

G-E 2018



Chief Official & Emergency Phone 07593781372

Event Rules

CLASSES

Entries will be accepted in the following classes:

A – K1 / C1	One paddler, paddling the whole course.
B – K2 / C2	One crew, paddling the whole course.
C – K1 / C1 Relay	2 paddlers as a team, paddling alternate sections.
D – K2 / C2 Relay	2 crews as a team, paddling alternate sections.
E – K1 / C1 Relay Team	up to 6 paddlers as a team, paddling alternate sections.
F – K2 / C2 Relay Team	up to 6 crews as a team, paddling alternate sections.
G - Open Team Relay	up to 12 paddlers as a team, paddling alternate sections using any combination of canoe &/or kayak.

AGE

Paddlers for Classes A and B must be over 16 years of age on 1 January 2018.

Welfare – Team leaders are responsible for the welfare of all paddlers in their team. Nominated parents/carers/team leaders are **FULLY** responsible for supervising their children for the duration of the event, which includes on the water. A Parental consent form and emergency contact details should be held by the team leader for all team members under the age of 16 years who are not accompanied by a parent/carer.

COURSE

All competitors are required to navigate the entire length of the canals.

Competitors may portage in places other than around locks or natural blockages but at all times must follow the route of the canal and in no way shorten the course.

EQUIPMENT

All craft should be registered at the start of the race and may not be replaced at any time. Paddles may be replaced at any time.

Competitors and team leaders must ensure their craft have enough fitted buoyancy to keep them and their crew afloat in the event of capsize or when full of water.

BUOYANCY AIDS

Buoyancy aids must be worn at all times by all paddlers in classes A & B, all novice paddlers and all paddlers under 16 on 1st January 2018 and are advised for all other competitors.

The event organiser and/or team leaders may require paddlers to wear buoyancy aids.

RACE NUMBERS

Each entry will be given a number bib or board which must be displayed as instructed at all times.

START TIMES

SATURDAY – competitors should set their own start time, between 9:00am and 12:00 noon, taking into account their expected speed over the course so that they arrive in Falkirk within the finishing window (2:30pm to 5:00pm). Anyone who feels that they need to start earlier should contact the organiser to make arrangements.

SUNDAY – Each competitor will be allocated a start time for Sunday based upon their elapsed time for Saturday. The slowest competitors will start first with quicker competitors starting later and the fastest will start at 11:30am. Competitors must start at the time allocated by the organisers. Competitors may request an earlier start time if they feel they will need more time. Competitors will not normally be allowed to start later than their allocated time and other than in exceptional circumstances their time will start at the allocated time even if they actually start paddling later. No competitors will be allowed to gain advantage by starting alongside a quicker crew.

CHANGE OVERS

Incoming paddlers in the Relay, Team Relay and Open Team Relay classes must ensure that their boat overlaps the outgoing paddler before the bib is handed over.

PORTAGES

All portages must follow the general line of the canal and should be made along the tow path. Competitors may portage in places other than around locks or natural blockages but at all times must follow the route of the canal and in no way shorten the course.

Relay and Team Relay paddlers may assist their own team members at portages. Relay and Team Relay boats which are not the active boat may be handled by non team members.

SUPPORT CREWS & ASSISTANCE

All paddlers must have a support crew and transport. Classes C,D,E,F and G may use their competing members as their support crew.

A competitor may receive assistance (eg. refreshments, repairs, clothing) from bank support crews, as long as it does not impede other competitors, but may not be progressed in any way (without prior agreement).

A competitor who requires assistance to lift/carry their boat may, by prior agreement from the organiser, receive assistance, from designated helpers.

PROTESTS and CONCERNS

Any protest should be notified, via team leaders, to Chief Official in person or by phone on the Event Emergency Phone Number within 30 minutes of the crew completing the event on the day concerned. Any other concerns should be notified as soon as reasonably practical to the Chief Official.

RESPONSIBILITY

Canoeing is an outdoor water based sport and as such has inherent dangers which all participants should recognise.

The organisers do not accept any responsibility for equipment or persons during the race.

WITHDRAWAL

Withdrawals from the race must be reported to the Timekeepers/Marshals at the next mobile check point, or the Chief Official via the emergency phone number as soon as possible.