AVON BLUEFRIARS SMALL BOATS HEAD 2026

INFORMATION FOR SPECTATORS

How the races work

The Head Race is divided into three separate sessions. We have tried to allocate the races to sessions in such a way that people are likely to be able to race in more than one session if they want to. For instance J14 races are in the morning, middle and afternoon parts of the day depending on the boat type. If you don't know when your child/partner/grandparent is racing, ask at Registration.

Your Club/School Coach will have a draw and race timetable and there is one on the Avon County website www.avoncountyrowingclub.org.uk

Arriving at the event

PARKING - Private cars Please do your best to share cars; this event is always busy. There will be parking for most visiting cars in the Saltford Rowing Centre outer field, just off the A4. Please follow the marshalls' directions and park efficiently, since space is limited. It will be open from 08:00 and will be closed and locked at 18:00. Please ensure that your vehicle is removed before 18:00; otherwise you risk being locked in overnight. Vehicles are parked at the owner's risk; the club does not accept any liability for injury to persons, damage to or loss of property in the use of this facility. If you bring a dog with you, please ensure that any mess is cleared up.

If the outer field is full, additional parking is widely available in the residential streets of Saltford, on the south side of the A4. It is then a 10-20 min walk to the site. See separate map for more details. Please park as directed by the marshals on the gate.

The main club entrance, signposted "Trailer parking", is not to be used by spectators; it is reserved for boat trailers and towing vehicles and one or two others who have special permits and need easy access to their vehicle.

The course

Each racing session has a short division of 1500m for younger juniors and beginner adults and a long division 3250m for older juniors and more experienced adult rowers. The finish for both divisions is about 300 upstream of the rowing club so to walk up the course to see the racing, stand with the clubhouse behind you, and the river in front, turn right and walk through the gate and along the tow path. The first bit of the tow path is likely to be muddy – white trainers not advised but up to you!

First you will come to a group of people doing the finish timing – please don't disturb them if the race is in progress – and then you will be on the course.

Results will be available on www.webscorer.com/acrc

Catering

We provide catering at the course: reasonably priced burgers, bacon butties, sausages, cakes and hot and cold drinks. Catering is busy between divisions but for spectators a good time to get served is after all the boats are on the water. While they make their way up to the start, you get your coffee and burger and set off up the tow path.

Welfare

Event toilets will be available outside, please use these rather than the club toilets.

Water bottles may be re-filled at the Catering Tent.

Volunteers

All our events are organised and run by volunteers. Please respect any decisions of our officials & helpers, and follow their instructions when required. They are all doing their best to make it a good day for everyone.

Feedback

We are always happy to receive feedback – positive or negative – please speak to someone at the Registration Desk on the day, or send us an email after the event. The Chair of the Organising Committee can be reached on aplwatson995@gmail.com