

# MATTERS FOR ATTENTION IN 2016

The complete set of **AOCRA Regatta and Training Rules**  
can be found at

[https://aocra.com.au/uploads/2015%20AOCRA\\_Training%20Rules%20-%20Updated%20Sept%202015.pdf](https://aocra.com.au/uploads/2015%20AOCRA_Training%20Rules%20-%20Updated%20Sept%202015.pdf)

The most recent version is dated **December 2015**.

## **AOCRA NQ ZONE**

### **REGULATIONS AND CONDITIONS**

- 1.** If conditions deem it necessary the Race/ Training Director will require 14U and 12U OC6 crews to have an adult steerer/ paddler (position 5 or 6).
- 2.** Only competitors who are **members of a club affiliated with AOCRA** are eligible to compete and this does include crews from outside of our Zone. Crews from another zone compete for medals only!
- 3.** A competitor may only paddle for a club in which he or she is a current and financial member. **EACH CLUB SHALL REGISTER ALL PADDLERS ONLINE 14 DAYS BEFORE THAT PERSON'S FIRST REGATTA,** including proof of age when required.
- 4.** International paddlers/crews may compete for medals only!
- 5.** International paddlers must have their own personal travel insurance in order to compete.
- 6.** AOCRA or its respective committees reserve the right to request proof of age of a competitor at any time.

**7.** It is recommended that OC1 paddlers wear a leg rope (but it is not compulsory) when racing. It is recommended that one paddler per OC2 wear a leg rope (but it not compulsory) when racing.

**8.** **Women can substitute into a Men's crew in the appropriate Age Division. The crew is considered "official" and so is eligible for points and medals. Approval must be sought from the NQ Zone Committee prior to the regatta – the request is to be sent by email to the Zone Secretary – Stephen Mills [nqzoneaocra@outlook.com](mailto:nqzoneaocra@outlook.com) at least 10 days prior to the regatta date.**

**9.** All canoes must carry sufficient PFD's for all paddlers, i.e. one PFD on an OC1, two PFD's on an OC2, six PFD's on an OC6, and must be easily accessible.

**10.** **For the OC6 Open Mixed Division, the OC6 Master Mixed Division and the OC6 Senior Master Mixed Division – each crew is to have at least 3 women in it (when offered in regatta programs).**

**11.** **For the OC6 Golden Master Mixed Division – each crew is to have at least 1 woman in it (when offered in regatta programs).**

**12.** Combining of Clubs at regattas:

i) Small clubs ie clubs with **fewer than 12 gender specific** senior members (over 18 years of age) are entitled to **combine with other small clubs**, within NQ Zone to race at regattas for medals and points (points will be given to the club who makes the nomination). **Approval must be sought from the NQ Zone Committee prior to the small club nominating for the regatta.** The request is to be sent via email to the Zone Secretary – Stephen Mills [nqzoneaocra@outlook.com](mailto:nqzoneaocra@outlook.com) **at least 21 days** prior to the regatta date.

i) If there is no other small club within a 400km radius, that small club will be allowed to race with any club within that 400km radius, **subject to zone approval**. Approval must be sought via email to the Zone Secretary – Stephen Mills [nqzoneaocra@outlook.com](mailto:nqzoneaocra@outlook.com) **at least 21 days** prior to the regatta date.

- 13.** AOCRA regatta rules apply and any other special rules which may be required for a specific event.
- 14.** An alternate venue must be available for the Regatta in the event of a strong wind warning or unsuitable paddling conditions.
- 15.** An alternate course must be available for all events at a Regatta.
- 16.** All Australian competitors must be registered with AOCRA
- 17.** Rules compliance:
  - A.* A senior official appointed by AOCRA or the zone, and a member of the organising committee should make a pre-race inspection of the course. AOCRA rules calls for a course and facilities inspector.
  - B.* If conditions are considered unsafe, as in rough seas, tidal convergence, strong wind or forecast strong winds or other conditions that may affect the safety of competitors, then an alternate course is to be made available. Or the event cancelled.
  - C.* In severe conditions as defined in AOCRA regatta rules the event must be postponed or cancelled.
  - D.* The lead boat in every event must have an official observer who will take responsibility for reporting conditions and make decisions on safety. If conditions deteriorate at any point of the course in any event, the observer must recommend a course of action.
  - E.* Consultation must take place by the race committee, and other interested parties, if a safety issue arises and paddlers may be jeopardised, with a view to altering the course or stopping the race.
  - F.* All OC6 canoes must have tow ropes on board and the canoe crews be trained to be able fix the tow rope in the approved manner to assist in rescue procedures.

Tow ropes to be 12mm silver rope 20/25 metres in length

- G. The organising committee prior to race start must make inspections of canoes. Positive floatation is mandatory, bailing buckets and spare paddles are mandatory storm covers (good condition) must be fitted when so directed by the race director. All canoes must conform to AOCRA standards and scrutineers requirements
- H. Support boats must be available to the standard required by AOCRA and the water control authorities and have extra life jackets on board. The vessels must comply with state transport regulations.
- I. **Briefings should be video recorded in case of litigation resulting from insurance claims.**
- J. **Time restriction and cut off points where crews can be required to drop out of a race at a pre agreed point, need to be documented and mentioned in all briefings. Once a crew or person is requested to turn back or take advantage of rescue and refuses then all insurance for the crew or person will be invalidated. This will decrease the chance of “weaker” or inexperienced crews who have decided to, have-a-go, getting themselves into trouble when common sense would say – turn back. Crews that refuse to turn back shall be advised that insurance will be voided at this point.**
- K. Canoes need to be rigged to suit the conditions and the team using the canoe. The onus is on the crew to ensure this is in effect. Competitors should be made aware in the invitation that thermal clothing may be necessary in cold water conditions.