Event Safety Plan- The Fairbairn Cup 2026

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Dates and Times:

Thursday 3rd December 2026

- 09:15: Open Novice VIIIs
- 11:30 Women's Novice VIIIs
- 14:00 Open/Women's Novice VIIIs (Lower Boats)

Novice Course: Jesus College Boathouse to The Railings (on the Reach)

Friday 4th December 2026

- 09:30 Open Senior VIIIs
- 12:00 Women's Senior VIIIs
- 14:15 Senior IVs + Alumni VIIIs

Senior VIIIs Course: Jesus College Boathouse to the Little Bridge (just past the A14 Bridge)

Senior IVs + Alumni VIIIs Course: Jesus College Boathouse to The Plough, Fen Ditton

To avoid overcrowding at the finish, there will be a maximum limit of 50 No. novice crews, 55 No. crews per open and women's category (incl. invitational boats) and 60 No. crews in the senior IVs + alumni VIIIs division.

In all events crews will be set off with a minimum 30No. second gap between the crews. This may be increased on request to the Fairbairn Secretary to avoid obstruction. Prior to the start of each division, umpires will check the course is clear and deal with any other river users in a polite manner.

We reserve the right to reduce the number of entries and shorten the course depending on weather conditions on the day of racing.

All crews must obey the instructions of the race marshals. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

Please let us know of any medical conditions crew members may have that could affect their ability to row safely - such as diabetes or epilepsy. We reserve the right to exclude crews if seen fit.

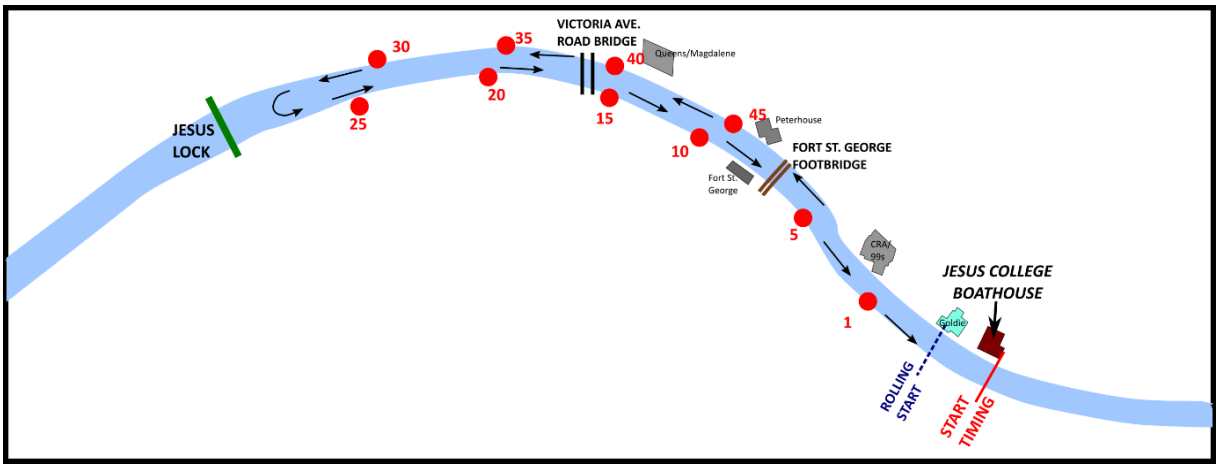
First Aid Provision:

We have booked two cyclist response teams from 8.30am – 4:30pm who will be stationed between the P&E and the Finish marshalling point. They will be in contact with the Fairbairn Secretary and Senior Marshals via radio. They will be able to respond to any requirement of first aid along the whole course.

Marshalling at the Start:

Crews will boat from their boathouses and marshal between Goldie Boathouse and Jesus Lock. There will be an anticlockwise circulation, crews in the lower half of the division will line up on the northward side of the river and those in the upper half on the southern side (See Start Marshalling circulation pattern). Many crews will be boating from their boathouses prior to their race time. All crews will be instructed by marshals (members of JCBC).

START MARSHALLING CIRCULATION PATTERN



Marshalling along the Course:

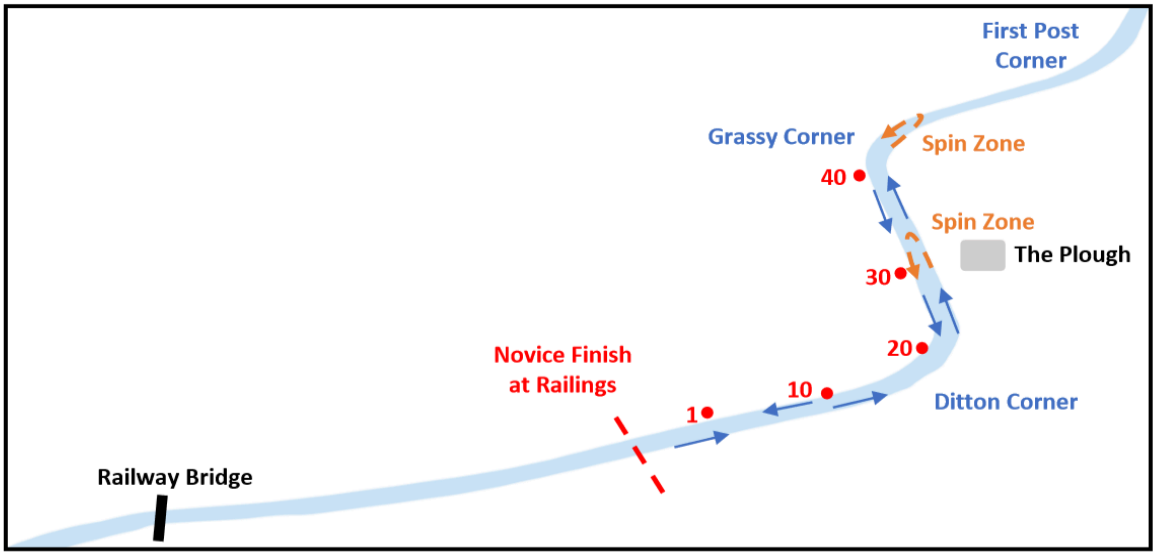
Jesus College Boat Club will provide Marshals to overlook the safety and fairness of the race. The static marshals will be positioned at specific places along the river, prioritising corners and narrow regions. Senior members of the boat club, with experience of the competition, will act as Senior Umpires and will be cycling along regions of the course. The Senior Umpires and key static marshals (See map below) will have radios. They will be in constant contact with Control at Jesus Boathouse, with the Start and Finish timers, and with the first aiders.

Marshalling at the Finish:

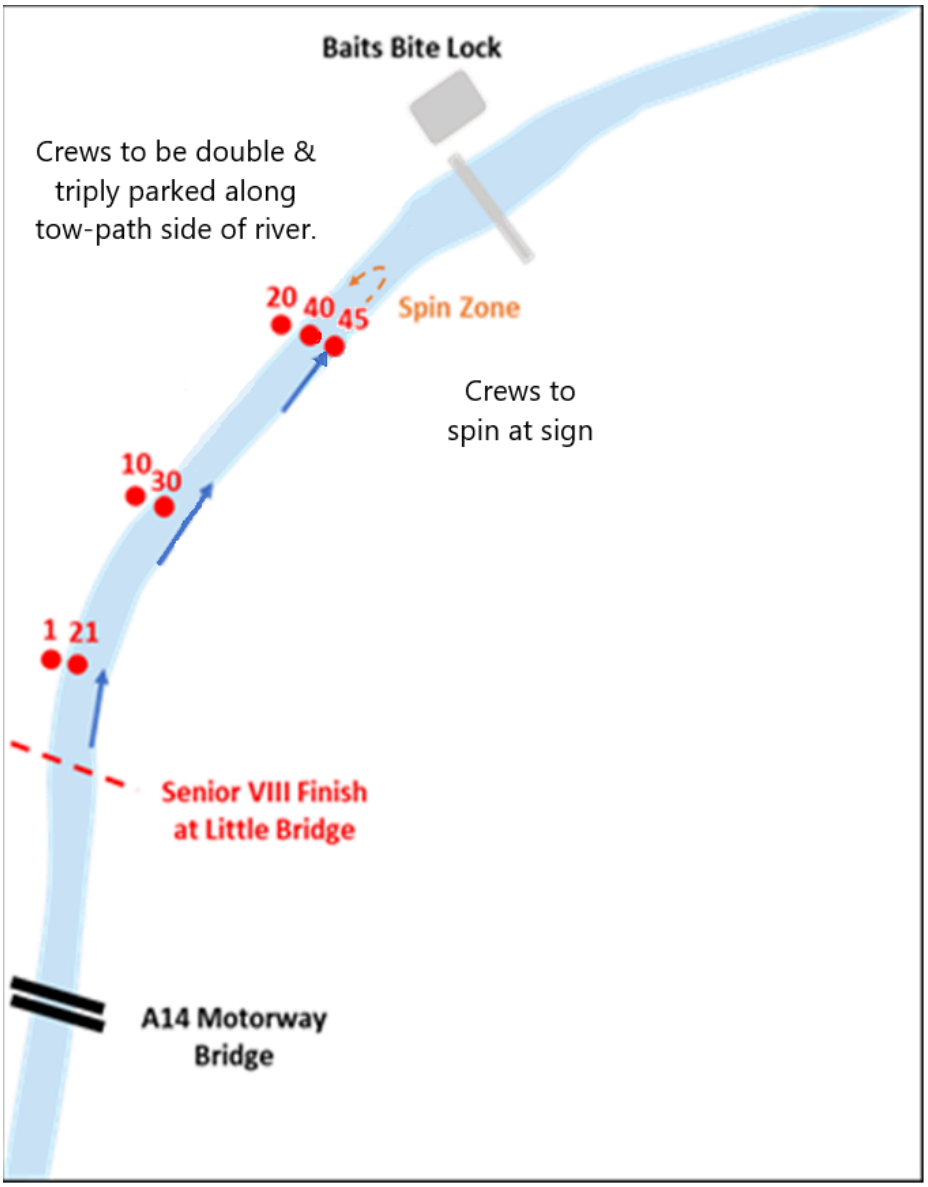
All crews must wait for racing to finish before returning to their boathouse. Marshals will arrange crews in a sensible manner, aligned along the towpath side and pulled in (see Finish Marshalling circulation patterns). Towards the end of the senior divisions there is sometimes an element of doubling / tripling up. The Jesus crews will pull in nearest the finish line so that they can return first to marshal the next division. Competitors or bank parties should carry warm clothes (stored in a dry place) or foil blankets in the event of cold weather.

As at the start, crews will be instructed by marshalls on where to go.

FINISH MARSHALLING CIRCULATION PATTERN (Thursday & Senior IVs + Alumni division)



FINISH MARSHALLING CIRCULATION PATTERN (Friday)

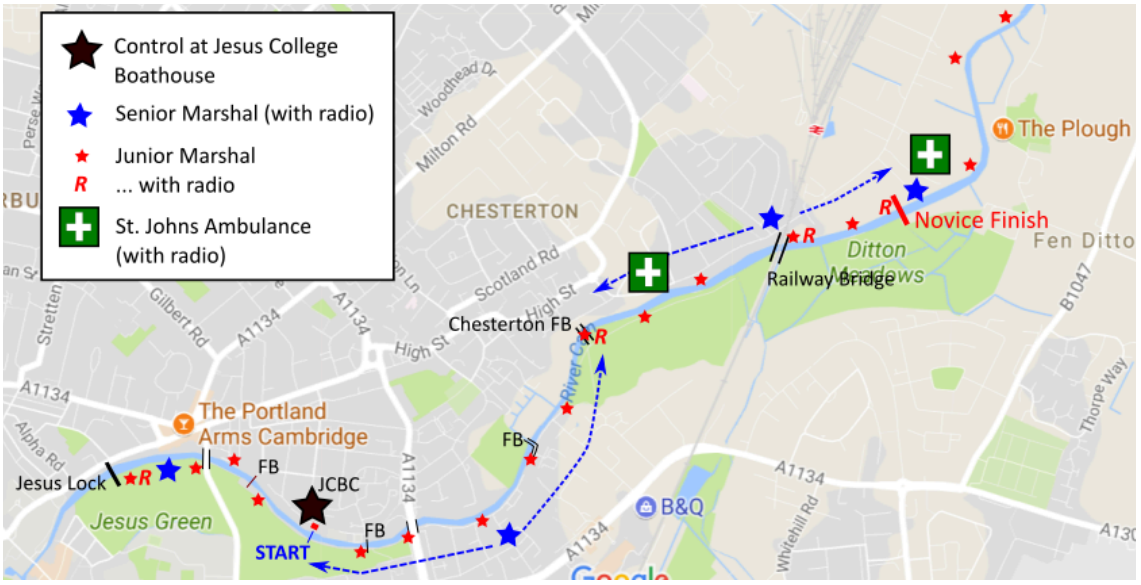


- Crews must clear the finish line area without stopping and proceed to the Baits Bite lock to spin zone.
- Crews must remain on the right hand side of the river to ensure effective circulation.
- Once they have spun, crews will be marshalled to park on the towpath side (right hand side - coxes perspective). Crews will be required to overlap parked boats, with doubling and tripping up expected.
- Spinning crews must spin at the sign, after parking boats may be pulled back towards the lock once on the bank.

- Note: the last few crews in each division may have to wait for the division to finish racing and crews to leave upstream before they can spin.

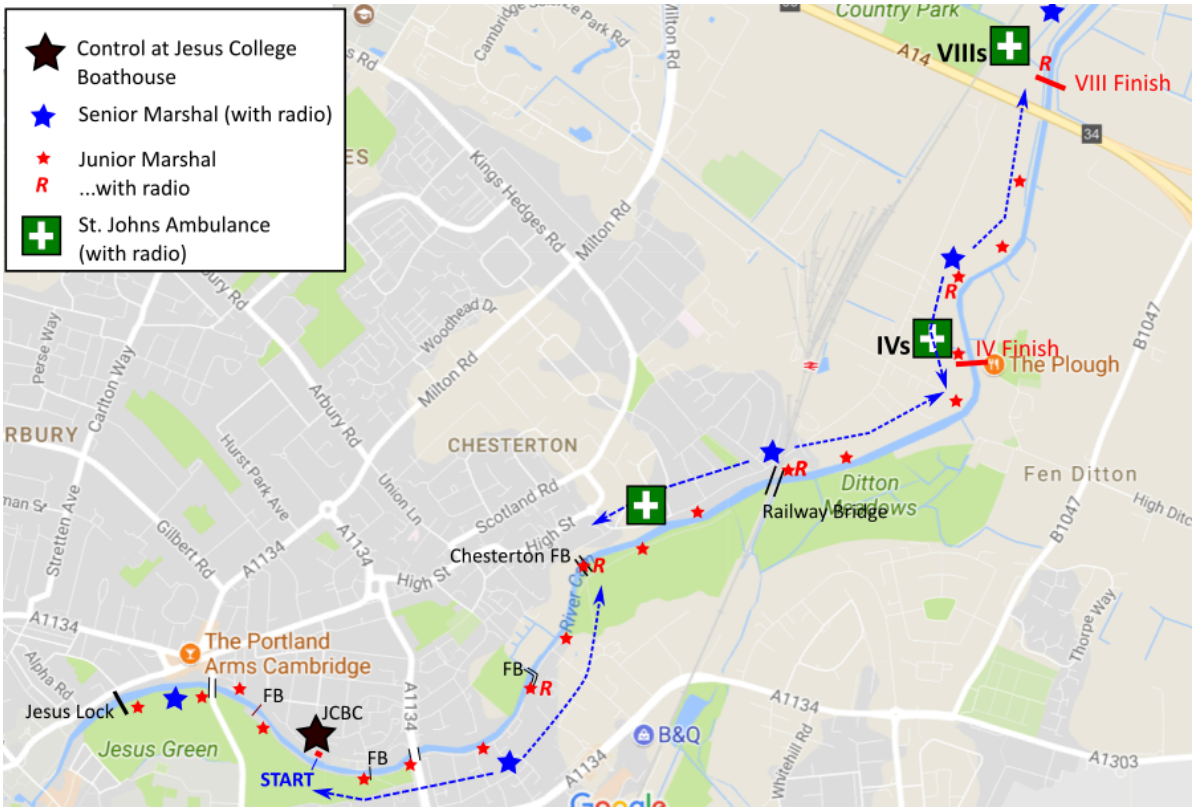
NOVICE RACES – THURSDAY 3rd December 2026

Position of Marshals



SENIOR RACES – FRIDAY 4th December 2026

Position of Marshals



Location	Number of marshals	Duties	Equipment
Start	6	-Marshalling crews waiting to start -Arrange crews into start order -Communicate with other river users wanting to travel downstream -Communicate with crews and coaches in boathouses as to when to push off	Radios Throw-line Loudhailer Mobile Phone
Emma Footbridge	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users -Prevent any overtakes by communicating with crews and coaches if necessary	Mobile Phone
Under Flyover	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users -Prevent any overtakes by communicating with crews and coaches if necessary	Radio Throwline Mobile Phone
Opposite Combined Boathouses	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users -Prevent any overtakes by communicating with crews and coaches if necessary	Mobile Phone
Riverside Bridge	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users	Throwline Mobile Phone

		-Prevent any overtakes by communicating with crews and coaches if necessary	
Start of path into Stourbridge common	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users -Prevent any overtakes by communicating with crews and coaches if necessary	Throwline Mobile Phone
Chesterton – On Green Dragon Bridge	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users -If necessary, communicate with crews to encourage safe overtaking. Ie. the obstructing crew must concede the racing line.	Radio Mobile Phone
Opposite P&E (Chesterton)	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users, especially anglers in this area -If necessary, communicate with crews to encourage safe overtaking. Ie. the obstructing crew must concede the racing line.	Loudhailer Mobile Phone
Corner where towpath divides (Chesterton)	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users - If necessary, communicate with crews to encourage safe overtaking. Ie. the obstructing crew must concede the racing line.	Mobile Phone
Railway Bridge	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users - If necessary, communicate with crews to encourage safe overtaking. Ie. the obstructing crew must concede the racing line.	Mobile Phone
Halfway down the Reach	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users -If necessary, communicate with crews to encourage safe overtaking. Ie. the obstructing crew must concede the racing line.	Mobile Phone
Ditton Corner *(Friday only)*	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users - If necessary, communicate with crews to encourage safe overtaking. Ie. the obstructing crew must concede the racing line.	Mobile Phone
Opposite the Plough *(Friday only)*	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users - If necessary, communicate with crews to encourage safe overtaking. Ie. the obstructing crew must concede the racing line.	Radio Mobile Phone
Grassy Corner *(Friday only)*	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users	Mobile Phone

		- Be aware of any approaching crews close together – it is not safe to overtake on the corner	
In the Gut *(Friday only)*	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users -Be aware of any imminent overtakes	Mobile Phone
First Post Corner *(Friday only)*	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users	Mobile Phone
A14 Road Bridge *(Friday only)*	1	-Ensure course is clear prior to racing and during the race -Communicate with other river users -If necessary, communicate with crews to encourage safe overtaking. Ie. the obstructing crew must concede the racing line.	Mobile Phone
Finish Line	4 (+ rowers post-race)	-Senior Marshal will introduce themselves to St. John Ambulance and be in contact over radio -Marshalling crews at the finish line -Direct crews to spin at the lock and marshal along the bank on the towpath side -When the bank is full, direct crews in the latter half of the division to marshal on the meadowside. -Be very vigilant, keep an eye out for any injuries or illnesses. Have emergency blankets ready and be in contact with St. John Ambulance.	Radios Loudhailer Foil/Emergency blankets Throwline Mobile Phone
Mobile Marshals (on bikes)	3	-1 marshal cycling between Jesus and Green Dragon Bridge -1 marshal cycling between Chesterton and Ditton Corner -1 marshal cycling between Ditton Corner and the A14 Road Bridge -Communicate with static marshals and race control -Communicate with St. John Ambulance -Ensure the course is clear and communicate with other river users.	Radios Throwlines Loudhailers Foil blankets Mobile Phones

NB: All marshals will be supplied with a list of senior marshals/umpires phone numbers to ensure they are able to be contacted.

In the case of an Emergency

We will provide qualified first aiders to provide first response to incidents.

If the incident occurs during racing, the crews behind the affected crew will be stopped and no further crews will be set off. In the case of an incident past the finish line, First Aiders will attend and racing will continue.

Post codes for emergency services notification during a major incident Ring 999 and provide location details as follows:

- Green Dragon Bridge: Green Dragon Public House, Water Street, And Chesterton: CB4 1NZ

- Penny Ferry Bay (next to where towpath meets the road) Water Street, Chesterton: CB4 1PA
- The Drove (next to 32 Fen Road, Chesterton), Access gate to Tow-path by railway bridge: CB4 1TX
- Long Reach, White House, near Railway Bridge: CB4 1UN
- The Plough Public House, Fen Ditton (no access to Chesterton tow-path): CB5 8SX
- Grassy Corner: Access via bottom of Chesterton Fen Road (Code controlled County Council owned Gate).
- Ditton Meadow (regatta site): end of Fen Ditton High St., (near 54 High St.) CB5 8ST, 52.221446, 0.167089 Messages

Marshals should also use what three words to provide an accurate location of the incident for both APC and emergency services.

Safety Equipment

The following safety equipment is provided:

- Throw lines for marshals
- Safety blankets at the finish line
- First aid kit at Start and Finish
- Radio Communications for Marshals, Umpires, Fairbairn Secretary and first aid

All coxes must have buoyancy aids/life jackets and all boats a bow ball. This will be checked by Start Marshals and any crew without at the start line will not be permitted to race. Heel restraint checks may also be made.

Cancelling or Suspension of the Event

The organisers will cancel or suspend the event if it is deemed unsafe for competitors, race marshals and umpires. Cancellation will be relayed to all via the marshals, who are in radio communication with the organisers. At least one of the following will be taken into consideration when making this decision:

- Severe weather conditions or adverse weather (such as thunderstorm, threat of thunderstorm, high winds, or heavy rain that affects racing or marshalling)
- Poor weather forecast
- Water level too high or increased stream conditions
- An immovable obstruction on the course, e.g. fallen tree.
- A significant fault or obstruction of communication systems between key officials, the race controller, and first aid post

If an incident or event occurs to make the race unsafe then the Fairbairn Secretary in conjunction with the Jesus College Boatman, JCBC President and Senior Umpires, will, at his/her discretion, suspend or cancel the race. This will be duly announced by radio communication to the marshals, who will relay this to the crews. Updates will be given as appropriate. In the event of an incident then the emergency action plan will be put into effect.

Vova Chub

28/10/2026

Jesus College Boat Club
Fairbairn Secretary 2026