

2016 MELBOURNE HEAD

HEAD RACE CHAMPIONSHIP OF AUSTRALIA

Information to Competitors

The Melbourne Head this year incorporates the **Head Race Championship of Australia** and the 2016 regatta has been expanded to 58 events featuring all boat classes including Eight, Octuple Scull, Four, Quad Scull, Pair, Double Scull and Single Scull. The Melbourne Head is open to School, Open, Elite, Club, Masters and Mixed Categories. The time trial format will be run over the spectator friendly 3.5km Yarra River Course from Herring Island to MUBC with three brackets of racing over the morning and early afternoon, providing competitors the opportunity to compete in more than one event.

The following Information to Competitors provides an overview of the key aspects of 2016 Melbourne Head.

1.0 IMPORTANT DATES

The 2016 Melbourne Head, incorporating the Australian Head Race Championship, will be held on **Saturday 19th November 2016**

Closing of Entries	11.59pm on Sunday 13th November 2016
Pick up Bow Numbers from MUBC	5.00 to 6.00pm on Friday 18 th November 2016 After 7.00am on Saturday 19 th November 2016

2.0 ENTRIES

Melbourne Head entries are via Regatta Central https://www.regattacentral.com/regatta/?job_id=4878
(See Appendix A for entry processing instructions)

2.1 Seat Fees

Fees for the 2016 Melbourne Head are as follows

- General Seat Fee: \$25.00
- Junior Seat Fee: \$8.50 (*applies to Quad Scull and Fours events for Year 8 and Year 9*)

Payment is not required at the time of entry. Clubs will be billed after the regatta.

3.0 EVENTS

The 2016 Melbourne Head has been enhanced to include eleven new events providing more racing opportunities for participants – Men's and Women's Open Single Scull, Men's and Women's Open Pair, Men's and Women's Open Four, Men's and Women's Open Quad Scull, Men's Club Double Scull, Women's Masters Coxed Four and Mixed Coxed/ Coxless Quad.

Draft Event Schedule

Event #		Time	Event Code	Event	Distance	New Event
		8:15 AM		Coxswain's meeting		
1		9:00 AM	MO1X	Men's Open Single Scull	3.5km	New
2			WO1X	Women's Open Single Scull	3.5km	New
3			MO2-	Men's Open Pair	3.5km	New
4			WO2-	Women's Open Pair	3.5km	New
5			MSch8+O1	Men's School Eight Open Div. 1	3.5km	
6			MSch8+O2	Men's School Eight Open Div. 2	3.5km	
7			MSch8+O3	Men's School Eight Open Div. 3	3.5km	
8			MSch8+Y9	Men's School Eight Y9	3.5km	
9			MM8+	Men's Masters Eight	3.5km	
10			MM4X	Men's Masters Quad Scull	3.5km	
11			WSch8+O1	Women's School Eight Open Div. 1	3.5km	
12			WSch8+O2	Women's School Eight Open Div. 2	3.5km	
13			WSch8+O3	Women's School Open 8+ Div. 3	3.5km	
14			MClub8+	Men's Club Eight	3.5km	
15			X8+	Mixed Eight	3.5km	
16			WClub8+	Women's Club Eight	3.5km	
17			WSch4X	Women's School Coxed Quad Scull	3.5km	
18			WM4X+/4X-	Women's Masters Coxed/Coxless Quad *	3.5km	
19			MClub2X	Men's Club Double Scull	3.5km	New
20			WClub2X	Women's Club Double Scull	3.5km	
21			WM4+	Women's Masters Coxed Four	3.5km	New
Break		10:30 AM		Break		
22		11:00 AM	MO4-	Men's Open Four	3.5km	New
23			WO4-	Women's Open Four	3.5km	New
24			MO2X	Men's Open Double Scull	3.5km	
25			WO2X	Women's Open Double Scull	3.5km	
26			MClub4X+	Men's Club Coxed Quad Scull	3.5km	
27			WClub4X+	Women's Club Coxed Quad Scull	3.5km	
28			X4X/4X+	Mixed Coxless/ Coxed Quad Scull *	3.5km	New
29			MSch4X+Y9	Men's School Coxed Quad Yr. 9	3.5km	
30			MSch4+X8	Men's School Coxed Quad Yr. 8	3.5km	
31			MSch4x+82	Men's School Coxed Quad Yr. 8 Div. 2	3.5km	
32			WSch4X+Y9	Women's School Coxed Quad Yr. 9	3.5km	
33			WSch4X+Y9	Women's School Coxed Quad Yr. 9 Div2	3.5km	
34			WSch4+Y9	Women's School Coxed Four Yr. 9	3.5km	
35			WSch4X+Y8	Women's School Coxed Quad Yr. 8	3.5km	
36			WSch4+Y8	Women's School Coxed Four Yr. 8	3.5km	
37			WSch4x+82	Women's School Coxed Four Yr. 8 Div. 2	3.5km	
Break		12:00 PM		Break		
38		12:30 PM	MO8+	Men's Open Eight	3.5km	
39			WO8+	Women's Open Eight	3.5km	
40			MO4X	Men's Open Quad Scull	3.5km	New
41			WO4X	Women's Open Quad Scull	3.5km	New
42			WM8+	Women's Masters Eight	3.5km	
43			MM4+/4-	Men's Masters Coxed/ Coxless Four *	3.5km	
44			MSch4X+	Men's School Coxed Quad Scull	3.5km	
45			MSch4+	Men's School Coxed Four	3.5km	
46			MClub4+	Men's Club Coxed Four	3.5km	

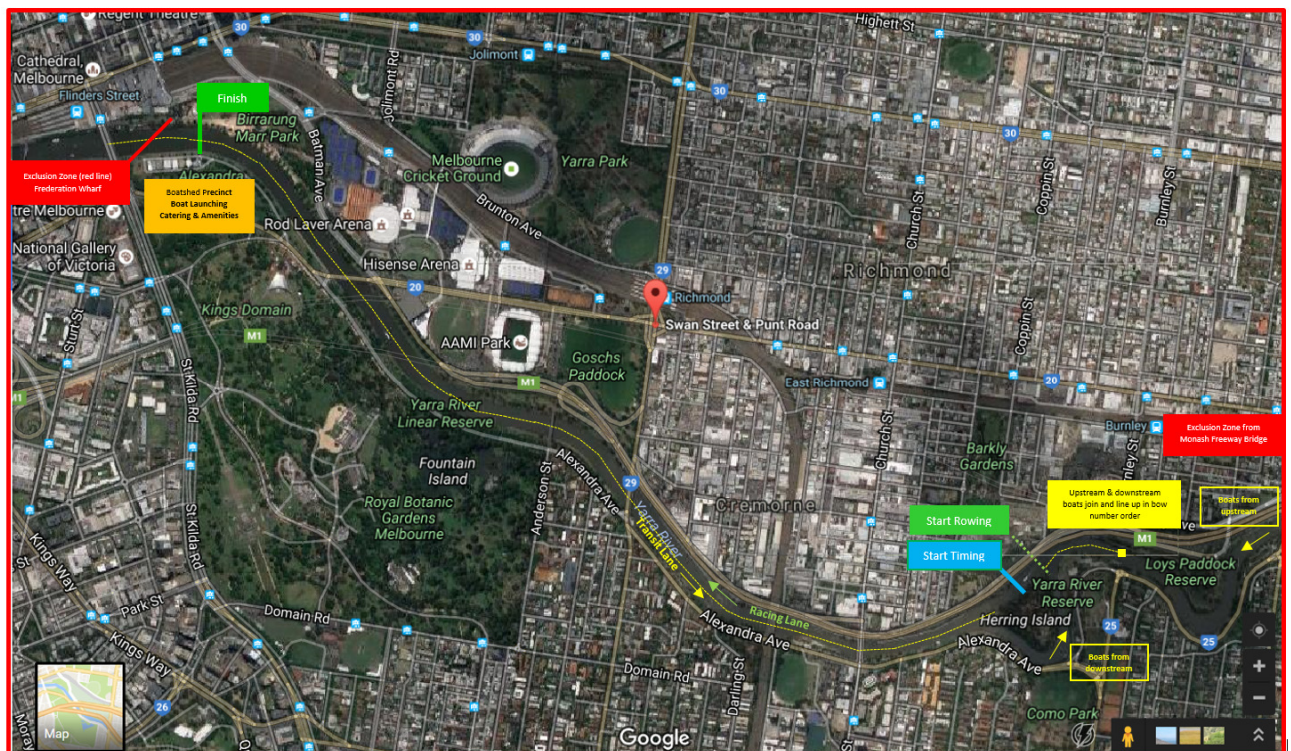
47			WClub4+	Women's Club Coxed Four	3.5km	
48			WSch4+	Women's School Coxed Four	3.5km	
49			MM2X	Men's Masters Double	3.5km	
50			MSch1X	Men's School Single Scull	3.5km	
53			MM1X	Men's Masters Single Scull	3.5km	
52			WM2X	Women's Masters Double Scull	3.5km	
53			WSch1X	Women's School Single Scull	3.5km	
54			MClub1X	Men's Club Single Scull	3.5km	
55			WClub1X	Women's Club Single Scull	3.5km	
56			WM1X	Women's Masters Single Scull	3.5km	
57			PC2X	Parent & Child Double Scull	3.5km	
58			X8X+	Mixed Coxed Octuple	3.5km	

* Combined coxed and coxless events will be handicapped

The schedule is Draft and final times will be issued on Thursday 17th November 2016

4.0 REGATTA COURSE

The Melbourne Head course is 3,500m in length and fully buoyed from the start at the top end of Herring Island through to the finish line at the City Boatshed Precinct in front of MUBC (Boathouse Drive).



The river will be closed for the regatta to all but competing crews and rescue boats, with an exclusion zone in place from Monash Freeway Bridge heading downstream to Federation Wharf (just upstream of Princes Bridge). This closure will start at 6:00am and finish at 4:00pm, so there will be no training on the course on the morning of Saturday 19th November 2016.

The normal river traffic pattern will apply, with the racing lane being on the northern side of the river, and a single file access lane from the finish, past the sheds to the start on the southern side. These two lanes will be divided by a line of orange buoys. This line must not be crossed at any time

5.0 CAR PARKING AND TRAILER PARKING

BOAT HOUSE DRIVE WILL BE CLOSED from 5am on Saturday morning, so competitors and spectators should make alternate arrangements for parking. The car parks at Southbank are probably the best option.

Access will be provided for boat trailers. **Clubs and Schools requiring boat trailer access to the City Boatshed Precinct will need to nominate this requirement via the Registration Page on Regatta Central when they are completing their entries.** The time the trailer is being brought in together with the number of boats on the trailer are also required to be nominated

6.0 COMPETITION INFORMATION

6.1 Regatta Rules

The regatta is a time trial. There will be a running start with boats called up at 10 second intervals and the timing starting at the line a little downstream. Once on the course, boats being overtaken (following boat within one length) must yield the racing line. The buoys must not be crossed at any point. The river closure ends at Federation Wharf just before Princes Bridge and there may be ferry traffic in that area. Normal navigation rules apply immediately you cross the finish line.

6.2 Competitor's Briefing

A Competitor's Briefing will be held at MUBC at 8.15am on Saturday morning (19th November)

6.3 Bow Numbers

Bow numbers will be assembled in Club and School packs. These packs will include both bow numbers and bow back numbers, the latter which are to be pinned to the back of the bow seat rower. The bow number packs can be collected from MUBC by a representative of each Club and School at two times, either:

- Friday 18th November between 5.00 and 6.00pm; or
- Saturday 19th November after 7.00am

Each club and school will need to nominate the time that they will be collecting their bow number packs on the Registration Page when they complete their entries on Regatta Central.

There is no requirement for a bow number deposit, however it is the responsibility of the Club or School to distribute the bow numbers and ensure their return. Bow numbers can be returned to a bow number box at MUBC after the event. Any club or school that does not return a bow number will be charged \$20.00 for each missing bow number.

6.4 The Draw

The Final Event Draw will be posted on Regatta Central on Friday 18th November 2016

6.5 Handicapping

Handicapping will be applied to

- All Masters Events;
- Events that include coxed and coxless boats; and
- The Parent and Child Double Scull.

Handicapping for these events will be published on Friday 18th November 2016

6.6 Launching and Boat Movement to the Start

There will be significant boat traffic over the morning of the Melbourne Head. The staging in the City Boatshed Precinct will be divided into four zones during these times of heavy traffic:

- Opposite Richmond Rowing Club and Melbourne Rowing Club- crews coming in
- Opposite Mercantile Rowing Club and Melbourne Grammar - crews going out
- Opposite Banks Rowing Club and Yarra Yarra Rowing Club – crews coming in
- Opposite MUBC – crews going out

As noted in the Regatta Rules, Melbourne Head crews must be in the marshalling area just upstream of Herring Island 10 minutes before the start time for their class, so they will need to leave the city boatsheds 40 minutes before their start time.

The access lane from the City to the start will mostly be single file, so crews should avoid stopping, rowing part crew or otherwise holding up other crews unless necessary for safety reasons. Crews rowing up the transit lane should use the southern arches of all the bridges INCLUDING THE CREMORNE RAILWAY BRIDGE. No boat is to cross the buoy line.

Crews boating from the City will leave the staging in bow number order and will be expected to sort themselves into start (numerical) order before reaching Herring Island, with crews taking a normal anti clockwise course around the island. Once in order, crews will need to wait on each side of the river until instructed to continue upstream to the Powerhouse Landing where they will turn around the designated turning buoy. Crews boating from Wesley and Powerhouse will need to join into the upstream line of traffic in correct starting order. Crews boating from upstream of Grange Road will need to join the procession to the start just upstream of the Powerhouse Landing, in numerical order, and wait for the instruction to proceed into the start beside Herring Island. **Boats are to assemble into and remain in numerical order as they move toward the start.**

Refer to the Melbourne Head Start Line Set up, below which illustrates the traffic flow around the start line



6.7 Results and Presentations

Preliminary results from each event will be available on the REGATTA CENTRAL APP RC within 10 to 15 minutes of the completion of the event. The RC APP can be downloaded on your smartphone. The RC APP also provides entry and event details.

Final results are generally published and announced at MUBC within an hour of completion of each event.

Winning crews for each event will be presented with a medal and “Winners T-shirt” as the regatta proceeds, with the presentations taking place on the balcony at MUBC after the final result for their event is published. Winning crews should make themselves known to the Regatta Secretary once their results are final for their presentation.

7.0 SPECTATOR SERVICES

7.1 Catering and Merchandise

Catering and merchandising will be available in the City Boatshed Precinct:

- Strathcona BBQ and Muffin Stall selling egg and bacon rolls, hamburgers, veggie burgers, sausages, as well as muffins, cakes, slices and an assortment of drinks
- Caffe Alfresco selling coffee, hot chocolate and drinks
- The Regatta Shop selling their range of rowing merchandise as well as a range of 2016 Melbourne Head merchandise

7.2 Spectator Viewing

The Melbourne Head has many viewing opportunities for spectators:

- View the finish of the race at the City Boatshed Precinct which provides full amenities, merchandise and catering
- View the race from the bridges that the race passes through – Swan Street and Morrell Bridge provide the best viewing
- View the last stages of the race from the embankment between Swan Street Bridge and the Finish Box
- View anywhere along the bike track – walking or riding a bike

The Melbourne Head is a great viewing regatta, with a unique opportunity for spectators to follow the entire race along the northern bike track. *(Note that parts of the southern bike track are under repair in 2016.)*

APPENDIX A

ENTERING VIA REGATTA CENTRAL

Making an Entry via Regatta Central

To access the athlete data to make an entry, **individuals will need to login to an existing Regatta Central account or create a new account.** If you have previously used Regatta Central to submit regatta entries, go to www.regattacentral.com and login to your existing account.

Proceed to **Step 1** under “*Submitting an Entry*” below.

If you have not previously submitted entries through RC, follow the steps below to create an account:

- I. Go to www.regattacentral.com/signup
- II. Click the **Sign Up** in the orange box in the top right corner of the page
- III. Complete the New Account fields and click “**Create My Account**”

Once the account is created, a pop-up box will appear that will allow you to add regattas to your RC calendar. Proceed to **Step 2** under “*Submitting an Entry*” below.

Submitting an Entry

Once you have logged into your account, you will be able to submit entries by following these steps:

1. Click the 'Add Regatta' link located in the 'Regatta Calendar & Entries' box on the left side of your screen to add regattas on your calendar
2. Click the 'Register' link to the right of your club
3. Complete the Registration Form (including boat trailer requirements and bow number pick up) and click 'Save'
4. Click the 'Submit Entry' link beside the desired event
5. Complete the **Entry Form** and click the 'Save' button
 - a. If you are submitting a composite crew, you must *Add* all the clubs to the **Entry Description** section first. Otherwise, the user will not be able to find the athlete when entering the line-up.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Event 16: Mens HS 8+ RegattaCentral Trophy". It has several sections: "Eligibility & Requirements" with a note about line-ups, "Entry Description" (highlighted with a red box) containing "Affiliation(s): Test - RC (TEST - RC) remove" and "Add Club/Team...", a "Rank" dropdown menu set to "A", and "Athletes" with input fields for "Cox", "Stroke", and a field with a question mark. There are also links for "Need to change club name or abbreviation?" and "What is an entry's rank?".

6. Select ‘**Submit another entry in this event**’ or ‘**Submit another entry in a different event**’ to submit more entries
7. If you are finished submitting entries, no further action is needed as payment is not required at the time of entry.