

## **MARATHON RACING RULES OF COMPETITION** (revised May 2022)

### **RULES**

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

### **ELIGIBILITY**

2. All competitors in SCA marathon 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 at all times race 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 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. 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. The organiser's decision is final.

### **SAFETY**

8. For all events, the following safety precautions will apply:

#### **Boat Buoyancy**

All boats used in marathon racing must be fitted with sufficient buoyancy to support the boat and crew in the event of a capsize. Inherent buoyancy in composite boats is not sufficient to meet this requirement. Additional foam buoyancy or air bags must be fitted.

#### **Personal floatation Devices** (buoyancy aids and life jackets)

- a. All paddlers who are ranked in divisions 7,8,9 and those in the Geoff Sanders Series must wear an approved buoyancy aid or life jacket for all marathon races, in singles or doubles.
- b. All paddlers under 16 years of age, (on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the year of competition) must wear an approved buoyancy aid or life jacket for all marathon races on rivers and open water unless the event organiser gives specific dispensation after consulting the paddlers team leader &/or parent.
- c. All personal floatation devices (buoyancy aids) must be EC approved (compliant with EN393, EN395, ISO12402-5 or ISO12402-6) and worn in accordance with manufacturer's instructions at all times on the water.
- d. Organisers may require other competitors to also wear approved buoyancy aids if they feel that the conditions require it, so all competitors should come prepared to comply with this requirement.
- e. Paddlers competing in closed cockpit boats (e.g. Slalom or White Water Racing Boats) on down-river courses must wear approved buoyancy aids and an approved crash helmet.

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

## **PORTAGES**

9. 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**

10. Each competitor will be issued with a number bib, board or sticker that must be clearly visible at all times. The number boards and bibs must be returned to the organiser at the end of the race.

## **PROTESTS**

11. 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 end of the final race.
12. 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**

13. All paddlers will be ranked in one of 9 divisions according to their current age and ability, based on results achieved during the current or previous season. Throughout the season paddlers will be promoted or demoted between divisions in accordance with the procedures set out in the British Canoeing Marathon Racing Rules (available on the marathon page of the "canoeracing" website)
14. Any paddler previously ranked who does not compete for one or more seasons may apply to the committee for re-ranking before competing again.
15. Paddlers new to racing should consult the Marathon Committee if they are unsure of their entry point to the system.

## **GEOFF SANDERS TROPHY SERIES**

16. Racing in this series will be open to U14 paddlers not previously promoted to Div 9 or higher  
Paddlers MUST enter the division that is most appropriate for their ability.
17. GS-DivC will be for U12 paddlers only,  
GS-DivA and GS-DivB are open to U14 paddlers.
  - ii. Promotion through the divisions is based on speed not age
18. Boat Type
  - i. Paddlers in GS-DivA or B races may use any craft that is eligible in a Hasler singles class (including lightnings and other mini K1s)
  - ii. Paddlers in GS-DivC races must use a Mini K1 or Lightning.

## **SCOTTISH MARATHON SERIES**

19. The rules of the Scottish Marathon Series are published on the marathon page of the "canoescotland" website.

## **SCOTTISH MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS**

20. The rules of the K1 and K2 Marathon Championships are published on the marathon page of the "canoescotland" website.