



BISHOPS STORTFORD

WINTER SERIES MARATHON

Sunday 2nd November 2025

PART OF THE FLATWATER RACING ASSOCIATION WINTER SERIES OF MARATHONS

Hosted by



VENUE	Bishops Stortford CC, Southmill Lock, River Stort, Bishops Stortford								
DIRECTIONS	Access to the club is from the A1060, via a small private track (Styleman's Lane). For navigational purposes use postcode CM22 7QJ. See www.StortfordCanoe.org.uk/find-us.html Please respect the 5mph speed limit in the lane and on the field.								
CAR PARK	We have arranged parking on a neighbouring field, subject to weather conditions. Hard standing will be reserved for trailers and those with accessibility issues.								
SCHEDULE	<table><tr><td>Check-in</td><td>9:30-10:30</td></tr><tr><td>Briefing</td><td>11:00</td></tr><tr><td>Race starts</td><td>11:30</td></tr><tr><td>Prizegiving</td><td>14:30</td></tr></table>	Check-in	9:30-10:30	Briefing	11:00	Race starts	11:30	Prizegiving	14:30
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ENTRIES	Please use the Paddle UK Marathon Race Entry website for entries https://entries.gbcanoemarathon.co.uk/entries Entries through this system will close 23:59 on Friday 31st October 2025 Entries will be accepted on the day, provided physical evidence of current PUK membership can be provided. General queries about entries should be sent to Secretary@FlatwaterRacing.org.uk Entry fees are NOT collected through the entry system, but SEM payments to PUK are.								
FEES	Seniors £10, Juniors £5 (u18 on 1 Jan 2025) Clubs can arrange to pay entry fee for their whole team online in advance by special arrangement with the FRA Treasurer (Treasurer@FlatwaterRacing.org.uk) – such online payments must be completed on Friday 31st October Individual payments can be made as cash or cheque on the day.								
PE MEMBERSHIP	Paddle England On-Water membership or Club Associate membership is required. Otherwise, Single Event Membership (SEM) can be purchased for £5 direct from Paddle UK during online entry (it cannot be purchased after online entry has closed). All boats must be licenced for use on CRT water.								
NUMBERS	Pre-printed number boards will normally be issued for K1/K2 classes (£5 fee for losses/breakages), and sticky numbers for C1/C2s and GPs. Please ask if you prefer a board for a C1/C2 or a sticky number for a K1/K2 with no board holder.								
ORGANISER	Kevin Short (07713 986391) winterseries@StortfordCanoe.org.uk								
EVENT WELFARE	Mick Hussey (07837 274660)								

PHOTOS	BSCC will use photographs taken at the event to promote the club and the sport on the grounds of our legitimate interest in doing so. This will be done in accordance with the current Paddle UK guidelines.
SAFETY	Event Safety Officer: Andrew Gurney All participants must be capable of swimming 50m in racing clothing. Footwear should be worn by all participants, and clothing appropriate for the weather conditions on the day. Buoyancy aids must be worn by all paddlers not ranked in divisions 1-6 <u>and</u> all paddlers under age 16 irrespective of divisional ranking <u>and</u> all paddlers taking part in an u16 class. Any paddler who has a medical condition or other pre-disposition that could compromise their safety on the water is required by BSCC to inform the Event Safety Officer, and to wear a buoyancy aid at all times whilst on the water or any other safety precautions required by the ESO; it is the responsibility of the paddler (or adult responsible for them) to ensure that they do. Competitors are advised not to enter any of the locks in order to portage. Please note that two of the locks to be portaged (Twyford and Spellbrook) include road crossings. Marshals will be present. <i>Canoeing and kayaking is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk.</i>
FIRST AID	The first aid point will be in the main clubroom. An AED (defibrillator) is also located in the foyer of the clubhouse.
BOATS	Boats can be put near the river on the edge of the parking field or as instructed by marshals: no boats are to be put on the grass in front of the clubhouse or on the towpath. Ensure you follow Check-Clean-Dry protocol to prevent the cross-contamination of waterways with invasive species.
FACILITIES	Changing rooms & showers available in the clubhouse. Gents toilets in Portaloos, and Ladies toilets in the clubhouse. There is an accessible toilet located in the clubhouse.
REFRESHMENTS	Competitors' food will be provided after the race. There will be a BBQ, cakes and other refreshments for sale by cash or card.
SPECTATING	Good access along the towpath from the club for spectators on foot or bike.
PRIVACY	Information will be shared with the PUK Marathon Racing Committee & FRA Race Organisers.
RESULTS	Interim results will be placed online as they accumulate and printed results displayed in print when complete on the day. They will be published later at http://www.FlatwaterRacing.org.uk/ws-results.html together with any promotions.
RULES	The race will be run under the general PUK MRC rules for marathon racing (see MRC website https://canoemarathon.org.uk/governance/marathon-racing-rules/) and the specific rules of the Flatwater Racing Association Winter Series (see FRA website http://www.FlatwaterRacing.org.uk/winter-series.html)

CLASSES

Distances & Classes

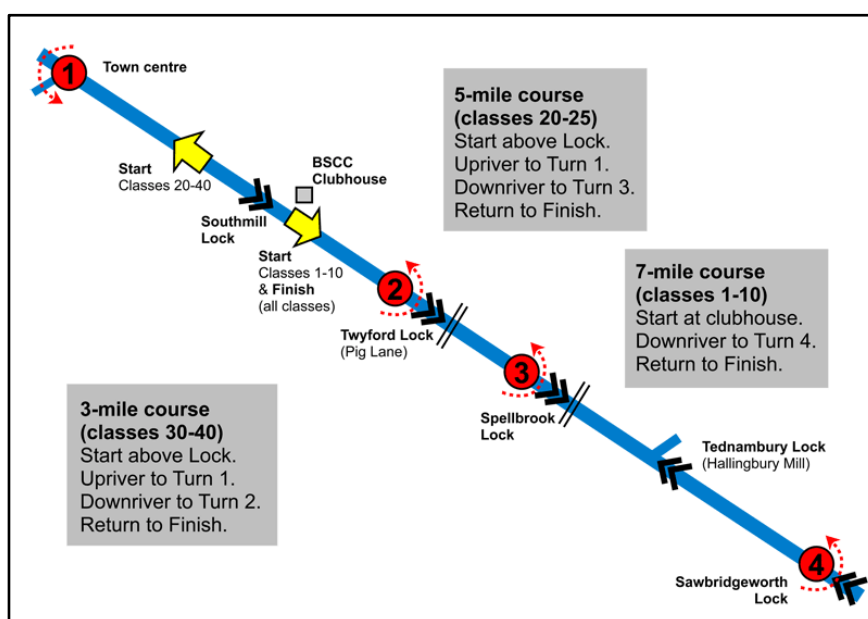
7-9 miles		approx 5 miles		3-4 miles	
Class No	Class	Class No	Class	Class No	Class
01	K2 16+ M	20	K1 SuperVet M	30	Touring C2
02	K2 16+ Mixed	21	K1 SuperVet F	31	K1 u14 M
03	K2 16+ F	22	K2 u16	32	K1 u14 F
04	Marathon C2	23	K1 u16 M	33	C1/SUP Novice
05	K1 Sen M	24	K1 u16 F	34	GP/Slalom 16+ M
06	K1 Sen F	25	C1/SUP Advanced	35	GP/Slalom 16+ F
07	K1 Vet M			36	GP/Slalom u16 M
08	K1 Vet F			37	GP/Slalom u16 F
09	K1 u18 M			38	K1 u12 M
10	K1 u18 F			39	K1 u12 F
				40	K1 Open

Ages refer to age on 1st November 2025 for the whole series. Vet=35+, SuperVet=50+
 SuperVet paddlers may enter the Vet race if they wish.
 Class 40 (K1 Open) is for K1 paddlers age 14+ of Div 8 standard or below.
 GP = General Purpose boats. See Race Rules on the website for details.

START ORDER Classes may be grouped as deemed expedient by the Race Organiser, and may not necessarily start in class number order. Expected start order will be published at the start of the day and confirmed at the briefing.

COURSES

3 mile course	1 portage
5 mile course	3 portages
7 mile course	6 portages



PORTAGES Assistance at portages must not be for competitive advantage. Helpers must walk only, and where possible should carry the rear end of the craft. If un-assisted paddlers overtake, assisted craft must give way. Validated protests will result in time penalties or disqualification. (see rules).

Marshals will be available to give assistance at the portage on the 3 mile course. Competitors on other courses who will require assistance should speak to the Race Organiser in advance.

Photos of the portages can be found on the BSCC website at <http://www.StortfordCanoe.org.uk/ws-course.html>

BSCC reserves the right to alter any of these arrangements without prior notice should the weather, river or other circumstances warrant it.