

START TEAM - LONG COURSE

TEAM LEADER

WATCH TIMER

STARTER

WATCH SCRIBE

WEBSCORER TIMER

WHAT TO DO

The Start Team for the Long Course is 5 people as outlined above.

WHERE TO DO IT

Well before your shift starts, report to the clubroom at Saltford to register your presence with the Personnel Manager and make contact with the Start Team Leader. See also the individual notes below about attending the Timekeepers Briefing at 8.45am.

The Team Leader will organise transport to the Start. (If you have to go to the Start independently, park in the Newbridge Park & Ride and exit on foot via the gate at the western/downstream end of the car park. Go down the steps on the downstream side of the bridge. Follow the path under the bridge and walk up and over the marina entrance bridge. The start (petrol) pontoon is 100m further upstream.)

NO WELLINGTON BOOTS ARE ALLOWED ON THE START PONTOON!

Bath Marina allow us to use their petrol pontoon. In return we have promised to Bath Marina that we shall minimise the use of loudhailers (so GO must be shouted without a loudhailer) and make allowance for any canal boats which need to refuel. If any boats arrive wishing to refuel, please ask if they mind waiting until all crews have passed the start. If they refuse we cannot stop them, but most are happy to wait and watch the proceedings.

HOW TO DO IT

Team Leader

1. The Team Leader is responsible for operating the radio (and mobile phone – see below), looking out for and responding to any problems and ensuring the stopwatch data sent to the Results Team is legible and correct.
2. Keep an overall lookout for any problems, e.g. crews likely to steer into the bank or the narrow boats, receive and send any radio messages before, during and after the start process.
3. Look after the Webscorer tablet and stopwatches between divisions.
4. After each Division, work with the Webscorer Timer to upload the Webscorer data. The Results Manager will explain how this is done. This will require use of a smart phone with Personal Hot Spot (PHS) connectivity – ensure such a phone is available.

Race Control/Long Start/Short Start/Finish/Safety Advisor will all have club-issued mobile phones with the five mission critical phone numbers programmed into them. Please use these when radio relay is unreliable or when you urgently need to contact one of the designated positions.

Starter

1. See reporting instructions above. If possible, attend the Timekeepers Briefing in the Club Room at 8.45am sharp.
2. Upon arrival on the Start Pontoon, position yourself at the upstream end of the pontoon.

3. As a crew approaches the Start, call out the crew number to the timing team, say "Crew xxx approaching". Then as the crew approaches the pontoon say "Crew xxx GO" (ideally about 10 seconds before the crew will pass the Start line).

Watch Timer

1. You must attend the Timekeepers Briefing in the Club Room at 8:45 sharp. Instructions will be confirmed, and all stopwatches and Webscorer tablets will be started together at 9am.
2. The Watch Timer operates the watch and is positioned on the start line. As the crew crosses the start line, the Watch Timer calls out "NOW", operates the watch, calling out the crew number and time to the Watch Scribe. The Watch Timer must be in the same position for all divisions, so if you are not doing all the divisions, ensure that your position can be located by your successor.

Watch Scribe

1. See reporting instructions above. If possible, attend the Timekeepers Briefing in the Club Room at 8.45am sharp.
2. Fill in the required information at the top of each timing sheet. Make sure you record the colour of the watch being used.
3. Record the crew number and time called out by the Watch Timer for every crew.
4. If the Webscorer Timer fails to tap a crew into the software, or taps late, they will call out the crew number to you. Make a note for this crew number in the "Tap Fail" column in the timing sheet.
5. If a crew has no number visible, try to record the club boat number from the sticker on the boat (ie, AVN802). If there is not time to do this, just put a ? in the comments column. Do not worry if you cannot. The results team can work out who they are after the fact. But helpful notes make it easier to work out.

Webscorer Timer

1. You must attend the Timekeepers Briefing in the Club Room at 8:45 sharp. Instructions will be confirmed, and all stopwatches and Webscorer tablets will be started together at 9am.
2. If you are on the first Division, you will be given your timing tablet at the Timekeepers Briefing. If you are on a later Division, the Team Leader will give you your timing tablet.
3. Upon arrival at the start, position yourself on the start line. Wake up the tablet by pressing the small button the right side of the tablet. Be careful not to tap any keys inadvertently.
4. Make sure you know which crew is approaching the Start and are ready to press the button marked with that crew number. Press the button at the exact moment you hear the "NOW" announced by the Watch Timer. To ensure accurate failsafe tapping, do not look up from the tablet.
5. Taps sometimes do not register the first time you press. If so, say to the Watch Scribe "Crew xxx Tap Fail". Do not worry about failed/late taps. The Watch Timer is the backup.