



# POWER 8

SPRINTS

**Notice of Competition Event Information  
Support Document**

**28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 Rev 2**

## **1 Sprints - background**

Power8 Sprints will be an urban/city centre sprint rowing event series featuring elite men's and women's crews, with some well-known faces amongst them, e.g. retired international rowers.

There will be one event in the summer of 2018, growing to a three-event series in 2019. The host city for 2018 is Bristol on 22nd July, with Bristol, Newcastle and Nottingham provisionally lined up for 2019. The Bristol event will be part of the popular Bristol Harbour Festival which attracts over 250,000 people during the course of the weekend – sprints will be the headline act, taking place on Sunday afternoon.

Racing will be fast and exciting, two abreast and over 350m, with the start and finish visible to spectators – unlike traditional 2,000m racing. Each race will take between 50 seconds and one minute. There will be eight men's crews and eight women's crews racing in 8s with 14 races in total. Crews will be representing the following cities; Bristol, Cambridge, Exeter, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham and Oxford. Spectators will be able to get close to the action in never-seen-before coverage at the event, on TV and online. This will be the T20/Golf 6s/Rugby7s or athletics 100m final of rowing.

The purpose of the Sprint Series is to take rowing to new locations, attract a new audience and raise the profile of rowing as an exhilarating and accessible sport. Sprint rowing is a format that appeals to new, existing and lapsed rowers. Ultimately, we plan to create a sprint league, the pinnacle of which will be the Sprint Series and we envisage the Series winners competing in an international sprint competition.

TV production will be produced by Sunset + Vine (S+V).

There will also be indoor rowing activation at the event as part of the riverbank festival. This will be the culmination of a city wide Go Row Indoor campaign in the lead up to the event.

### **1.1 Audience**

The ambition of the new Sprint Series is to be a spectator-friendly sports festival appealing to a family-friendly audience, whilst recognising that our current rowing demographic is 59% under the age of 25.

### **1.2 The proposition**

A fast and exciting rowing event in city centres with a festival atmosphere for all to watch.

## **2 Racing**

### **2.1 The Course**

Racing will be along a buoyed, two lane 350m straight course, in Bristol it is set amongst the history of the harbour complete with its heritage background, industrial structures and tall ships.

It is envisaged that racing will be from a fixed stake boat start and be of a knockout 'winner takes all' format.

## **2.2 Event Structure**

The events will follow standard practices within British Rowing events, ensuring that safety & fairness are paramount at all times & that set procedures are adhered to so as to maximise the experience for all concerned.

The Rules of British Rowing, Rules of Racing and Rowsafe Guidance will be followed along with any 'local rules' that are required in order to supplement the Rules of Racing. These local rules shall be approved by the RUC and/or NCC.

## **2.3 Event Integration**

Power8 Sprints in Bristol will form a highlight of the Bristol Harbour Festival, as such there is much integration between the rowing event and the overall festival managed by Richmond Event Management (REM). We shall seek partnering opportunities both on and off the water with service providers of the festival wherever possible but only where we are confident that the safety and level of expected service will not be compromised.

Power8 Sprints will be 'dovetailing' into much existing infrastructure around the festival and working alongside REM & the local SAG to produce a cohesive working structure.

## **2.4 Crew Selection Criteria**

In-line with previous information released to the Regional Rowing Councils, crews will be proposed by the regions & approved by the Race Directors for suitability to represent each city.

All competitors must hold a minimum of Gold membership of British Rowing as Power8 Sprints is an affiliated competition.

Power8 Sprints is open to any individual member of a British Rowing affiliated club from within the City's Region (s).

Please note that British Rowing membership insurance is only valid for individuals who are UK residents for more than six months in a year, if a competitor is not resident for this period of time then evidence of suitable insurance must be provided.

All competitors, except coxes, must be over 15 years on 1st September 2017 (i.e. J16 or above).

Any crew that includes junior athletes shall have a named coach or responsible adult present at the event. The coach, who must be over the age of 18 years, must be named in the "coach name" "crew notes" section of the entry and a current mobile telephone number for that person must be provided in the "coach mobile number" section. If a substitute coach comes to the event he/she must contact registration and register his/her mobile telephone number.

Competitors and coaches are reminded that this is a broadcast event and as such there are official photographers, videographers and production engineers at the festival and possibly at events in the lead up to the festival. These photographs, images and videos will be used by official broadcast partners, on British Rowing websites and social media

channels including streamed live on the event day or shared with the media and press both pre and post-race day. By applying for crew selection, the competitors and those responsible for them consent to this.

Competitors and those responsible for them should be aware that other, unofficial photographers may operate at the festival and/or possibly at events in the lead up to the festival and the subsequent photographs or videos may be freely used in print, digital media or elsewhere, over which British Rowing has no control.

Coaches, responsible adults and competitors agree that by applying for crew selection they have made the competitors and their parents/caregiver (where in loco parentis) aware of the above two paragraphs.

Crews will race in all-in-ones supplied by Power8 Sprints in their city colours.

The agreed city colours are:

- Bristol – yellow
- Cambridge – pink
- Exeter – red
- London – turquoise
- Manchester – orange
- Newcastle – blue
- Nottingham – green
- Oxford – purple

## **2.5 Regional Selection Trials/Events**

Regions may select their crews through regional trials or selection events although it is not mandatory to hold a selection event and other methods of selection are permitted (e.g. by asking for expressions of interest from crews and selecting the crew with the highest PRI points)

If a Regional Rowing Council decides to hold a selection event then, as part of the event affiliation agreement, it is possible for RRCs to avail themselves of British Rowing Event Insurance.

In order to take advantage of such insurance a Regional Rowing Council shall agree in advance to the following

Each crew selection event shall be run by the individual region(s) representing their city on a region by region basis and organisational responsibility shall sit with those Regional Rowing Councils.

Each RRC shall appoint an Organising Committee and a Race Committee, the chairman of each shall be approved by Power8 Sprints' Race Director(s).

Each RRC shall produce a Course Map, Safety Plan, Risk Assessment and a Welfare Plan/Statement along with Instructions to Crews which are suitable for the size & nature of the individual crew selection event in question (this may vary in detail between regions depending upon size of event & nature of water for instance).

Each local set of documentation shall be submitted in advance in a timely manner to Power8 Sprints' Race Directors for information & vetting purposes and be approved by the individual RRSA for that region(s).

Upon approval of such documentation British Rowing grants individual event insurance to each region/city (note: the responsibility for the management of the trials is thereby returned to the RRCs and not Power8 Sprints)

## **2.6 Key Dates**

- **30 April** – crews (with up to 4 reserves) submitted to Race Directors
- **6 May** – Race Directors review and confirm selection
- **11 May** - crew managers submit photos and 1 paragraph biography of each crew member and coach to Sophie Galasinski. Email: [Sophie.galasinski@britishrowing.org](mailto:Sophie.galasinski@britishrowing.org)
- **29 May** - crew announcement event with media in Bristol
- **29 June** – final crews submitted to Race Directors
- **22 July** – Race Day

## **3 Safeguarding and Clean Sport**

### **3.1 Safeguarding**

Power8 Sprints recognises their Duty of Care to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to provide a safe environment for all those attending the event in whatever capacity.

Power8 Sprints believes that the welfare and well-being of everyone attending the event whether as competitors or as spectators, is paramount. Children and adults at risk; regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion or ability, have equal rights to safety and protection, and therefore an increased Duty of Care. All suspicions, concerns and allegations of harm will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

Power8 Sprints will appoint an Event Welfare Advisor for the competition and he/she will act as the point of contact for any concerns or allegations. A contact number will be posted on the website and they can also be contacted via any Event Official during the Event.

### **3.2 Clean Sport Statement**

Power8 Sprints is committed to Clean Sport. All competitors, competitor support personnel and clubs are bound and must abide by the World Anti-Doping Agency Code. Competitors at the Power8 Sprints could be tested at any time, and by taking part in this event it will be deemed that consent to be tested has been given.

To understand more about anti-doping, the rules and your responsibilities, go to [www.britishrowing.org/about-us/governance/anti-doping](http://www.britishrowing.org/about-us/governance/anti-doping) or email [antidoping@britishrowing.org](mailto:antidoping@britishrowing.org)