

Devizes to Westminster 2018

Senior Doubles—last updated 17th January 2018



All Senior Doubles entrants must be 18 years of age or older on the 1st of January in the year of the Race. This category will be timed continuously from Devizes to Westminster, irrespective of any stops. Competitors must pick a start time that lets them reach Teddington within the permitted tide windows, as shown below.

Competitors must start between 0700-2000 hours on Easter Saturday.

Crews should start before 1200 unless:

- (a) They are fast enough to reach the first tide at Teddington on the Sunday by starting after then.
 - (b) They are too slow to reach the first Sunday tide at Teddington even if they start at the earliest opportunity on Saturday morning and aim therefore to catch a later tide.
 - (c) Crews may stop anywhere along the course, provided they remain within 100m of the course – the clock will not stop. Should crews intend to halt for more than 10-15 minutes, they must notify Control of their intention, and notify Control again when they get back on the water. Beware of the cut-off times at Newbury and Dreadnought Reach.
- Any crews planning to start between 1200 - 2000hrs on Easter Saturday must, without fail, inform the Chief Umpire of their plan to do so by the Wednesday preceding the race. This is so that a Race official is present to record their actual departure time. This information will not be shared with other crews. The Chief Umpire can be emailed at chiefumpire@gmail.com. You must receive a written confirmation from the Chief Umpire for your late start to be accepted. Competitors who fail to comply will be deemed to have scratched and will not be permitted to start. The Organisers will not modify start windows to enable people to 'fit' DW into a multi-event endurance challenge.

Cut-off times:

In the interests of safety there are now "cut-off" times on the course:-

Newbury Wharf. Any crew who takes more than 10 hours to reach Newbury Wharf from Devizes will be excluded from the race and must leave the water at or before Newbury, having informed Control or the checkpoint staff that they have done so.

Dreadnought Reach. Any crew who takes longer than 16 hours 15 mins to reach Dreadnought Reach from Devizes will be excluded from the race and must leave the water at or before Dreadnought, having informed Control or the checkpoint staff that they have done so.

Marlow. Any crew who takes longer than 21 hours 30 mins to reach Marlow from Devizes will be excluded from the race and must leave the water at or before Marlow, having informed Control or the checkpoint staff that they have done so.

Old Windsor: Any crew who takes longer than 26 hours 30 mins to reach Old Windsor from Devizes will be excluded from the race and must leave the water at or before Old Windsor, having informed Control or the checkpoint staff that they have done so.

Shepperton: Any crew who takes longer than 29 hours 30 mins to reach Shepperton from Devizes will be excluded from the race and must leave the water at or before Shepperton, having informed Control or the checkpoint staff that they have done so.

Teddington Tide Windows

Crews arriving for the first tide on the Sunday may only pass through Teddington during a period starting 30 minutes before high water and ending 3 hours and 30 minutes after high water (03:45-07:45 BST in 2018). The tide window at Teddington for the Sunday evening tide will be 2 hours long. It will open 30 minutes before high water and close 1 hour and 30 minutes after high water (16:07-18:07 BST 2018).

Crews arriving before or after these times will be required to wait for the next tide window and no time allowance will be given. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

Crews arriving after the closure of the second tide window on Sunday must portage via the towpath to Thames Young Mariners, 750 metres downstream of Teddington Lock, and may only restart on Monday's morning tide as directed by the Starter.

Procedure at Westminster

The finish is on the right hand bank about 50 metres below Westminster Bridge. Crews should not stop paddling until they hear the finish signal; an air-horn, bell or whistle. Upon finishing crews should follow the instructions of the safety crews and disembark on the County Hall steps.