

The Great Public Schools' Association of Queensland

RULES OF COMPETITION

ROWING

Last Reviewed: January 2022

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1. ADOPTED RULES

GPS Rowing competitions are conducted in accordance with the Rules of Racing as recognised by Rowing Australia, except where these differ from the GPS competition Rules; in which case the latter shall take precedence. Reference should also be made to all GPS By-laws, Policies and Procedures. These rules are to be read in conjunction with the information available on GPS Net.

2. ELIGIBILITY

To compete in a GPS competition, students must meet the eligibility criteria stated in the GPS Eligibility Bylaw.

- 2.1 Students enrolled in Years 7 to 12 of a GPS member school are eligible to participate in the competition.
- 2.2 Students in Years 8 to 12 are eligible to row in the 1st VIII.
- 2.3 Only Year 12 students are eligible to row in Open divisions 2nd VIII and below, unless otherwise permitted through an Exception Request (6.4) or Substitution (6.5).
- 2.4 In any crew, Year 7 students are only permitted to act as a coxswain.
- 2.5 Composite crews comprised of members of multiple member schools are permitted, however they are ineligible for points.

Head of the River Eligibility

- 2.6 To compete at Head of the River, all students must first be registered with the GPS Office.
- 2.7 A Championship crew must complete three (3) Seeding Races to be eligible to compete at the Head of the River.
- 2.8 A Non-Championship crew must complete two (2) Seeding Races to be eligible to compete at the Head of the River.

3. BEHAVIOUR

All misconduct by participants or other personnel that occurs during the normal proceedings of a Sport or Activity will be actioned as according to the Governing body and the GPS Code of Conduct.

4. STRUCTURE

GPS Championships must have a minimum number of five (5) member schools competing.

- 4.1 The competition will follow the schedule as set by the GPS Calendar and the Competition Draw.
- 4.2 The competition is comprised of a 1st VIII division, and multiple year level divisions from Year 8 to Open (Year 12) as required.
- 4.3 Divisions/Year Level, Boats & Distances

Division/Year Level	Boat Type	Distance
1 st VIII	Coxed Eight	2,000m
Open (Year 12)	Coxed Eight	2,000m
Year 11	Coxed Eight	2,000m
Year 10	Coxed Quadruple Sculls	1,500m
Year 9	Coxed Quadruple Sculls	1,000m
Year 8	Coxed Quadruple Sculls	500m

- 4.4 Regattas are to be kept to a maximum timeframe of four (4) Hours and thirty (30) minutes.
- 4.5 The Head of the River Championships will only include races for Years 9 to Open divisions and the 1st VIII.
- 4.6 A Seeding Race is a race that matches the conditions (a still water buoyed course) and specifications (boat type, division & distance) of Championship events.

5. OFFICIALS

- 5.1 The GPS Association will appoint, with the assistance of Rowing QLD, all Boat Race Officials for Lead-Up Regattas and the Head of the River Championships.

6. ADDITIONAL RULES

- 6.1 Uniforms of competitors and personnel must comply with the GPS Uniform Policy.
- 6.2 Substitution is permitted in circumstances of injury or illness. The replacement of competitors must be completed no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the race using the relevant changes procedure.
- 6.3 The RA minimum weight requirement for a coxswain only applies to the 1st VIII. There are no restrictions for other crews.
- 6.4 When moving boys or crews to a higher year level, movement will occur from the lowest ranked crew to the lowest ranked crew in the year level above. An Exception Request must be submitted to the GPS Office for approval.

Substitutions

- 6.5 In circumstances of illness, injury or incident which results in a crew member being unable to row, a school may request to replace a competitor with a suitably skilled student replacement from the same school.
- The request must be advised to the Host School (Lead-up Regatta) or GPS office (Head of the River) no later than one (1) hour prior to the scheduled commencement of the race.
 - Members of the Rowing Sub-Committee vote to approve/deny the request. A majority vote will determine the outcome of the request.

Lane Draw & Seeding

- 6.6 Lead-Up Regattas:
- The lane draw for the first round of races will be drawn randomly.
 - The lane draw of the second round of races will be a mirror image of the first round lane draw.
- 6.7 Head of the River – Championship Events:
- The crew with the highest cumulative seeding points achieved across all seeding races will be seeded in a middle lane. The crew will be randomly placed in lane 4 or lane 5. Remaining crews will be placed alternately to either side of the crew in descending order of cumulative points until all crews have been allocated lanes.
 - Where crews are tied on points, the best performing crew will be determined on a count-back based on placings.
 - Non-championship crews may be placed in vacant lanes.
 - The seeding may be amended by the GPS Executive Officer.
- 6.8 Head of the River – Non-Championship Events:
- The lane draw for non-Championship events will be drawn randomly.

7. RESULTS

- 7.1 Points, Premierships and Championships will be awarded in accordance with the GPS Championships & Premierships Policy.
- 7.2 Seeding Points in Seeding Races and Championship Points awarded at Head of the River Championships for the Old Boys' Cup:

4x Races		8+ Races	
Place	Points	Place	Points
1 st	7	1 st	14
2 nd	6	2 nd	12
3 rd	5	3 rd	10
4 th	4	4 th	8
5 th	3	5 th	6
6 th	2	6 th	4
7 th	1	7 th	2

- 7.3 The Old Boys' Cup is awarded to the overall Champion School who achieves the highest aggregate points at the GPS Head of the River Championship.
- 7.3.1 Points for the Old Boys' Cup are only awarded to the following championship crews:
 1st VIII
 Open - 2nd & 3rd VIII
 Year 11 – 1st, 2nd & 3rd VIII
 Year 10 – 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th Quad
- 7.3.2 The Old Boys' Cup can only be awarded if all championship point scoring events are completed.
- 7.4 The O'Connor Cup is awarded to the winning crew of the 1st VIII race.
- 7.5 Pennants will be awarded at Lead-Up regattas for races that include crews from four (4) or more GPS member schools.
- 7.6 Reviews & Protests of results will be conducted in accordance with the GPS Reviews & Protest Policy.

8. CANCELLATIONS

When required, cancellations will be conducted in accordance with the Abandonment of GPS Competitions and Activities Policy.

9. AMENDMENTS

No amendment to these Rules of Competition is authorised unless such amendment is issued by the Executive Officer of the GPS.