



LRC Competition Policy

September 2009

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Leichhardt Rowing Club's Competition Policy is to identify the criteria for LRC competing members to be entered in races and regattas, particularly championship regattas.

The aim of the policy is to provide clarity to all members, and to ensure LRC fairly supports its competing members, and that it appropriately supports Rowing NSW regattas by submitting entries of a suitable standard.

BACKGROUND:

Leichhardt has a long history as a strongly competitive club, and a very recent history as a social rowing club.

LRC was originally founded as a community-based competitive rowing club: while it was established that members were welcomed from all walks of life, the primary focus was on developing strong competition crews. As participation in rowing requires significant resources, and it is recognised that the club has a limit to resources, the invitation to compete for the club is regulated and is by approval of the club's executive.

In very recent years, the club agreed to the inclusion of a social rowing program, providing access to limited rowing for a broad section of the community. The inclusion of this program by the committee was on the agreement that the social rowing program delivered a surplus, and had no impact on competitive crews and aims of the club.

The committee continues to endorse this view as it focuses on strengthening the club's competitive membership and leading the club to continuing its recent premierships successes.

COMMENCEMENT:

This LRC Competition Policy is effective immediately.

The policy may be updated from time to time, and any changes will be communicated to all LRC members.

OPERATION:

Who is eligible to compete in regattas?

To be eligible to represent LRC at a regatta, LRC members must be:

1. A current financial member of LRC;
2. A competing member (ie, senior/probationary competing member, school student (under 18) member, or a coxswain); and
3. A current Rowing NSW member.

Reference to 'crews' below is intended to refer to both single scullers and crews.

Regattas covered by this policy

The regattas covered by this policy are included in LRC's Regatta Calendar which is published each year at the beginning of the season. They are Rowing NSW regattas, and also include championship regattas such as NSW State Championships and Australian Rowing Championships

Regattas not covered by this policy

This policy does not apply to: 'in-house' regattas (such as LUOR regattas); JB Sharp regattas; or 'private regattas' (in 2009 these are the Head of the Yarra, and World Masters Games).

REGATTA ENTRIES:

Process for proposing entries

Entries ought to be provided to the Regatta Secretary (via the coach or squad coordinator) by no later than the date specified on the LRC regatta calendar. Entries received after this time will not be entered.

Entry approval

All entries must be approved according to the following criteria before being submitted to Rowing NSW.

The decision on whether entries are submitted for a non-championship regatta will be for the Club Captain to make, having regard to the below criteria and the purpose of this policy. The decision on whether entries are submitted for a championship regatta will be for the Committee to make, having regard to the below criteria.

Criteria for approving entries

Eligible rowers will be entered in races, subject to the following considerations:

1. Competitiveness of crews:

Crews must be deemed competitive having regard to the event to be entered, their level of training, testing results, and previous race times (eg. likely to win premiership points or finish within a 15 second margin of the winner, based on previous regatta entries and results).

For championship and 'elite' regattas, the Head Coach (in consultation with the Captain), must seek prior approval from the Committee for LRC members to compete. The Committee's support will be based on testing results, and recent competition results. The Committee would support crews/scullers who are likely to finish first, second or third (having regard to previous race times) and/or are within 6 seconds of the previous winning time. To compete in an event at National Championships, the Committee supports members who came first at State Championships, or if they came second or third, were within 3 seconds of the winning time at the State Championships.

2. Availability of boats: Races entered cannot exceed the boats available. For home regattas this will be LRC's whole fleet. However, boat availability for away regattas is limited given transport logistics. Therefore, entries will be submitted having regard to the needs of all competing members across all event types for any particular regatta within the available boats.

3. Number of races: Members are not encouraged to enter more than 5 races on any 1 day.

AND

- 4 Timing of races: Members will not be entered in events which are too close together and do not allow sufficient time to make the start of the next event. This will avoid unnecessary race entry and withdrawal fees where it was reasonably foreseeable (based on likely timing of events), that a member could not participate in both events.

REQUEST TO RECONSIDER A DECISION

Members, or coaches, who disagree with a decision on race entries must apply to the Club Captain detailing:

- The rower and/or crew;
- The regatta and races proposed to be entered;
- An overview of the rower's/crews' regatta results, time trial and/or erg times, commitment to the program, which regattas they are competing in, and racing goals;
- An explanation of how the rower's/crew's requests fits within the criteria above and the purpose of this policy; and
- Any other relevant considerations.

Jane Hutchison
Club Captain
September 2009