THRUDARK

DEVIZES TO WESTMINSTER

Entry Form Guidelines

Congratulations, you've decided to enter DW – here is some help to make the entry process smoother.

For anybody entering the Devizes to Westminster the first time, you should expect that completing the form could take well over 45 minutes. Even for returning DWer's, it can take 30 minutes.

There is a lot of information required by the DW team: obviously names of the paddlers but also addresses, contact numbers and competency details. Competency assessments are a critical part of our safety processes and are the key metric in assuring the umpires that every paddler (and crew) is safe to be on the water and racing at Easter.

For first time DW entrants, this list of questions may seem daunting, but it is an essential the entry form is completed fully, accurately and truthfully. In some cases, an umpire may contact you for further information.

If you want to enter before you have completed the requisite training and qualification paddles and are worried about being rejected, there is a process for that. Simply indicate on the entry form in the 'relevant experience' section that there is more information to be supplied at a later date and you can email the information to the Competition secretary (dwraceentries@gmail.com) and your form will be updated.

Please ensure we have the **correct name spellings, a valid email address and an accurate postal address** for **both paddlers**. These details are very often entered incorrectly and that can have consequences for both the race organisers and the paddlers. We may need to contact paddlers with new, important information before the race and this will be done via email. Additionally, paddler names and clubs as entered on the form will appear as such in the programme and result book. And if you complete the race, the name on your certificate will appear exactly as you enter it on the entry form. As will any trophy engraving if you win one. And if your address is incomplete, we won't be able to post your certificate out after the race. Accurate information for the Chief Supporter is also essential as we often have to contact support crews during the race.

We will expect answers that include previous experiences, results from other races you have completed, training you have already done and training you have planned. Validation from a coach that may be helping you with your training is very useful, along with GPS proof of long paddles.

We advise that you have all this information to hand before you start completing the form.

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Below is a summary of the information needed: (in the order it appears on the form)

1. Crew type – K1, K2, C1, C2, SUP or Surf ski

2. Paddler Names, Age Class, Gender, Club, Hasler Division (if you are ranked) and DOB. (If your club is not listed, please choose Other, Independent or International, which ever suits best, you will be able to give information further down the form in section Crew member organisation)

3. Race to enter: Senior Doubles / Senior Singles / Junior Doubles / Endeavour / Veteran Junior or SUP. And any or all the relevant subclasses.

4. Membership requirement, press update and choose from None, Full or Associate. Then Paddle UK / Canoe Wales or International / Other. Then if you have one you add your membership number. (please read requirements in the Handbook point 1.16)

5. Which Charity you are raising money for? (if any), and your boat model and manufacturer.

6. Chief support crew name and mobile phone number, and a non-race phone number.

7. Crew contact details – this requires an email address and phone number for every paddler aged over 18. So, in Senior Doubles we require an individual email and phone number for both paddlers, along with over 18's in Veteran-Junior and Endeavour crews. For ALL juniors, (18 and under) these boxes should have details of School team leader/ parent / guardian.

8. Accurate Postal addresses for all paddlers. (there is an address finder to help)

9. Paddler nationality and whether you are visiting the UK specifically to race.

10. Any relevant medical conditions the DW Umpire and or Safety team need to be aware of.

11. Crew member Organisation – where you can add different club associations / international clubs / military regiments / education institutes etc.

12. Competency - add which criteria you meet. Proof of paddle, coach endorsement or completion of a DW in the last 3 years.

13. Summary of your paddling experience and training activity for this year's race. Include information relevant to the DW – different types of water that you are training on, frequency of your training and other races you have either completed or plan to enter before the race, e.g. Thames Ultra, Liffey descent, Waterside and Thameside series.