



Overview

Emma Sprints is intended to be a fun introduction to racing, which we try to run as smoothly as possible. Sometimes it may not be possible to run the event with the precision of other regattas due to the relative experience of the participants. The Marshalls will try to be as fair as is possible, but to avoid chaos may need to make a marginal decision which could go either way. This is unavoidable, so try not to get worked up about minor things and be fair to other competitors.

Sprints is a race where getting involved in the spirit of the competition is far more important than the end result, and will certainly be more memorable in years to come. Costumes are expected, bribes are encouraged, and we all hope to make it to end in one piece!

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Race Entry

Entry forms for Novice Vllls will be available on the Emma Sprints website. These will need to be submitted, along with a cheque for the race fee of £40 per boat entered (payable to Emmanuel Boat Club), to Matthew Naish's pigeon hole in Emmanuel College by the **deadline of 16th November**. There is a limit of 64 boats that can race and spaces will be primarily allocated on a first come first serve basis, though if spaces are tight a limit may also be applied on the number of entries from each College (at the discretion of the race organisers).

All boats should nominally apply to race in one of the four divisions (NM1, NM2, NW1, NW2), though these may be changed in the draw to balance numbers. Entries from mixed gender crews are permitted, and will be allocated to a division depending on numbers.

Although the race is primarily intended for Novice Vllls entries from other boats are encouraged and will be considered on an individual basis, though an amusing handicap may be imposed. Contact the organisers if you are interested in entering a senior boat (of any type) and we can discuss the details of the entry.

The Draw

The draw will be made as soon after the application deadline as possible. This will be displayed on the website and will contain information such as the race schedule, and marshalling times and locations. This will be finalised as soon as possible, but is subject to change at any point up to 24hrs before the race, so keep checking to ensure you have the latest information.

Race Status

Due to previous events having difficulty with weather conditions a race status will now be allocated. This will be one of the following:

- **Green:** Boat as normal. Race going ahead as planned
- **Yellow:** Boat as normal. Race going ahead under simplified rules (see below). Be prepared for imminent cancellation.
- **Red:** DO NOT BOAT. Race is cancelled for safety in poor conditions. Crews who have not yet raced will have their entry fee refunded.

This status will be posted on the website, and will be visible outside Emma Boathouse. It is the competing crew's responsibility to check the status before they boat.

Costumes/kit

All crews are encouraged to compete in a themed costume, although this is not compulsory. A prize will be awarded to the crew with the best costume. Be imaginative, but make sure you bring enough kit as it can sometimes get very cold between races.

Marshalling

Marshalling stations for each race are specified on the draw next to the crew, but stay alert to changes and follow any instruction from Marshalls on the bank. Initial marshalling will take place at the time specified on the website between the P&E and the railway bridge (Marshalling Zone 1, stations 1-16). All crews must have a bank party to assist with marshalling. Crews late to marshal may be turned away.

Following the first race crews will spin and marshal between Ditton and Grassy corners (Marshalling Zone 2, stations A-P) under instruction from Bank Marshalls. All crews will race back, those who have won both races will spin and marshal at zone 1 to repeat the process, those who have lost will return back to their boathouse.

Race Rules

Green Flag

- Racing crews will be given a side (towpath or meadow) and lined up on the starting line (either the railway bridge or the 500m post on the Reach depending on direction).
- Crews will be started (from a standing start) as soon as possible and will race to the respective finishing line.
- Crews are required to remain on their half of the river.
- The first to cross the line wins.
- Any crews acting in a way which is deemed unsafe will be disqualified and may be asked to stop.

Yellow Flag

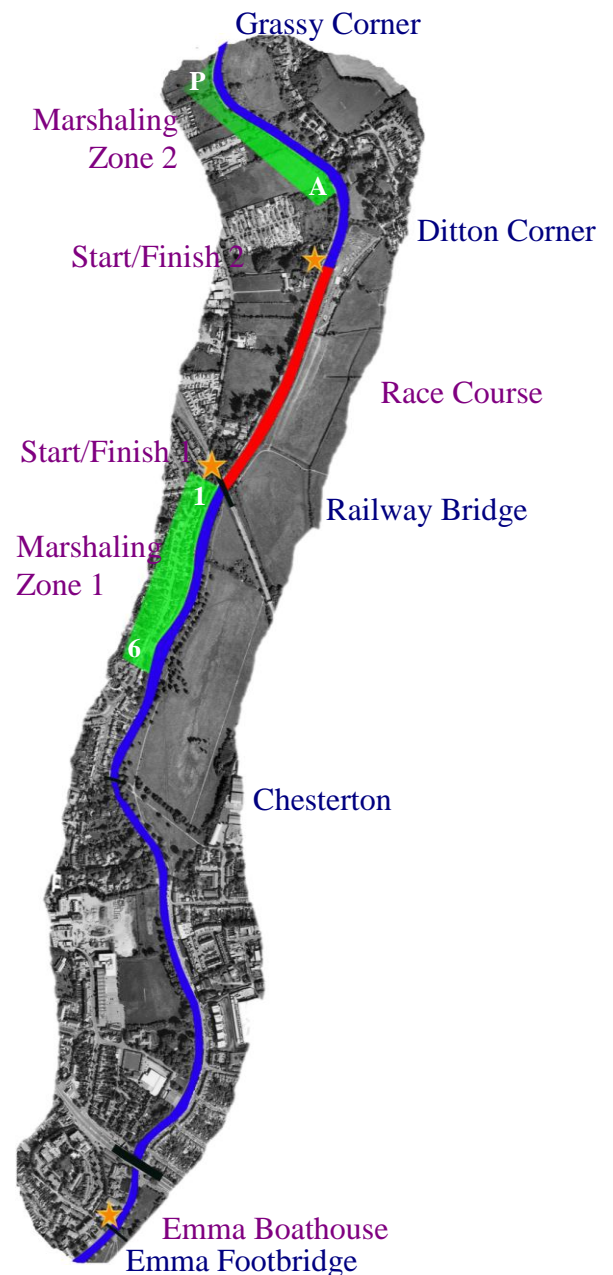
- Competing crews will be started at a time interval to complete a rolling start to be at race speed by the relevant start point.
- The time between the two racing crews will be taken at the start and finishing line. If the gap has increased the lead crew will be declared the winner, if the gap has shortened the chasing crew will be declared the winner.
- Crews are not required to remain on any side, but must give way to overtaking crews.
- Overtaking crews should choose a side with more space to pass on and this pass should not be impeded.
- Any crews acting in a way which is deemed unsafe will be disqualified and may be asked to stop.

Results

- Provisional results will be published on the event website as they happen.
- In the event of a marginal result the crew with the best costume, or that has given the biggest bribe, will be likely to be declared the winner.

Prizes

- **All entrants:** All crews will receive a bag of doughnuts (given to the bank party)



- **Division winners:** Division winning crews (+coxes) will be awarded free tickets to Emma Cocktails, the event held in the evening of the race at Emmanuel (details on website). If crews have already purchased tickets to the cocktails event the cost of these tickets will be refunded.
- **Best Costume:** The crew winning this prize will each be awarded a pineapple, to be delivered to the winning boathouse at some point in the week following the event.

Rowing Through

The river will nominally be closed for the event, but if any senior boats would like to row through between divisions to go over the lock please contact me at mn359@cam.ac.uk. We will try to accommodate all requests, but may impose first come first serve limits if demand is high. We will turn crews away if they have not organised their row through in advance.

Emma Cocktails

Emma Cocktails is an event held at Emmanuel in the evening of the Sprints. Tickets are available to purchase either using the race entry form, or by contacting me directly, (mn359@cam.ac.uk). This will be a fun event with themed cocktails, live jazz, and in all likelihood a mountain of uneaten doughnuts. More information is available on the website.

Event Photos

Photos will be taken of each crew during the regatta and loaded onto the website in the following week.

EBC Contact

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