

BuyAssociation 2019 Harbour Regatta

Sunday 17th March 2019 - Race Bulletin

Following the success of the 2017 and 2018 Harbour Regattas, the event is back in 2019 with a slightly changed format, based on competitor feedback from the previous 2 regattas. Sprint racing will take place in coastal boats, in a knock-out format, over a single 630m course with two turns. Two to Four crews will take part in each heat (depending upon the number of entries), with the winning crew in each race progressing to the next round of their event.

The Regatta will be held out of the RHKYC clubhouse at Kellett Island in Causeway Bay and takes place in the waters of Hong Kong harbour. Racing is scheduled to start at 8:30am and is expected to continue until around 4:30pm (depending upon the number of entries).

For detailed instructions on how to get to Kellett Island, please follow this link –
(<http://www.rhkyc.org.hk/KellettIsland.aspx>)

Rowing events will be offered in the following categories:

Coastal 4x+	Coastal 2x
Women's Open Open	Women's Open Open
Women's Junior Open Junior	Women's Masters B Open Masters B
Women's Masters B Open Masters B	

Eligibility for each event will be based on the HKCRA status system and World Rowing eligibility rules:

- Masters B – **Average age 36** or higher (*calculated using competitors' ages as of 31st December 2019*).
- A rower may compete in a **Junior rowing event** until 31st of December of the year in which (s)he reaches the age of 18, **i.e. Junior** competitors must have been born **on or after 1st January 2001**.

Entries:

- The committee retain the right to limit the number of crews in any event where there is higher demand than expected. Where entry slots are limited due to scheduling constraints, places will be awarded in order of entries received (i.e. preference will be given to those entries received, and paid for, first).
- If you wish to enter more than one crew in an event, please indicate which is the top boat, 2nd boat, etc etc. In the event of over subscription, the boats will be accepted based on this order.
- Club Captains must ensure that they only enter competent crews and that their crews are properly prepared for the race. All competitors should be able to swim at least 50m in light clothing.
- Entries close at 8pm on Sunday 11th March 2019 and should use the official entry form that will be emailed to each club or be able to download under www.hkharbourregatta.com. Payment for entries should be completed in advance of race day.
- **Entries will be charged at \$150 per seat. Coxswains race for free.**

- After the start order has been published, the coxswain and up to 50% of the rowing crew, can be changed by notifying the Regatta Secretary up to an hour before the published race time.

When making entries, please note the following local rules:

- Rowers **may not compete in more than one event**
- The committee reserves the right to cancel specific events **in the event of insufficient entries.**
- Coxswains are not required to weigh in.
- Junior crews do not have to be coxed by junior coxswains
- All rowers and coxswains will be required to wear personal flotation devices (PFDs) – these will be provided by the organisers.

Boats and equipment:

Boats, oars and any other necessary rowing equipment will be provided.

Please note that any damage to equipment will be charged to the crew deemed to be at fault.

Waiver forms & Safety Information:

All competitors are required to sign a waiver form before racing.

Junior athletes must have their forms co-signed by a parent or guardian & submitted in advance.

Safety briefings & information related to the race will be provided in the registration area, and crews must confirm they have attended and understood the key points.

Safety information will be provided in English and Chinese

To ensure that all competitors follow the correct course, and that all boats can complete the race safely, all steersmen of coxless boats and coxswains **MUST** attend a briefing before racing (briefings will be given in English and Chinese).

The Course:

The race will start and finish in front of the RHKYC Clubhouse on Kellett Island. Crews will race on a single course, approximately 300m long, with 2 large marking buoys to round at the western end.

On being started by the umpire at the start, crews are required to race towards the buoys at the western end of the course. They will then turn around the 2 buoys in a direction that takes them towards the Hong Kong side of the course, and race back to the finish line (same position as the start line), a total of approximately 630m.

The finish judge will sound an air-horn as each crew crosses the line, and will declare a winner. The winning crew in each round will progress to the next round of their event. Losing crews will be knocked out of the event.

The turn around the 2 marker buoys at the western end of the course will require additional skill and care. Crews must turn around the 2 buoys in accordance with the race rules. A crew may touch the turning buoys with their oars or their boat, but the hull of the boat must pass around the correct side of the buoys. Crews failing to

turn around the buoys correctly will be excluded if they have gained any advantage or caused any interference or disadvantage to the other crew/s. Coastal racing rules will be applied when turning around the 2 buoys.

Please see the attached maps at the end of this document.

The Start, the Race and the Finish:

- There will be a single racing course. Only one race will ever be in progress at any one time.
- The first named crew in each heat will line up on the southern-most (Hong Kong side) of the start line, the second named crew will line up on the northern (Kowloon side) of the first named crew, the third named crew will line up on the northern (Kowloon side) of the second named crew, etc etc.
- Each crew will be pre-allocated a boat and also a boating time. Crews can find out which boat has been allocated to them by checking the program at registration, and then looking for the boat with that number at the boating area, or if the boat is already on the water, when it comes in from the previous race
- Crews will launch from their designated boating area, OR, where the boat is already on the water, crews should be at the boating area in time to take over the boat from the previous crew when it arrives at the pontoon / slipway.
- As soon as they have boated, crews must proceed directly to the Waiting Area near the start/finish line in sufficient time to be under the control of the starter and be ready to race at the designated start time.
- Waiting crews must take care not to impede racing crews. Dangerous behaviour will result in disqualification.
- Do not row away from the Waiting Area for a warm up as you will not hear instructions and may miss your start time. Crews not in the Waiting Area at the correct time may be disqualified. A race may be started without a crew if they are not at the start on time.

The Start:

The Starter will ensure that all crews are ready to start (i.e. in the correct lane and aligned)

The Starter will announce the event and name the crews as listed in the program.

The Starter will then say “Attention”. The Starter will then raise a red flag above his head. After a pause, he shall then say “Go”, at the same time dropping the flag sharply to one side. The race will start on the command “Go” and the movement of the flag.

A crew starting before the start command causes a false start and shall be awarded a Yellow Card. A crew having 2 Yellow Cards in one race shall be excluded.

Safety:

There will be boats providing safety cover beside the course at all times. If you require assistance, please shout and wave to attract their attention.

Competitors should be able to swim at least 50m in light clothing. All competitors will be required to wear PFDs (personal flotation devices), provided by the organisers, when afloat.

Penalties:

The Umpire may award penalties to crews in the following circumstances. Such penalties shall be subject to the decision of the Umpire:

- Racing below status (disqualification)
- Racing with un-declared crew changes (including coxswains) (disqualification)
- Being late at the start (exclusion)
- Failure to follow official instructions (either written or verbal) (penalty will depend on the nature of the infraction – Yellow Card, exclusion or disqualification)
- Leaving the designated race course and causing interference or danger to another crew, or gaining any advantage (exclusion)
- Failure to correctly turn around the designated turning buoys (exclusion)
- Offensive language or any other un-sportsmanlike behaviour (Yellow Card or disqualification)
- Collision with another crew if deemed dangerous or deliberate (exclusion)

A crew wishing to object against another crew may only do so at the end of the race and before leaving the area of the Finish Line by raising their hand and calling to the Umpire on the Start / Finish line. The nature of the objection shall be explained to the Umpire who will make his decision and inform the crew or crews accordingly. A protest against the decision of the Umpire on the objection may only be made to the Chief Umpire in writing within 1 hour, accompanied by a protest fee of \$500. A decision on the protest shall be made before the next round of racing involving the crews concerned.

The Finish:

As each crew crosses the finish line, the Finish Judges will sound a horn. The first crew to finish the race should ensure that they do not interfere with the other crew/s finishing behind them.

Crews who have finished should turn and row back immediately to the boat launching area, to hand the boat to the next crew, making sure they follow any additional instructions given by race officials.

Extra Information for Competitors:

Food and Drink – Food and beverages will be available at the Bar/Bistro throughout the day using a Race Day Visitor Card in conjunction with **an Octopus Card** (the Club does not accept cash as it usually has members signing for items on their accounts).

What to wear – Apart from wearing your correct HKCRA registered club uniform, it is advised that you have additional items to ensure you have a safe and enjoyable day. Boats may be required to launch and return from a slipway – competitors should ensure they have suitable footwear for the launching ramp. Please be aware that the coastal boats do not have built in shoes, only straps.

Results & Prizes:

Full copies of the results will be emailed out to each club following the event and a copy will be placed on the [RHKYC website](http://rhkyc.org.hk).

There will be a presentation of prizes to the winners in each category. The expected time of each presentation will be published with the race schedule after entries close and the draw is conducted.

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Race Course

