

Associated Public Schools of Victoria

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Racing Code for The APS Regatta (Racing Code)

1. APPLICATION

- 1.1 The Racing Code shall apply to the conduct of the Associated Public Schools (APS) Regatta.
- 1.2 The application, interpretation and enforcement of the Racing Code, shall be the responsibility of the Jury on behalf of Rowing Victoria Inc (RV) except for those matters specifically delegated to the APS in the Racing Code.
- 1.3 For the purposes of the Racing Code, the APS shall mean the Chair of the Heads, the APS Chief Executive Officer and the Chairs of Rowing for both boys and girls. Where matters are to be referred to the APS, then they shall be referred to the APS Chief Executive Officer or the delegate of the APS Chief Executive Officer.

2. INCORPORATION OF RV RULES OF RACING

- 2.1 The Racing Code for the APS Regatta shall incorporate the rules of racing of Rowing Victoria.
- 2.2 Where there shall be an inconsistency between the RV rules of racing and this Racing Code, this Racing Code shall prevail.

3. RACING CODE

The RV rules of racing shall be amended for the purposes of the Racing Code as follows:

- 3.1 Jury - Whilst RV appoints the President and the jury for the regatta, the APS may make suggestions and comments on the President of the Jury and the jury or be present at the meeting at which the jury is determined.
- 3.2 Competitor Briefing – If required by the APS, the jury shall conduct briefings for competitors where this Racing Code will be explained and questions answered.
- 3.3 Regatta Report – A report on the regatta shall be sent to both RV and the APS by the President of the Jury.
- 3.4 Competitors – The APS shall determine eligible students as APS Regulations Governing Sporting Contests- General Section paragraph 4 dictates.
- 3.5 Coxswains – Coxswains shall:
 - 3.5.1 Be deemed to be a member of the crew but may be of a different gender to that of the rowers provided that the coxswain complies with the minimum weight requirements of the crew.
 - 3.5.2 For boys 1st and 2nd eight oared crews, have a minimum weight of 55 kilograms.
 - 3.5.3 For all other crews there is no minimum weight.
 - 3.5.4 Be weighed before racing.
- 3.6 Alterations to crews – Schools may make such substitutions as they see fit, but should inform the Regatta Secretary of such changes prior to racing.
- 3.7 Advertising – The APS is responsible for controlling all advertising on boats, oars, rowers and any equipment used at this regatta.
- 3.8 Uniforms – The APS is responsible for controlling all matters to do with the uniforms worn by competitors at this regatta.
- 3.9 Draw – The APS may seed crews for the heats and provide RV with the details of the principles used. The jury shall take into account this seeding should lanes be altered due to adverse weather conditions so as to maintain the principles of the seeding. See Appendix A
- 3.10 Progression system – The APS shall have full responsibility for determining the progression system used for this regatta. RV shall implement the system provided by the APS.
- 3.11 Merchandising – The APS retains all merchandising rights at the APS Regatta.
- 3.12 **Lane Seeding Committee – The wind speed shall be measured one hour prior to the heats and again one hour prior to the Finals. Should the maximum variation (from lane 1 to lane 8) before the course is deemed to be unfair is: 1.1 m/sec or 4 km/hr or higher, then the seeded events shall be reseeded. The Lane Seeding Committee shall make the decision – refer Appendix A.** The APS Sport Adverse Weather Policy is to be used to determine heat related considerations. The APS shall have the right to set time limits on the conduct of the regatta and thus have the sole right to postpone **or cancel** the regatta or any parts of it.
- 3.13 Appeals – Where the RV rules of racing provide an appeal to the RV Board, the APS shall be substituted for the RV Board.
- 3.14 Every effort is to be made to ensure crews are at the start in time to race, but consideration may be given to rearrange races to allow for crews unavoidably late.

4. Effective date

The Racing Code shall have effect from The 2025 APS Regatta (Heads of the River).

Appendix A:

FAIRNESS PROVISIONS FOR THE APS REGATTA (HEADS OF THE RIVER):

CONTEXT

As rowing is an outdoor sport conducted over 2000 metres, variations in conditions across many courses exist.

The Nagambie course orientation is ENE (approx.. 70 deg to WSW 250 deg). The prevailing wind direction at Lake Nagamine is south, south/west across the course which provides some shelter to the lower numbered lanes. The less prevalent northerly wind is less often a fairness issue but included if the variation of wind speeds between lanes exceeds the proposed measurements.

As crews are seeded before arriving at the Head of the River regatta, it is possible in adverse conditions to provide the highest seeded crews the most favoured lanes. The seeding of lanes is an internationally accepted method of dealing with unfair lane conditions. The obvious impact of seeding lanes is that there is less chance of a favoured crew unexpectedly losing a race, but it becomes harder for a less favoured crew to win.

At the World Rowing (the sports peak body) level there are significant procedures in place for fairness. The World Rowing Fairness Committee Protocol can be found below.

[Fairness Committee](#)

PURPOSE

The aim of this proposal is to focus on wind measurement and direction as the basis to seed lanes and thus increase fairness at the Head of the River. Specifically, to embed some objective protocols into the APS racing code regarding the seeding of lanes in unfair conditions.

PROTOCOLS

1. Lane Seeding Committee

The lane seeding committee for this regatta will comprise of:

- President of the Jury (x1)
- Chairs of APS Boys & Girls Rowing (x2)
- Teacher in Charge (TIC) of Rowing nominated by the TsIC (x1)
- APS Chief Executive Officer (x1)

An APS school may have only one representative on the Lane Seeding Committee. In the case of both APS Chairs of Rowing coming from the same school – a nominee approved by the APS Chief Executive Officer shall be appointed.

The decision of the Lane Seeding Committee is final and not subject to appeal or further correspondence.

Should a member(s) of the committee not be available, three members can comprise a quorum to act.

2. No change to seeding of crews

There is no change to the seeding of crews as follows:

- The crews shall be seeded for the heats of senior crews, or finals of junior crews, based upon their results at the Boys and Girls Seeding Regattas and as advised by APS Sport to Rowing Victoria.
- The crews will be seeded for the finals (where applicable) based upon the placings in the heats. Where there are two equally seeded crews, for example two heat winning crews and two heat second placed crews, the crews shall be seeded equally and their lanes drawn at random.

3. Measurement

a) Measurement times

Wind measurements shall be undertaken 60 minutes before the first race of the day and 60 minutes before the first race of the afternoon session of racing. The lane seeding committee shall meet at the judges box before these time before travelling to the measurement point.

b) Measurement point

1000m mark in lanes 1 and 8

c) Measurement device

The lane seeding committee shall use an anemometer to measure wind speed. If the anemometer does not measure wind direction, the committee shall estimate wind direction.

4. Measurement thresholds and actions

- Course variation wind speed is a measure of the difference in wind speeds between the available lanes.
- South winds: Should the wind direction be between 155 deg and 245 deg and the average course variation wind speed, measured over 30 seconds, be greater than 1.1m/sec or 4k/hr, the lanes shall be seeded from lanes 3 to 8 with the highest ranked crews taking the lowest numbered lanes.
- North – Westerly winds: Should the wind direction be between 260 deg and 340 deg and the average course variation wind speed measured over 30 seconds be greater than 1.1m/sec or 4k/hr the lanes be seeded from lanes 6 to 1 with the highest ranked crews taking the highest numbered lanes.
- The lane seeding committee can at their discretion repeat the test 10 minutes later to validate the initial measurements.
- Any lane reseeding resulting from the measurements undertaken 60 minutes before the first race of the day would apply for all races until the luncheon break.
- Any lane reseeding resulting from the measurements undertaken 60 minutes before the first race of the afternoon session would apply for all races after the luncheon break.

5. President of the Jury Responsibilities

For the avoidance of doubt, the President of the Jury retains the responsibility for advising the APS on safety and other fairness matters in accordance with both the APS Racing Code and the Rowing Victoria rules of racing.

DOCUMENTATION:

APS REGATTA – DATE

WEATHER DATA RECORDING

TIME	WIND DIRECTION	WIND SPEED		OFFICIAL NAME
		LANE 1	LANE 8	

NOTES:

"Thresholds"	155 deg - 245 deg	southerly for lanes 1-8	Use 3-8
	260 deg - 340 deg	NW for lanes 8-1	Use 1-6
Velocity	1.1 m/sec or 4km/hr variation from lanes 1 and 8		

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APS Sport
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