

Women's Eights Head of the River Race

Press Release



Katherine Grainger takes record eighth victory in 75th Women's Eights Head of the River Race

The 75th Women's Eights Head of the River Race had noticeably slower conditions than last year, with the wind chopping up the water for the first half of the course. In an innovation for the 2015 race, provisional times and results were published online within minutes of the crews crossing the line, meaning that there was excitement all the way along Putney Embankment as crews were greeted with details of results as they landed. The race had its earliest start time since 2001, but that didn't deter a large entry of 295 crews racing.

The overall title was once again taken this year by a British Squad composite crew, including Katherine Grainger, who in winning her eighth overall title moved clear of Ann Sayer who achieved a total of seven wins between 1958 and 1965.

The University Pennant was won by Cambridge University Women's BC A, using the opportunity to race over the Tideway course (albeit in the opposite direction) as a warm-up for the move of their Boat Race to the Tideway in a month's time.

Leander Club entered two crews into the race for the first time ever, and was rewarded by their B crew of development athletes, and Olympic Silver Medallist Debbie Flood, winning the Club Pennant. The Intermediate 1 and 2 Pennants were won by Molesey BC A and Oxford Brookes University BC A respectively.

Headington School BC A retained the School/Junior event for the fourth year in succession, seeing off a determined challenge from a crew of Italian junior internationals from CUS Milano, who picked up the Overseas Pennant. The award for the fastest Masters crew was taken by a composite of multiple clubs.

The consistent quality of several clubs around the country can be seen in the number of pennants that were successfully defended from last year. Imperial College BC A retained the Senior Pennant, Nottingham RC A were Provincial Club champions for the ninth consecutive year, Oxford Brookes BC B took home the Intermediate 3 Pennant, while Henley Rowing Club C – a junior crew – won the Novice Club Pennant. Imperial College BC B rounded out the Pennant winners with the Novice Academic award.

Following its success last year, prizes were once again presented at a Victory Ceremony on the Embankment in front of Thames Rowing Club. The ceremony was again compered by the "Voice of Rowing", Dr Robert Treharne Jones, while Chairman of British Rowing, Annamarie Phelps, having herself raced earlier in the day presented the prizes.

Provisional Pennant Winners

Head	Army BC/Imperial College BC/London RC/Marlow RC/Minerva-Bath RC/Oxford Brookes University BC/Southampton Coalporters ARC	18:58.6
Senior Club	Imperial College BC A	19:56.9
University	Leander Club B	19:59.0
Intermediate 1	Cambridge University Women's BC A	20:08.7
Intermediate 2	Molesey BC A	20:13.4
School/Junior	Oxford Brookes University BC A	20:22.6
Provincial Club	Headington School BC A	20:54.3
Intermediate 3	Nottingham RC A	20:59.0
Overseas	Oxford Brookes University BC B	21:03.7
Masters	CUS Milano (ITA)	21:25.8
Novice Club	Bristol City Rowing Club/Henley RC/Marlow RC/Reading RC/Rob Roy BC/Strathclyde Park RC/Wycliffe Sculling School	21:27.0 (Raw), 20:56.0 (Handicap)
Novice Academic	Henley RC C	21:31.9
	Imperial College BC B	22:16.3

For the website and past results visit www.wehorr.org

For more information please contact press officer: Sarah Harbour, 07812 990 760 press@wehorr.org

Official Race photographer for 2015 Jet Photographic <http://www.jetphotographic.com/>

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- Rock the Boat - sponsor and official supplier of WEHoRR merchandise <http://www.rock-the-boat.co.uk/>
- Rowperfect - sponsors of IM3 pennant (winning crew received a Coxmate SX) <https://www.rowperfect.co.uk/>
- Nero & Bianco - providing chocolate for all winners
- Peros - providing coffee for all winners

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