

FINISH TEAM

WATCH TIMER (Team Leader)

WATCH SCRIBE

WEBSCORER ANNOUNCER

WEBSCORER TIMER

FINISH SPOTTER

FINISH BELL

FINISH MARSHALL

WHAT TO DO

Ensure accurate finish times are recorded.

WHERE TO DO IT

Well before your shift starts, report to the clubroom at Saltford to register your presence with the Personnel Manager and make contact with the Finish Team Leader. See also the individual notes below about attending the Timekeepers Briefing at 8.45am.

The location of the job is the finish line, upstream of the boathouse in the fenced enclosure above the narrow boats, with the exception of:

Finish Spotter - slightly upstream of the finish.

Finish Marshall - slightly downstream of the finish.

HOW TO DO IT

The Watch Timer is the team leader and is responsible for looking out for and responding to any problems and ensuring stopwatch data sent to the Results Team is legible and correct.

Watch Timer (Team Leader)

Race Control/Long Start/Short Start/Finish/Safety Advisor will all have club-issued mobile phones with the five mission-critical phone numbers programmed into them. Please use these when radio relay is unreliable or when you urgently need to contact one of the designated positions.

You must attend the Timekeepers Briefing in the Club Room at 8:45 sharp. Instructions will be confirmed, and all stopwatches and Webscorer tablets will be started together at 9am.

Upon arrival at the finish enclosure, position yourself opposite the finish post (on the far bank). Be sure to stand in the same position for all divisions.

The Watch Timer operates the stopwatch and the radio. As a boat approaches the line, quietly tell the Watch Scribe the crew number. As the bowball of the boat passes the finish line, press the stopwatch and tell the Watch Scribe the recorded time.

If several boats cross the line in quick succession, make sure you press the stopwatch as each bowball crosses the line. If possible say the crew numbers of the boats in the order they cross the line – but give priority to pressing the stopwatch at the right moment. You might say something like ‘Four boats close together. It’s going to be 41 and 42, click/click; 42 and 45 very close, click/click, that was 45 followed by 42’.

Watch Scribe

See reporting instructions above. If possible, attend the Timekeepers Briefing in the Club Room at 8.45am sharp.

Fill in the required information at the top of each timing sheet. Make sure you record the colour of the watch being used.

Record the crew number and time called out by the Watch Timer for every boat that passes.

If the Webscorer Timer fails to tap a crew into the software, or taps late, they will call out the crew number to you. Make a note for this crew number in the “Tap Fail” column in the timing sheet.

If several crews arrive together, but in a clear order, the highest priority is for the scribe to write the NUMBERS of the crews down in the correct order.

If several crews are arriving closely together, the Finish Spotter will warn the Finish Team. Put a vertical line in the 'comment' column covering as many slots as there are crews approaching closely. Put the crew numbers down in the order they are likely to arrive (based on the Finish Spotter's assessment). Then watch carefully for the actual order in which they cross the finish. Put numbers 1 to x (depending on how many crews are involved) next to the crew numbers, to show the actual finishing order. Avoid attempting to indicate a change in order by crossing out numbers or putting arrows. It takes longer, adds to your stress, and causes confusion later.

If a crew comes past with no visible number, put a comment in the 'comment' column to identify the crew (boat name/blade colour, etc). If there is no time to do this, put a ? in the 'comment' column. Don't worry if you can't identify a crew. It is easy to work out later who it was. However, if two unidentified crews come past together, it is more important to try to get something helpful in the 'comment' column.

Webscorer Announcer

See reporting instructions above. If possible, attend the Timekeepers Briefing in the Club Room at 8.45am sharp.

Upon arrival at the finish enclosure, position yourself opposite the Finish Post (on the far bank). The Webscorer Announcer must stand in the same position for all divisions, so if you are not doing all the divisions, follow the positioning instructions of the Team Leader.

As a crew approaches the Finish, say "Crew xxx approaching". Then say "Crew xxx NOW", with the NOW as their bowball crosses the Finish line.

The Webscorer Timer will press their button on hearing your NOW. So it is essential that this is clear and distinct. In particular, the Webscorer Timer cannot look up from their tablet so is relying on your NOW to know when to press their button.

Webscorer Timer

You must attend the Timekeepers Briefing in the Club Room at 8:45 sharp. Instructions will be confirmed, and all stopwatches and Webscorer tablets will be started together at 9am.

Times are uploaded from the start and finish teams to Race Control by connecting the tablets (using the tablet wifi) to a smart phone with Personal Hot Spot (PHS) connectivity. Therefore the Webscorer Timer will need to have a PHS-enabled smart phone.

If you are on the first Division, you will be given your timing tablet at the Timekeepers Briefing. If you are on a later Division, come to the Club Room well beforehand to collect your tablet. It will be set in sleep mode to prevent inadvertent taps en route to the start. The Results Manager will explain how to operate the tablet.

Upon arrival at the finish enclosure, position yourself next to the Webscorer Announcer. Wake up the tablet by pressing the small button the right side of the tablet. Be careful not to tap any keys inadvertently.

Listen carefully to the Webscorer Announcer, so you know which crew is approaching the Finish and are ready to press the button marked with that crew number. Press the button at the exact moment you hear the NOW of "Crew xxx NOW". To ensure accurate failsafe tapping, do not look up from the tablet. Taps sometimes do not register the first time you press. If so, say to the Watch Scribe "Crew xxx Tap Fail". Do not worry about failed/late taps. The Watch Timer is the backup.

Finish Spotter

Keep the timing team informed of the racing numbers of crews approaching the finish line. If several crews arrive too close together to determine a clear order of finishing, warn the timing team. Tell them the crew numbers and the most likely order of crossing the finish line.

Finish Bell

Ring bell AFTER the crew has passed the finish timing point.

Finish Marshall

Instruct crews to keep moving once past the finish line. May need to ask crews what their racing number is if it is not visible.

