

The Head of the Gorge, 5 km Regatta Information

Parking

Trailers may not be dropped at launch area until after 5:30 p.m. on Friday evening. Trailers may be left at Elk Lake, in the upper parking lot, until that time if you arrive earlier. Crews leaving trailers early will have an automatic 5 minute penalty applied to all entries on that trailer. All clubs with boats on a trailer are responsible for making sure the parking rules are observed.

PLEASE RECOGNIZE THAT TRAILER SPACE IS LIMITED AND WE HAVE TO PACK YOU IN. WHEN LOADING IF POSSIBLE AVOID PUTTING 8'S ON THE INSIDE RACKS OF END LOADING BAYS. IT MAKES FOR EASIER UNLOADING IN TIGHT QUARTERS.

The lot at the top of the park will be reserved for trailers. There will be a space reserved for cars to drop off roof topped boats. Please be quick dropping off your boat and be sure to bring stretchers. Scullers and clubs with small boats on car tops may want to try rigging at Gorge Kinsmen Park and then rowing up to the registration area. Parking is also available across the bridge at the Craigflower farmhouse lot. Please try to car pool and obey all parking signs. See map for locations and again please be courteous and park where you should.

Registration

7:00 am

Desk will be open.

Scratch fees are the posted entry fee.

Late entries are double the posted entry fee.

Information Meeting

8:00 am

All Clubs, independent entries and coxswains must attend.

Attendance is required regardless of the time you are racing.

ROLL CALL will be taken at the start of the meeting. A **30 second penalty** will be assessed, for missing the meeting, on the following basis:

- a) every entry in any club missing the meeting,
- b) every crew whose coxswains miss the meeting,
- c) every independent entry that misses the meeting.

The meeting is to assure that all crews going on the water understand the water conditions and procedures at the Tillicum Narrows. For your safety and the safety of all please make sure you have as many of your coaches, coxswains and scullers attend.

THANKS!

Launch for First Race

Immediately after the meeting

All crews must leave the beach during their launching period. The BEACH MASTER will stop any crew trying to leave before or after their launch time. Crews violating the launch procedures will be disqualified from racing. Please note it takes time to get everyone through the narrows and up to the start.

Start for First Race

10:30 am

There will be a 10 to 15 second gap between crews. You will start in order of the bow numbers so find the crew starting in front of you and get in line behind them. PLEASE stay in sight of the MARSHALS boat and listen for them to call you to the line.

Launch for Second Race

11:30 a.m. or after the last boat from first flight crosses the line.

All crews must leave the beach during the launching period. The BEACH MASTER will stop any crew trying to leave before or after the launch time. Crews violating the launch procedures will be disqualified from racing. Please note it takes time to get everyone through the narrows and up to the start.

Start for Second Race

1:30 pm

Same procedure as for First Race.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Crews launching at the Gorge Rowing Club or other locations.

All clubs, coxswains and scullers must attend the 8:00 a.m. meeting at Craigflower Park, regardless of their starting time.

Crews will have to hold well back of the finish line until all crews have crossed the finish line. Failure to obey the finish area marshal or interference with crews crossing the finish

will result in a DISQUALIFICATION. We suggest that clubs have slings set up at the finish for crews launching from other sites. Please realize that the rule has been implemented for the safety of all crews in the race. Our chief goal is to run a safe and fair regatta.

The Head of the Elk, 8 km Regatta Information

Parking	Trailers must be in the designated areas. Please park cars and vans in the parking lots. There is no parking allowed on the highway it is posted and you will be ticketed and towed if you park there. Boat trailers should be moved to Elk Lake Saturday afternoon after the Gorge regatta. Trailers must be parked in order of arrival starting at positions 1 and 2 (see map) to accommodate all the clubs. Clubs failing to park their trailers properly, and or having any vehicles associated with them park on the highway, will have a 60 second penalty applied to all their entries. There are additional parking lots available at Hamsterly Beach and in the field immediately South of the boathouse. Both lots have trails to the boathouse and are within a 10 minute or less walk. From Hamsterly you actually walk along the lake and the first 500 metres of the course.
Registration 8:00 am	Desk will be open. Scratch fees are the posted entry fee. Late entries are double the posted entry fee.
Information Meeting 9:00 am	Course information for all Coaches, Coxswains and Scullers. All clubs must have at least one representative at this meeting. THANKS!
Launch for First Race 9:30 am to 10:30 am	All crews racing in the first race must be off the dock by 10:30am. Crews will not be allowed to launch after this time.
Start for First Race 10:45 am	There will be a 10 to 15 second gap between crews. You will start in order of the bow numbers so find the crew starting in front of you and get in line behind them. Line up along the row of large orange and white buoys. Large boats to small boats in order of bow markers. PLEASE stay in sight of the MARSHALS boat and listen for them to call you to the line.
Launch for Second Race 11:45 to 12:15 pm	All crews racing in the second race must be off the dock by 12:30 pm. Crews will not be allowed to launch after this time.
Start for Second Race 12:30 pm	Same procedure as for the First Race.

General Information

Entries All entries should be submitted by the date on the entry form.

Late entry fees are double the posted fee for the event. Scratch fees are the entry fee posted for the event. Please use one form per crew. Separate forms must be submitted for each regatta regardless if the crew is the same. Entry fees must be paid for crews to be accepted.

Winners of the previous years regatta in all events will be given a guaranteed entry in that event for that regatta. In some events, at the discretion and pleasure of the regatta committee, guaranteed entries will be given to those crews within 2.5% of the winning time. **In single sculling events guaranteed entry will be given only to a returning sculler not to their club.**

Email completed entry forms along with fees to: regatta@uvic.ca Only entries sent on the official form and via email will be accepted. Check the web site for information on entries

Awards

Medals will be awarded for all crew members with winning times (corrected for masters) at the Gorge Regatta. The crews with winning times (corrected for masters) at the Elk Lake Regatta will also receive medals. All events in both regattas must have three or more entries to be considered medal events.

Gorge regatta special awards. In events chosen by the regatta chair special medals will be awarded to crews finishing within 2.5 percent of the winning time. The events chosen will at the pleasure of the regatta chair and will be based on the number of entries in an event and the degree of competition the results of the event display.

Classifications

- OPEN -** All University Varsity Crews and Club Crews with senior oars persons as crew members.
- J.V./Lwt. -** Second Varsity or Senior Lightweight oarspersons as crew members. Any club wishing to enter a crew in this division without an entry in the open race must receive permission from the regatta chair.
- NOVICE -** Oarspersons who began rowing after July 1, of the year of the event or with permission of the regatta chair.
- MASTERS -** Oarspersons must be 27 or more years old on the date of the event. Crew handicaps will be assessed based on the average age of the crew. **HEAD of the GORGE handicap will be 5 seconds for every year over the age of 27. HEAD of the ELK handicap will be 8 seconds for every year over the age of 27.**

ELIGIBILITY - All organizations and participants must be members in good standing with their respective governing bodies.

Rules of Racing

NARROWS **At the HEAD OF THE GORGE all crews will be allowed only two attempts to row up through the TILICUM NARROWS. Crews failing to proceed on their first attempt will be returned to the rear of the queue and if failing a second time will be sent back to the launch area. No refunds will be given for crews unable to navigate the narrows.**

BOW MARKERS – ALL BOATS MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH BOW CLIPS. Crews are responsible for ensuring their assigned bow numbers are securely attached to a BOW CLIP on the front deck of their boat. A suggested method for securing the bow number into the clips is included in the race package. It has been our experience that even in tight passing and the starting line up a well secured bow marker does not come off. **NO BOW MARKER = NO TIME. Deposits are required for the bow marker and can be reclaimed after each race at the registration desk.**

START- All crews are responsible for ensuring they line up in the correct order and are at the start area in due time for their race. Start sequence will not be held up for late crews and you can be assessed a one minute penalty for being late to the start or interfering with another crews start. Crews will be seeded based on previous attendance and there will be a 10-15 second interval between crews. A marshal will call boats in order to the line. **WE SUGGEST THAT THE BOW PERSON OR COXSWAIN WRITE THEIR NUMBER IN FELT PEN ON THE BACK OF THEIR HAND.**

FINISH Finish lines for both races are marked with TWO LARGE ORANGE BUOYS which you should row between. Crews are responsible for ensuring they row over the finish line. Your time will be taken and a horn will be sounded when you have crossed the line.

PASSING - The overtaking crew has right of way and the overtaken crew must yield water away from the overtaking crew. No crew may compromise the safety of another during passing. Especially in tight water safety is the responsibility of both the crews. Listen to officials if they ask you to delay passing. Disqualification will result for failing to yield right of way,

heed an officials warning or compromising the safety of another crew.

BUOYS - Bouys must be taken on the correct side of the hull for the corner or obstacle they are marking. No penalty will be assessed for riggers or oars passing over a bouy as long as the bouy remains on the correct side of the hull. A time penalty may be assessed for failure to round a buoy. Officials are posted at all critical corners for both regattas and will assess penalties if unfair advantage was gained.

EQUIPMENT - All boats must be equipped with bow ball, heel tie downs and bow clips.

UNIFORMS - All crews must race in their official club colors and uniforms of all crew members must be the same. Blades should all be painted to match in any crew and must have club colors.

Cautions

The GORGE is a tidal, saltwater, navigable waterway. Crews must adhere to maritime rules of right of way should a situation warrant it. Please be vigilant for floating obstacles at all times.

The INNER HARBOUR has commercial air and boat traffic. Please remain close to the start area at the Johnson Street Bridge to avoid conflicts with commercial traffic.

PLEASE READ THE INFORMATION ON THE GORGE NARROWS. This is the most exciting part of the gorge race and is a lot of fun too. However nervousness and/or recklessness sometimes cause us problems as crews row up thorough the narrows. Please take careful note of all the information we have provided to make sure everyone gets through the Narrows in safe and enjoyable fashion.

ELK and BEAVER LAKES. The lakes are open for under 10hp traffic. Please watch for other users during the warm up and racing although the course itself is closed to all other traffic during racing. Please pay attention to the course buoys as they are there to help you avoid natural and man made hazards as well as make the course fair.

We look forward to welcoming you to Victoria. Please drive your boats carefully and have a safe trip.