

# Portadown Boat Club



25 March 2025

Dear Club Secretary,

## **Portadown Regatta 2025**

Please find enclosed the details of our forthcoming Regatta held on the River Bann at Portadown on **Saturday 3 May 2025**.

Your attention is drawn to current Rowing Ireland regulations, which grade this Regatta as a **Non Status** event.

**Entries close on Wednesday 23 April 2024 at 19:00 hours.** After this deadline no further entries shall be accepted.

Entries are only accepted online via Rowing Ireland regatta entry tracker system. Please note no other form of entry is acceptable. Telephone entries will **not** be entertained however, confirmation of any entry email is welcome.

Typically, the volume and range of entries does allow most competitors to row multiple events/grades however, **the Regatta Committee cannot guarantee the absence of any race programme conflicts for any individual.**

The race programme will reflect **Rowing Ireland Rule 2.26** of the **Rules of Competitive Rowing** for Junior 16 and younger rowers.

Junior rowers cannot race in multiple grades due to the likelihood of programme conflicts. They must stay within one age category for both of the two races they are entered into..

The Regatta Committee reserves the right to make any alteration to the race programme it deems necessary and its decision in all cases will be final.

Portadown Boat club reserves the right to only run races with 3 or more entries. straight finals may be offered at the race committee's discretion.

It is the responsibility of each Club to ensure that they have sufficient boats for all the crews they enter.

We anticipate a large number of Junior 14 and 15 single scull entries and subsequently all junior 14 and 15 races will be straight finals.

Clubs are also reminded that this Regatta is run under the Rowing Ireland rules and thus attention is drawn to safety requirements for both crews and equipment as detailed under **Rule 2.39** of the **Rules for Competitive Rowing**.

*The Membership and Committee of Portadown Boat Club accept no liability or responsibility for*

*any injury or damage to persons or property arising during the course of the regatta or otherwise.*

The event will be rowed on a two lane buoyed course over a distance of approximately 1000m. Time Trials will take place as directed.

Composite crews are permissible in all Masters Events. The Club that places an entry for a composite crew is wholly responsible for its subsequent entry fee.

As ever we look forward to receiving your entries and to an enjoyable day's rowing on the River Bann at Portadown.

Yours in rowing,

Louise McDonald  
Portadown Boat Club Captain & Regatta Secretary

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[portadownboatclubcaptain@gmail.com](mailto:portadownboatclubcaptain@gmail.com)

## PORTADOWN REGATTA 2024

### Safety Statement

*“It is the Policy of this Club to implement the water safety and awareness guidelines of the Rowing Ireland 2002 Water Safety Code”.*

**Remember** – This policy is undertaken with you and your fellow participant’s safety as paramount in an enjoyable sporting environment.

### **Policy Aims**

It is the intent of Portadown Boat Club to ensure that the following aims are met:

- I. All rowing at this event is conducted in accordance with current safety rules and guidelines.
- II. Safety rules and instructions are adhered to at all times by **all** participants.
- III. To ensure that all crews, boats and equipment are compliant with Rowing Ireland safety requirements before partaking in this event. Checks will be undertaken before launching.
- IV. Details of the course, event rules, race order, rescue launch positions and instructions for coxes and steerers will be provided as part of any safety instructions located at **Regatta Control & online**.
- V. All participants in rowing and associated activities during this event are aware of this safety policy.

### **General Safety Guidelines**

Participating clubs are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure under current Rowing Ireland safety guidelines (Rule 2.39) that:

- i. Bow balls are of the correct type and securely fitted.
- i. Heel restraints are properly set.
- ii. Steering and cox boxes are in working order.
- iii. Coxes are provided with suitable buoyancy aids.
- iv. Crew members fulfill the Rowing Ireland swimming ability criteria.
- v. Coxes and crews are competent and adequately prepared.
- vi. Competitors have appropriate clothing for prolonged exposure on an open river.
- vii. Coxes and steerers familiarize themselves with the course diagram and any associated safety procedures implemented on the day by the Regatta Committee and Umpires.
- viii. Junior crews especially are subject to particular safety attention.

## **Safety Launches and Equipment**

Portadown Boat Club will have four equipped umpire/safety launches along the river course (three operational and one standby).

Umpires' launches carry rescue equipment. In the event of an incident the oarsperson(s) should stay with the boat and not attempt to swim ashore. Instructions from the rescue personnel **must be obeyed**.

## **Communications**

Two-way radios will be used between launch stewards, starters, safety launch drivers and race officials. Mobile phones may also be used.

There is no prohibition on coxes carrying mobile phones as an aid to safety or seek assistance. *However, Portadown Boat Club accepts no liability or responsibility for any injury or damage to persons or property arising during the course of the regatta or otherwise.*

Portadown Boat Club – Event Control –Tel Louis: 07875044485

**Race Officials** – will inspect the course and observe conditions before allowing the event to proceed. Boats must launch from the slip at the appointed time and slower crews should allow ample time to reach the start.

**Boats deemed to be too late will be turned back before or stayed until the race passes.**

A diagram of the course will be available on the Regatta Control Caravan and displayed around the premises. Course start, finish and integral course buoys will be marked.

## **Emergency Procedures**

Portadown Boat Club has prepared a procedure for emergencies, which incorporates local facilities, and emergency services that will be notified in advance of the event.

St John Ambulance personnel are available and can be contacted at the **First Aid** point. A First Aid kit will also be available at Regatta Control.

A Defibrillator is kept on the wall between the stairs and the lift in the foyer of the Club House.