



## RULES OF THE RIVER

The following rules of the river must be followed by all coxes and steerers on the River Dee.

### Tides

Always consult the tide table prior to booking an outing and assess the restricted times.

Low Tide Height	Restriction
> 1.3m	Unrestricted
1.2m – 1.3m	No rowing for 1 hour either side of low tide
0.5m – 1.2m	No rowing for 1.5 hours either side of low tide
< 0.5m	No rowing for 2 hours either side of low tide

### Prevailing Conditions

Prior to boating, assess the prevailing wind direction and strength, the stream conditions and whether the tide is rising or falling. If any one of the above conditions is judged to be excessive for the competence of the crew and/or cox, the outing should be cancelled.

When uncertain, seek advice from an experienced member of the club. Conditions can vary along the river and can change with the tide. Coxes should be constantly aware of changing conditions.

When rowing at night or in impaired visibility, assessment of the conditions needs to be more stringent than during the day.

### Equipment Check

Prior to an outing, coxes or crew are responsible for checking the following items: the bow ball is fitted correctly; the heel restraints are in place; the buoyancy compartments are watertight. Coxes must wear a buoyancy aid or life jacket; an inflatable life jacket must be worn if using a bow loader.

### Course

Coxes and crew should be familiar with the River Circulation Map as posted in the boathouse.

Boats proceeding **upstream** should be on the **boathouse (South)** side of the river.

Boats proceeding **downstream** should be on the **city (North)** side of the river.

Stay near the bank and avoid the centre of the river unless overtaking another boat.

### Turning

On stopping to change direction, crews and scullers must move immediately to the opposite side of the river, preferably by performing a U-turn ie the first ninety degree turn, then row across the river followed by the second ninety degree turn.

Boats must not turn on the spot where they stop rowing as this will place them on the wrong side of the river and directly in the path of oncoming boats.

Coxes and steerers should be aware of the effect of wind and tide when turning boats upstream of a bridge. Always allow plenty of room to manoeuvre the boat. On completion of the turn, always row clear of the bridge.



## **Bridges**

### Victoria Bridge

Travel downstream of this bridge is forbidden, except in an emergency situation or under instruction from race marshals. Boats travelling through the bridge must turn immediately and progress upstream through the second arch on the boathouse side of the river.

### Queen Elizabeth II Bridge

Boats should generally proceed through the central span, following normal river circulation rules.

### Railway Bridge

Arches are numbered from Riverside Drive and painted on the upstream side of the bridge piers. Boats proceeding upstream should use arches 4 or 5. Boats proceeding downstream should use arch 2. Arch 3 should only be used in an emergency.

When three bricks or more are visible above the water line on the vertical part of the main piers, boats must not proceed through and upstream of the bridge.

### King George VI Bridge

Boats proceeding upstream should use the main (South) arch. Boats proceeding downstream should use the city (North) arch.

When one brick or more is visible above the water line on the vertical part of the central pier, boats must not proceed through and upstream of the bridge.

### Bridge of Dee

No club boats are permitted above the Bridge of Dee.

