A suitable version should be read at the competitor briefing just prior to the event.

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the PaddleNSW [ENTER EVENT NAME]. I would like to introduce the event officials.

[ENTER NAME], Event Organiser is responsible for the entire management of the event, the organisation of officials and volunteers, and the various licences required.

The Committee comprises of the following major roles:

* Chief Official [ENTER NAME], who co-ordinates the competition rules and committee.
* Technical Director [ENTER NAME], co-ordinates all aspects of the course and craft regulations
* Event Secretary [ENTER NAME] is responsible for all data entry and correspondence for the event
* Safety Officer [ENTER NAME] co-ordinates and controls all aspects of safety, including safety boats, first aid, competitor and spectator safety, etc.

# rules

It is the entrant’s/competitor’s responsibility to know the rules of the competition. Any entrant/competitor who is unsure of any detail should contact the Chief Official, who will direct them to the appropriate person or document for clarification.

# THE COURSE

[ENTER COURSE SPECIFIC DETAILS]

Will be 2 laps of 5000m each, in an anti-clockwise direction, starting downstream. Turns are indicated by 3 buoys (colour), and course marker buoys (colour) must be kept to your left. The start and finish will be indicated by (colour) buoys. Paddlers who are continuing for another lap MUST NOT pass between these buoys.

# STARTS

One-minute warning will be given prior to the start of the event. (in the case of multiple events, a number board will be displayed at the start indicating the event about to start). Any paddler who misses the start of their event will be disqualified from that event. Once the event number is announced, paddlers must form a line roughly 20m upstream of the start. The starter will move the boats slowly down to the start line. If any forward boat does not move back into line on the instructions of the starter, and therefore compromises the start, a 2 minute penalty will be applied to that paddler’s time. Once the start is formed to the starter’s satisfaction, the instruction “start within 10 seconds” will be given. An air horn will indicate the start.

# RENDERING ASSISTANCE

… or taking assistance from another craft in a different class or race start, is not permitted. Simply, you are not permitted to assist or seek assistance such as washriding, from any craft other than one you are racing against.

# CLEARING THE COURSE

Paddlers such as those waiting for a start, those finishing, and those withdrawing from a race, must not cross or impede the progress of an event. Please show some courtesy to those still participating and stay well away from the event start.

# TURNS

Where two or more boats are approaching a turn, the leading boat is that in which the paddler’s body is clearly in front of the bow of the adjoining boat, prior to the turn being commenced. Where the inside (port side) boat has their bow in front of the adjoining paddler at the start of the turn, that boat shall have right of way. Any boat attempting to pass a slower boat in a turn, must do so without altering the progress of the slower boat. Slower boats should endeavour to allow passing room either side for faster craft where possible.

# PASSING

When a verbal warning is given to a boat about to be passed, that boat should not deviate from its course, and should allow the approaching boats to pass with safety. Boats should pass on the port side unless there is no other option, and give the slower boat adequate clearance so their progress is not altered.

# SCRUTINEERING

All boats must pass scrutineering prior to taking part in their event. This will involve measurements for dimensions (especially TK classes), checks on fixed buoyancy and weight. NO NAVIGATION /TRAINING AIDS are permitted to be used in this event. All craft MUST be able to support the full weight of the paddler when full of water, and float level with the surface. K1 minimum weight 12kg, K2 minimum weight 18kg. The first 4 finishers in each K class event will be weighed immediately after their event as they leave the water.

# PFD’s / footwear

Where there is any doubt about your ability to swim especially while suffering a cramp, a PFD/life jacket must be worn or carried in the boat. All juniors 14 and under MUST wear a PFD. Any paddler in difficulty must be assisted by those in the vicinity, and any time taken to assist a paddler in difficulty will be considered in the awarding of results. It is advisable to wear appropriate footwear, particularly where there is risk i.e., oyster shells, submerged hazards, etc.

# housekeeping

Please leave the area clean and tidy. Toilets are located in the clubhouse, and food will be available from [ENTER DETAILS].

# first aid

Your First Aid Officer today is [ENTER NAME] who is located in the vicinity of [ENTER DETAILS]

# racing numbers

Racing numbers must be handed in to the registration desk immediately at the conclusion of the event.

# protests

Any protests over results or the conduct of the event should be made to the Chief Official within 20 minutes of the conclusion of that particular event, and in writing.

# presentations

The presentation will be held today at [ENTER DETAILS AND TIME].

We hope you all stay and support the winners of the various classes.

Thank you to all and we hope you have a very enjoyable day.