

Wimbleball Regatta Safety Plan

23rd June 2012



The Regatta is conducted under West of England Amateur Rowing Association rules.

Regatta Control

Regatta Control is situated in the green tent in the Regatta Field close to the Finish Umpires' area.

Timing

10:00 Refreshment Tent opens

11:00 Safety Briefing for Club Captains, Umpires and Launch Drivers close to Regatta Control.

12:00 First race starts

17:00 Last Race starts

17:30 Prize giving

Crews are required to be at the start in good time for their races. Boating announcements will not be made. Information for Competing Crews will be issued at the Safety Briefing.

Communications

There is very little mobile phone coverage in the vicinity of the lake. In an emergency contact Regatta Control or a member of the South West Lakes Staff. There is a landline telephone in the wooden building in the Regatta field by the lake, close to Regatta Control.

Incident Procedure:

Minor incidents on the lake will be dealt with by the Safety Boat drivers assisted by South West Lakes staff and the Umpire's boat drivers as appropriate.

Minor incidents on Land will be dealt with by Race Control assisted by South West Lakes staff as appropriate.

First aid cover will be provided by the South West Lakes staff.

In the event of a major incident, outside assistance shall be coordinated by South West Lakes Staff.

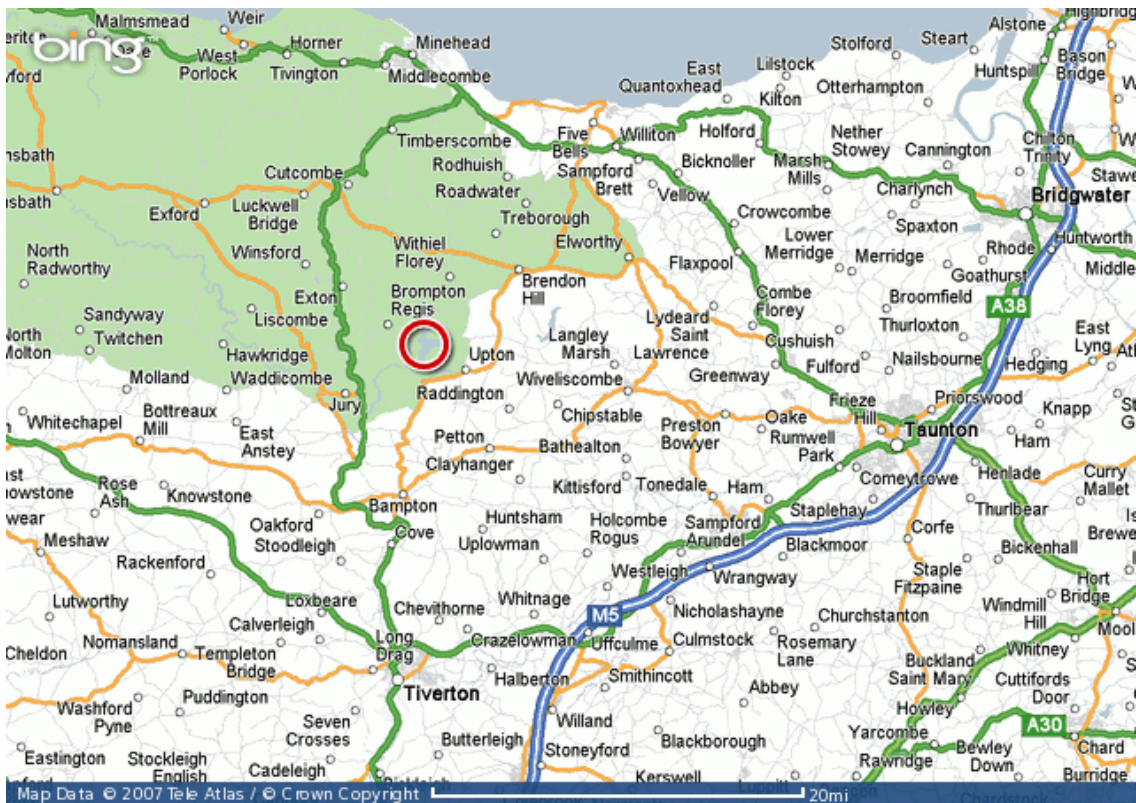
Racing may be suspended or cancelled in the event of an incident.

First Aid

First Aid support is available from Race Control. Further support is available from members of the South West Lakes Staff (see Incident Procedure, above).

Location

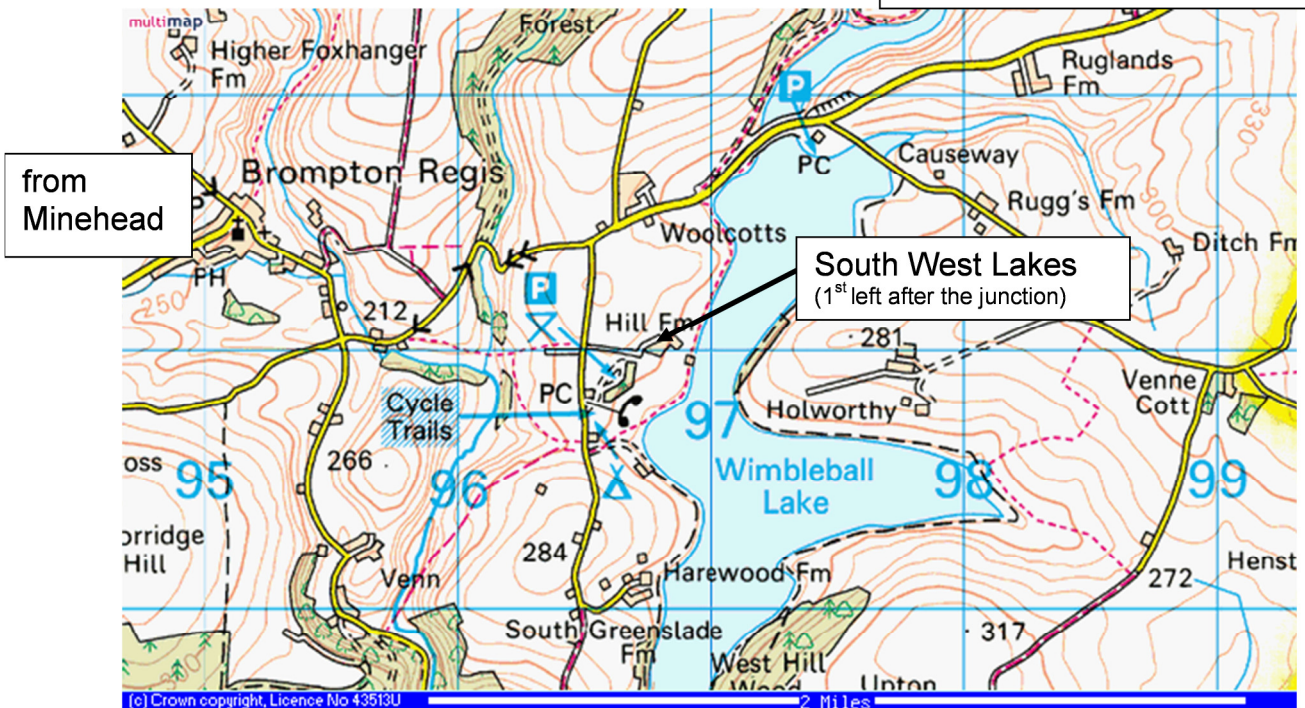
The location of Wimbleball Lake is shown on the plan below and directions to the Lake are provided in Appendix 1 of this Plan.. The postcode is TA22 9NU.



Vehicle and trailer access routes

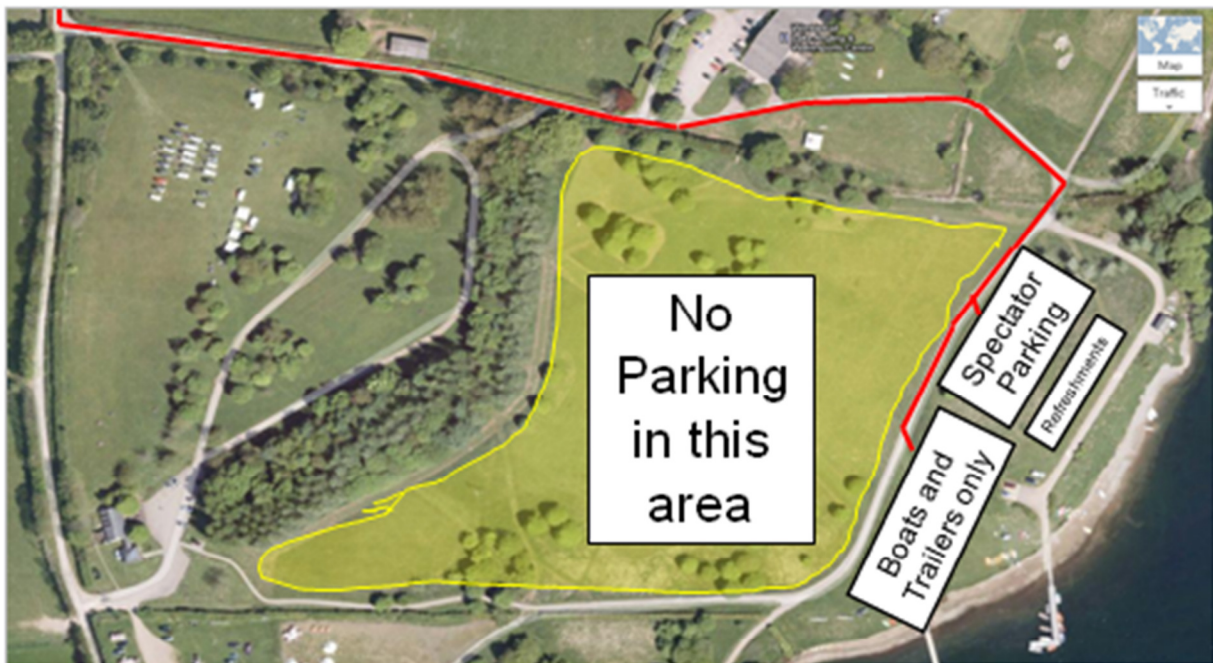
Vehicles should enter the site by taking the first left turn from the lane as shown in the plan below:-

from Taunton & Watchet



They should then proceed to the Regatta field by following the track as shown in red in the plan below:-

Wimbleball Regatta - Site Layout



Parking is not permitted in the area marked in yellow to preserve this grassland.

Boat Preparation area

Boats should be rigged and de-rigged in the area shown above as for “Boats and Trailers only”.

Boat Safety

All boats will be checked and labelled before going afloat by Wimbleball safety advisors. Checks will include heel restraints, bow balls and hatch covers on buoyancy compartments. Boats without labels showing that they have passed the safety checks are not permitted to race. The boat safety checklist is shown in Appendix 2.

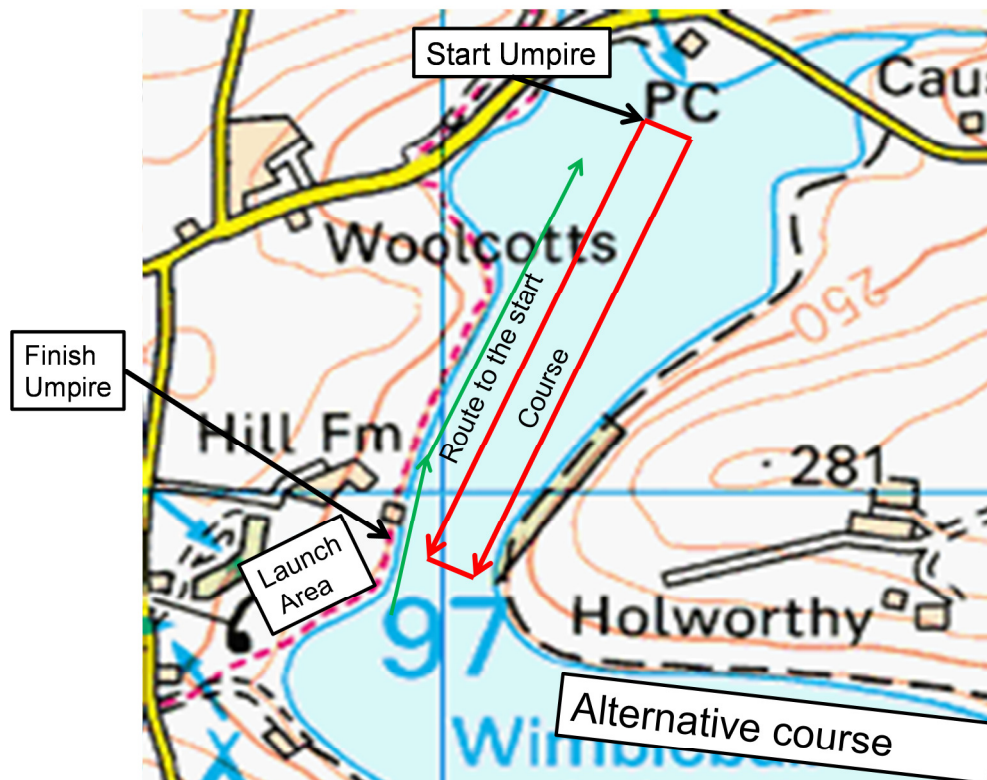
Every Cox shall wear a lifejacket at all times when afloat.

Boat Launching and Recovery

Boats may be launched from and recovered to the edge of the Lake as shown in the above plan or from the white pontoon.

Route to the start, and course

Wimbleball Regatta – Course layout



The line between the route to the start and the course will be marked by buoys. Crews proceeding to the start shall not stray onto the course and impede those rowing. Crews wishing to warm-up may do so in the area to the east of the start line.

The area of the lake under and past the bridge is a Nature Reserve and no crew may enter this area.

The start line will be marked by two round red buoys, the start umpire's boat being located at one end of the start line as shown. All crews must come under starters orders 5 minutes before the published start time of the race.

The course is 1000 metres long. Lane 1 will be on the starboard side of the course. This is closest to the start Umpire's boat and on the Regatta field side of the course.

The finish line is defined as the line between a post in the Regatta field and the centre of a red life-ring holder on the far side of the lake. Two square red buoys will be located close to the finish line.

Alternative course

If weather conditions are such that the course becomes unsafe then the alternative course may be used. This is shown on the plan, above. Announcements will be made if this is necessary. The alternative course is about 700 metres long.

The start of the alternative course is at the east (far) end of the course and the finish is at the west end (the end nearest the Regatta Field). The route to the start will be to the south of the course. These routes may not be marked by buoys.

There are no special points of danger on or near either of the courses and no areas of shallow water other than at the edge of the Lake.

Umpires – primary course

The start Umpires shall be in the boat at the western end of the start line.

The mid-course Umpires will follow alternate races in motor boats.

The finish umpires will be located on the finish line in the Regatta field.

Umpires – alternative course

The start Umpires shall be located on the start line on the bank to the north (starboard side) of the alternative course.

The mid-course Umpires will follow alternate races in motor boats.

The finish umpires will be located on the finish line on the bank to the north (starboard side) of the alternative course.

Safety Boats

There shall be two safety boats located between the course and the route to the start.

Regatta Secretaries : Stephen & Andrea Worley

Appendix 1 - Directions to Wimbleball

from Junction 23 of the M5 – Bridgwater

| | | |
|-----|---|---------|
| 1. | Head east toward A39 | 0.2 mi |
| 2. | Continue straight | 0.4 mi |
| 3. | At the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto A38/Bristol Rd Go through 1 roundabout | 2.3 mi |
| 4. | At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto A38/A39/Monmouth St Continue to follow A39 Go through 2 roundabouts | 3.7 mi |
| 5. | At the roundabout, take the 1st exit and stay on A39 | 0.7 mi |
| 6. | At the roundabout, take the 1st exit and stay on A39 | 13.4 mi |
| 7. | Turn left at A39/Fore St | 390 ft |
| 8. | At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto A39/Bank St Continue to follow A39 | 1.2 mi |
| 9. | Turn left at B3190 | 3.0 mi |
| 10. | Turn right to stay on B3190 | 1.5 mi |
| 11. | Continue onto B3224 | 0.7 mi |
| 12. | Continue onto B3190 | 1.2 mi |
| 13. | Turn right | 3.3 mi |
| 14. | Turn left at Bryant's Hill | 0.3 mi |
| 15. | Turn left | 0. |

from Junction 25 of the M5 – Taunton

| | | |
|-----|--|--------|
| 1. | Leave the Motorway at Exit 25 | 0.2 mi |
| 2. | At the roundabout, take the exit onto A358 heading to B3227/A38/Taunton/Minehead/Wiveliscombe Go through 1 roundabout | 1.5 mi |
| 3. | At the roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto A358/Obridge Viaduct Continue to follow A358 Go through 1 roundabout | 1.2 mi |
| 4. | Slight right at A358/Greenway Rd Continue to follow A358 Go through 1 roundabout | 1.5 mi |
| 5. | At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit and stay on A358 Go through 1 roundabout | 3.9 mi |
| 6. | Turn left at B3224 | 9.7 mi |
| 7. | Continue on B3190 | 1.2 mi |
| 8. | Turn right | 3.3 mi |
| 9. | Turn left at Bryant's Hill | 0.3 mi |
| 10. | Turn left | 0.1 mi |

Appendix 2 - Boat Checks

Wimbleball Regatta

Information for Boat Inspectors



Boat Checks (taken from RowSafe section 2.3 Boats and Blades)

check that:-

- buoyancy compartments,
- seals,
- hatch covers,
- boat hull and
- ventilation bungs

are secure and watertight.

check that:-

- the bow ball is securely fixed and fully covers the bow of the boat in order that adequate protection is given to any person or object struck by the moving boat and
- that any fixing screws or do not represent a further hazard in the event of accident.

check that:-

- outriggers,
- swivels,
- gates,
- seats and
- stretchers

are secure and operating freely.

- In difficult water conditions check that 'splash boards' available and fitted?

check that:-

- heel restraints are secure and
- that restraints are adequate and effective.

(Heels should be positively restrained not to rise higher than the lowest fixed point of the shoe.)

check that:-

- rudder lines,
- steering mechanisms,
- rudder and
- fin,

are secure and in good working order.

check that:-

- oars and sculls are not damaged and
- ensure that 'buttons' are secure and properly set.

check that:-

- the boat is suitable for the situation in which it is to be used, for example maximum crew weight