously this means we are not able to have umpires operating on bikes so we use a number of static umpires in fixed positions up and down the river. Each umpire reports on what happens at a particular position rather than what a particular boat does.

Details

There are three different types of static umpire: red, green and blue. Each area of the course will have one of each colour. At the end of each division the green and blue umpires should go to their red counterpart to allow them to report through the radio. Each umpire should give an individual report...often three conflicting reports are more useful than a combined report. Each umpire has a report book which they must fill in to make sure they don't forget the details of any bumps or incidents.

Positioning

Each umpiring position is marked on the ground with a box and number in the appropriate colour, however, please note due to green paint not showing up well in many areas of the course, yellow paint is used to mark the green umpires positions. Every umpire should be in position when the five minute gun goes off. Failure to do this may result in a fine for your college.

What should I report?

Umpires are expected to take note of just on water events. The main factor should be whether or not a bump has occurred. For every bump you see you should record:

- Which crew bumped which?
- Where the bump occurred?
- How the bump occurred? (e.g. was there a concession or contact? did the crews both clear the racing line? etc.)
- When the bump occurred? (this is especially important where three crews are very close together)
- Any breaking of rules by crews during racing (e.g. abusive language)

When the last racing crew has passed your position you should go to your corresponding red umpire. The head umpire will then contact each red umpire in turn.

Shifts

Each college is assigned a position for a certain length of time (often the whole day). It is up for the individual colleges to organise how they split the shifts but no-one should be in position for less than two hours. Any changeovers should take place just after the previous umpire has provided their report to the head umpire and the head umpire must be informed of the changeover. No-one may change over without the permission of the head umpire.

Please note the Head Umpire is not the same as the Senior Umpire