

## **Instruction Guide for Steers and Managers**

The Kamloops racecourse is on a river and therefore more technical than most racecourses. In the interest of safety and fun we will allow only experienced steers.

### **1. Currents on the racecourse**

While on the course, you must adjust for both the downstream and lateral currents. The current also changes while passing under the silver train bridge. The direction and strength of the currents will change over the course of the day.

Please look at the carousel photos on the website for detailed pictures of the course.

<https://www.kamloopssportscouncil.com/dragonboat-festival/>

### **2. Heading to the Start, and Start Line Procedures**

A Water Marshall will be directing boats into position. It is important that you listen closely to their instructions as the currents on the river mean we must get lined up quickly and together. Once you pass the silver train bridge, you will have to follow the commands of the Water Marshall. Please respond quickly and proceed as instructed.

The boats will paddle upstream along the (south) riverbank, pass under the silver train bridge and continue upstream towards the red bridge. Please stay between the first and second bridge piers as you go under the train bridge. When directed, you will turn left around a positioning buoy that is set towards the right side of the river just below the red bridge. This buoy is approximately 150 metres above the start line. Once around the positioning buoy, allow your boat to start drifting downstream while aligning your boat to enter the proper lane **and** start in line with the other boats. Continue drifting downstream past the centering buoy that is approximately 75 metres above the start line. Boats in lanes 1 and 2 will be on the left-hand side of the centering buoy and boats in lanes 3 and 4 will be on the right-hand side of the buoy.

The Water Marshall will hand the race off to the Starter and expect the starts to happen very quickly. Due to the river current, we will likely be using running starts. Getting into position at the **same time** as all the other boats is very important. If you are over the start line at the commencement of the race, the race starter may impose a penalty and if you are behind, the race may start without you.

### **3. On the racecourse**

Stay within your lane, as indicated. Follow the instructions of the Water Marshall in the chase boat. At the discretion of the race director, boats can be penalized for going out of their lane or interfering with the path of another boat.

### **4. Finish**

At the conclusion of the race please continue downstream and then turn left as soon as you get past the GREEN channel marker just below the pier. Please land and unload the boats as quickly and efficiently as possible.