

MARATHON RACING RULES OF COMPETITION 2015

RULES

1. All competitors must abide by the Rules of the Marathon Racing Committee and to any additional rules set by the race organiser.

ELIGIBILITY

2. All competitors in SCA ranking races must be members of the Scottish Canoe Association, or another recognised National Governing Body. Non-members must pay SCA Day membership in addition to their entry fees and complete the appropriate form. Day members will not be eligible for SCA trophies or medals but will be eligible for ranking and Hasler points.

RACING

3. Competitors shall race at all times in a fair manner. The only means of propulsion shall be by paddle. In the absence of specific SCA rules, the ICF rules covering equipment and the conduct of competitors during a race will be observed.
4. Wash hanging on Power craft, or other vessels not involved in the race, is not permitted.
5. All courses are as described in the Sprint and Marathon handbook, or as notified by the race organiser. No alternative routes or portages, which shorten the course, are permitted.
6. In the event of a paddle breakage, a replacement may be used. The same craft must be used throughout the race.

ENTRIES

7. Entries must be submitted on Marathon Racing Entry Cards.
8. The race organiser has the right to reject an entry from any competitor whose boat or equipment standard is not to the organiser's satisfaction. The organiser may also impose a minimum standard of competence for entries to the event and may reject an entry from any competitor who is not deemed competent for conditions on the day. Any competitor whose entry is rejected shall not paddle over the race course.

SAFETY

9. For all events, the following safety precautions will apply:
 - a: The buoyancy of each canoe must be sufficient to enable the craft and crew to be supported in the event of a capsized or when the craft is full of water,
 - b: The organiser may insist that approved buoyancy aids are worn or carried in the boat. All competitors under 16 years of age must wear buoyancy aids for all races on rivers and open water unless the event organiser gives specific dispensation.
 - c: Paddlers competing in closed cockpit boats (e.g. Slalom or White Water Racing Boats) on down-river courses must wear an approved crash helmet,
 - d: For the following events it will be advisory for all long and short course paddlers to have attained a competence level equivalent to 3-star placid water: Leukaemia Tay, Grand Dunk & Spey. Where a paddler's level of competence is unknown they should be advised to enter the mini course where one is provided.

Any competitors failing to comply with these rules will not be allowed to participate in the race,

PORTAGES

10. Assistance may not be provided or accepted at any portages except on the specific instructions of the race organiser. Competitors with physical disabilities or injuries that require such assistance should make arrangements with the event organiser before the start of the race.

NUMBERS

11. Each competitor will be issued with a number bib or board that must be clearly visible at all times. These numbers must be returned to the organiser at the end of the race.

PROTESTS

12. Any competitor, who wishes to protest any aspect of the conduct of a race, including the accuracy of the results, must do so in writing to the event organiser within 30 minutes of the production of the race results.
13. If necessary, the organiser will provide a protest committee of three persons, of whom one will be from the SCA Marathon Racing Committee. At least two will not be members of the organising club [or the club(s) involved in the protest].

THE DIVISIONAL SYSTEM

14. All paddlers will be ranked in 1 of 9 divisions according to their current ability, based on results achieved during the current or previous season. The rankings listed in the yearbook will apply for the start of the season. Throughout the season paddlers will be promoted or demoted between divisions in accordance with the procedures set out in the BCU Canoe Racing Handbook.
15. Any paddler previously ranked who does not compete for one or more seasons may apply to the committee for re-ranking before competing again.
16. Paddlers new to racing should consult the Marathon Committee if they are unsure of their entry point to the system.
17. Three courses will be offered at most events. Paddlers should enter these courses according to their current divisional ranking status. Division 1-3 paddlers should race over the Long Course, Division 4-6 paddlers over the Short Course and Division 7-9 paddlers over the Mini Course.

At some events, where no suitable course is available, a mini course will not be offered.

18. If a division does not have 3 entries then paddlers in that division will be transferred to another division to make a quorate race of 3 or more paddlers. Where possible they should be transferred to a division which races the same distance.
19. K2 rankings should be based on the average ranking of the two crew members, rounded up to the higher division where appropriate, e.g. a crew made up of a division 3 paddler and a division 5 paddler should race as Division 4. A crew made up of a Division 2 paddler and a Division 5 paddler should race as Division 3.

RANKING LISTS

20. Scottish Ranking Events 2015

		Long	Short	Mini	Lightning
Canal	Forth & Clyde I	*	*	*	*
	Linlithgow	*	*	*	*
	Edinburgh	*	*	*	*
	Forth & Clyde I I	*	*	*	*
	Inverness (canal & river)	*	*	*	*
Rivers	River Spey	*	*	*	
	Leukaemia	*	*		
	Grand-Dunk	*	*	*	
	Glasgow Green	*	*	*	*
	River Dee	*	*	*	*
Loch	Loch Lubnaig	*	*	*	*

Each year 2 of the above events will host the K1 and K2 Championships, the others will be K1 ranking events.

2015 Championship Venues are : K1 at Grand Dunk on the R.Tay, Lightning at Glasgow Canal, K2 & Mini K2 at Underwood on the Forth & Clyde Canal.

New Ranking lists system for 2015

- Ranking lists will be prepared for each of the marathon courses (Long, Short and Mini).
 - Points will be awarded based on position as follows
 - 1st – 50, 2nd – 45, 3rd – 40, 4th – 37, 5th – 35, 6th – 33; 7th – 31, 8th – 29, and so on until 22nd - 2 and subsequent finishers – 1 point.
 - One ranking list will be maintained for each course, including paddlers of both genders and from all age groups.
 - Points will only be awarded to paddlers who are racing over the appropriate course for their current divisional ranking. Any other paddlers will be ignored in the allocation of points.
 - Each paddler's points total will be based upon their best points scored in the total number of races run in the season minus 2 (e.g. if there are 7 short courses run in the season then the points total will be each paddler's best 5 results.);
 - Paddlers who are promoted or demoted between courses during the season will retain their point earned in the initial course and will accrue points in their new division and will be eligible for end of season prizes on either.
 - Rankings will be based exclusively on K1 results.
21. Visiting paddlers who are not eligible for SCA trophies will not be included for the purpose of preparing the ranking lists although they will be eligible for prizes at individual races.
 22. The K1 Championships shall not be a ranking event as paddlers race the course appropriate to their age and not their divisional ranking.

SCOTTISH MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS

23. The following age groups and courses will be offered at the Scottish K1 and K2 Championships :

Long Course (min.15km)	Short Course (min.10km)	Mini Course (min. 5km)	Lightning (c.3km)
Senior Men	Senior Ladies	Youth U14	Under 12
Under 23 Men	Under 23 Ladies	Masters Ladies (44 & over)	Under 10
Junior Men (U18)	Junior Ladies(U 18)	Masters Men (44 & over)	
	Veteran (34 & over)		
	Youth U16		