**Chelmarsh Challenge Notice of Race (NoR) August 26th 2023**

**Introduction**

The Chelmarsh Challenge is a 5 or 10km Stand Up Paddle Board Race open to both experienced and new paddlers wishing to try racing.

The Race forms part of Chelmarsh SUPFest and all competitors are welcome to attend the rest of the event.

The water is home to Chelmarsh SUP an active paddleboard club, we have conditions applied to water use and ask all Competitors to note these conditions, specifically a Leash and PFD are to be worn at all times on the water and also spectators using pontoons or adjacent to the water must wear PFD.

The categories of entry include Hard and Inflatable SUP and we plan to provide Race times and results for all competitors. There will be Challenge Prizes for the fastest male and female entrants. We also hope to have prizes for youth and spot prizes for “promising novices”

**The Race**

The course will be a number of laps of a defined course to constitute a 5Km or 10km course.

The start will be a line start between two marked buoys with a 3 minute 2 minute and 1 minute signal.

If numbers are sufficient there will be separate starts for the 5 and 10km entry and possibly for novice racers. With smaller entrant numbers we may have a “mass start”

The course will include buoy roundings and a lap “gate” to pass through on each lap.

The finish will constitute a shortened line at the end of the gate. Finishers are asked to pass through this finish gate and hold positions until finish positions are recorded.

Competitors will be asked to confirm their entry number on finishing and times will be taken from the start to finish times.

Competitors are asked to clear the finish line after completing the race to allow officials to moniter other competitors.

We are delighted that the Race is recognised by and entry results will be forwarded to supworldranking.com

**The Race timing**

Registration will be open from 9am on 26 August all competitors will have pre registered on webcollect and the registration is simply to provide Race Numbers and final information on courses.

The first Race start is scheduled for 10:30 the start will not be before this time, it is likely secondary categories (5Km and Novice) starts will be approximately 10 minutes after the initial start.

All Racers must complete the course within 2 Hrs of the start or the organisers may enter a DNF result.

**The benefits of entry**

Free Tea and Coffee in the Clubhouse and a welcome breakfast bap for each competitor

Entry to SUPFest

Race participation and management therof

**Mandatory Requirements**

* All paddlers **must** register with pre-registration. Registration on the day of the event may be possible up until 1hr before the start time but only with registration completed on webcollect.
* All paddlers **must** attend the safety briefing, held on the day of the event this may be provided at Registration.
* All paddlers **must** wear a leash
* All paddlers **must** display entry numbers as per direction given at registration and not block the number with rash vests, hydration packs or any other apparel
* All paddlers **must** wear a PFD (personal floatation device),
* All Paddlers **must** disclose any medical conditions

**General Rules**

* **Racing**
	+ Boards must be mono hulled and powered by a single bladed paddle
	+ Race Categories are 5km ISUP, 5km Hardboard, 10km ISUP and 10km hardboard. Paddlers are only eligible to enter one category but the entry can be changed up to the Race day registration.
	+ Riders must remain standing for the duration of the race (except for a maximum of 5 stokes on their knees in the event of a fall) unless otherwise communicated at the event briefing
	+ No drafting is allowed outside class and gender
	+ Any protests regarding position / timing or against another paddler, must be raised with one of the event organisers within **1hr of finishing the event**. The event organisers decision will be final.
	+ Any paddler found to have behaved in an unsporting way, will be disqualified.  See below for definition.
* **General**
	+ All paddlers must wear appropriate clothing for the conditions
	+ A minimum of 10 people need to be entered into a category for the event organisers to run it.  If there are not enough paddlers entered, a paddler will be moved to an appropriate alternative.  This will be communicated by the event organisers to individual(s) concerned
	+ Finishing times and positions will be recorded and results will be posted in final rankings
	+ To qualify as youth a competitor must be aged below 18 years old on the date of the race
	+ If event organisers become aware of deliberate acts of breaching our terms and conditions, individuals will be disqualified.
	+ Any paddler wishing to report unsporting behaviour should report it immediate to one of the Race Directors, who will then investigate.
	+ Any paddler who stops to help a paddler in distress, will have their time adjusted accordingly in agreement with the Race Director
* **Unsporting behaviour** is defined as:
* Using the board, paddle or body in order to block a competitor from forward progress, turning, drafting, starting or finishing
* Not stopping to help a paddler in distress
* Purposely impeding the ability of a Competitor to paddle, turn, start or finish.
* Behaving in an excessively aggressive way through conduct or speech towards the competition officials, other Competitors, sponsors or spectators
* Repeated contact with another Competitors board (particularly from behind whilst drafting)

**Risk Management**

The organisers have safety of all participants as our primary concern and to reassure you we would draw your attention to the Standard Operating Policies for the SUP Club available at http://chelmarshsailing.org.uk/sup/2022%20SUP%20SOP.pdft , designed to minimise potential hazards while participating in the event and paddling at Chelmarsh.

* Safety boats and equipment will be in good working order run up and tested and positioned at the club
* Hazards and risks will be identified and communicated to participants at the event briefing
* Any decision to alter the course distances due to bad weather will be taken no later than **24 hrs before the event**
* Any decision to abandon the event due to bad weather will be taken no later than **one hour prior to the start**
* We will do everything possible to ensure there is an event, even if it means shortening the courses

**Your undertaking**

* Paddlers will actively take responsibility for their own behaviour
* Paddlers agree to stop paddling and assist any fellow paddler that may be in need of assistance
* Paddlers agree to abide by the expertise of the organisers and their staff

**Insurance**

Whilst the organisers take all necessary precautions ensure the safety of all participants of the activity, unfortunately accidents can occur. Each participant should familiarise themselves with the hazards and try to minimise these by complying with the Organisers risk management guidelines. The Organisers accept no responsibility whatsoever for any loss or injury resulting from any person’s accidents or injury caused by such accidents**. Furthermore it is understood and agreed that individuals participate at their own risk and take responsibility for any third party liability insurance should they wish to have it**. All boards should be covered by third party insurance (often provided by BC or other organisations to which you belong) The club rules state All boats/SUP must be insured against Third Party claims to a minimum of £5,000,000.00 or as prescribed by the General Committee

**Invasive Species**

Any person introducing or removing any water sports equipment to be used or
stored at the Club must record the movement. This entry confirms such movement.
Where the equipment has previously been used in an area where waters are known to
carry any notifiable disease or other disease the Club and/or the Company (South Staffs) reserve the right to exclude such craft from as much of the vicinity of the Chelmarsh Reservoir . Practically we ask all boards are dry and if they have been used in water other than Chelmarsh in the previous 48 Hours they are washed down (Hoses are available).

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| **The Waiver we ask you to agree**: |
| By entering this event you agree to any media and use of photographs in social and other media. For the purposes of this Waiver, the term “Event” shall represent but not be limited to any activity organised or run under the banner of Chelmarsh Sailing Club. You acknowledge that this is an athletic event and is a test of a person’s physical and mental stamina and carries with it the potential for serious injury and property loss. The risks include, but are not limited to: actions of other people including, but not limited to, participants, volunteers, spectators, coaches, event officials, event monitors and/or producers of the event; lack of hydration, water quality, weather, and/or other natural conditions. You hereby assume all the risks of participating in this event. You need to certify the following: * I certify that I am physically fit, have sufficiently trained for participation in this event and have not been advised otherwise by a qualified medical person.
* I acknowledge that this Waiver form will be used by the Hosting Venue, and the sponsors of the event in which I may participate, and it will govern my actions and responsibilities at said event.
* I hereby consent to receive medical treatment that may be deemed advisable in the event of injury, accident, and/or illness during this event. **By entering I certify that I have read this document and I understand its content.**
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