



Organised by Monmouth Rotary Club – In aid of St David's Hospice Care

RAFT RACE REGULATIONS

1. All participants enter **at their own risk** and must be **16** years of age or older. No responsibility will be accepted by the organisers for loss or damage to persons or property, howsoever caused. Each participant will be expected to sign a disclaimer form before being allowed to start.
2. All Participants must be able to swim, whilst clothed, in moving water.
3. All rafts must pass scrutiny before the race, and must conform with the following:-
 - a. **Life Jackets** to be worn by all team members.
 - b. **Raft numbers** must be displayed on each side of the raft and **be clearly visible from both riverbanks**. Numbers must be at least **12 inches tall**.
 - c. No less than 4 and no more than 10 persons to each raft.
 - d. No crew member to be under the influence of **alcohol or drugs**.
 - e. Raft to be less than 8 metres long.
 - f. Raft to include a **hitching point** which is strong enough to allow the raft to be winched out of the river at the finish.
 - g. No engines or row-locks.
 - h. Rafts to be safely and securely constructed **and are not permitted to be built of solid polystyrene**.
 - i. **No water cannons or pumps. The use of water cannons or pumps is strictly prohibited on Health and Safety grounds and use of such may result in prosecution.**
 - j. Crews to have completed registration before entering the water.
4. All rafts must attend the start point in an orderly fashion and all rafts must go into the river as directed by the stewards.
5. The throwing of any material is **Strictly Forbidden**, and if proven the offending team will be **Disqualified For Future Years**, with all rights forfeited. Offenders will also render themselves **Liab**le To Prosecution under Water Authority Bylaws.
6. All rafts must be removed from the river course and shore sites **on the day of the race**
7. From **5.00 p.m.** the organisers will start clearing the river. Any raft found after that time may be towed away, and the cost charged back to the entrant.
8. Private Hospitality Sites are available at the finish and are only allowed with prior approval of the Organisers. and at a charge of £100 per site. **Please contact David Forbes at the address below if one is required.**
9. **It is NOT permitted to set up barbeques in designated car parks or raft parking areas. A dedicated barbeque area will be available. Please contact David Forbes at the address below for details.**
10. Any complaints must be lodged at the Organiser's tent near the finishing line at Whitebrook before **4.00 p.m.** on the day of the race. **In case of dispute, the Organisers decision is final.**
11. All traffic **must follow** Official Race Signs, which avoid the town centre of Monmouth. Enter the start site via the Old Dixton Roundabout on the A40 and follow the directions of the stewards to Monmouth Rowing Club. All vehicles are to exit the site as directed by the event stewards.
12. **Please read the RIVER SAFETY notes on page 2.**

Page 1 of 2



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RIVER SAFETY

- You are reminded that the consumption of alcohol before or during the race is extremely dangerous. It increases the risk of accidents, hypothermia and possible drowning.
- In previous years it has become customary for spectators to throw flour or eggs at Raft Race entrants as they pass under the bridges between the start and Redbrook. The organisers do all they can to minimise this but cannot prevent it completely. The organisers therefore advise that Raft Race crews should organise some protection. Either hard hats or a light weight canopy above the crew seats. **Warning :-** Rafts could become unstable with a risk of capsizing if fitted with a heavy canopy.
- When the water is low in the river, its quality is believed to have caused diarrhoea and vomiting from time to time by involuntary ingestion of bacteria. DO take care therefore with your personal hygiene and DO please make use of the hand cleansing dispensers provided at all food and drink points!
- As a consequence of the above point, as well as the safety of spectators on the bridges and riverbanks, anyone evading the pre-race scrutiny process and using water cannon may well be prosecuted by the Police who have demanded far greater rigour by the organisers in this respect.
- Competitors are also reminded that any proven dangerous behaviour on their part may result in prosecution.

PLEASE NOTE: For all queries, please contact:

David Forbes, Collingwood, Rockfield Road, Monmouth NP25 5SR (Telephone 01600 712665)

OR E Mail to monmouthrafttrace@gmail.com

Page 2 of 2

