

**An invitation to the Liverpool**  
**The first BDA National League Race 2019**

**The venue**  
**Liverpool Watersports centre,**  
**110 Mariners Wharf, Liverpool, L3 4DR**

Amathus Dragon Boat Club are very pleased to invite you to our National League race of the 2019 season at Liverpool Watersports Centre, this centre provides some of the best quality water and resources for Dragon Boat racing and training in the country.

The National League event that we are planning, seeks to offer exciting racing over a range of distances on fair and deep water so that your crews can perform to the best of their ability. We have been running events successfully from this Centre for over 30 years and will use this experience to provide a professional service to the BDA and its members. Crews participating in our event should know that they will receive a warm welcome from Amathus and its members in the true spirit of Dragon Boat Racing.

The water quality at Liverpool docks is excellent, which is why it is frequently used for various open water swimming events, triathlons and wake boarding.

Being close to the river Mersey we have a microclimate which is generally milder and less extreme than more exposed venues, this combined with dock walls and the city buildings allows us to have sheltered conditions in all but the most violent of storms. ***It is very rare for us to have to call off our Dragon Boat work.***

**The racing**

All the crews attending in 2019, can certainly expect that the courses for the **races will be deep and fair**, the water is 4m deep in most parts but can be as much as 5m in places, there are no shallow parts.

There will be three types of race, the course of each is shown in the power point presentation.

- A 350m straight race following the standard procedure of heats, reps, semis and finals. The crews may be separated into cup and plate for peer group racing. The course will be straight, deep and fair with marker buoys and flags.
- The same course will be available for the Ladies and Juniors.
- A slalom race over a distance of about 500m including two left turns and two right turns. This will be done as a timed run with one crew at a time. Full details will be given on the day.
- A 2500m pursuit race including three turns to the left, skilful officials in key positions will ensure that this race runs effectively.

**Safety and rescue**

- Safety cover will be provided by the staff from the watersports centre who are both qualified and experienced in the needs of Dragon Boat Racing, two boats will be available at all times.

### **Boat Loading facilities**

At Liverpool we have one of the easiest places to unload boats from trailers and get them on the water. A large slipway allows trailers to be driven to the water edge and unloaded; the slipway also acts as a parking area for the trailers. This slipway is located on Mariners Wharf, drivers towing boat trailers will be directed by a marshal by the marina to the slipway where an additional marshal will be organizing the trailer parking. The slipway is only 5 minutes' walk from the centre so those putting the boats on the water should be able to do this with little inconvenience.

Once all trailers have arrived the slipway will be locked for security.

A picture of the slipway can be found on the power point presentation to help with your orientation in relation to the centre.

***If clubs wish to bring their boats up on Saturday prior arrangements will need to be made directly with Dave Bangs 07850 911 697***

### **Boat Mooring and paddler loading**

From the power point presentation, you will see that Liverpool Watersports Centre has a large number of pontoons that surround the lower level, making it relatively easy to get the crews in and out of the boats. Some pontoon areas will be reserved for pool boats depending on the number that are required. Crews will be directed to pontoons by the boat marshals on the day.

You will also see that the boat loading area has disabled access via a ramp which leads down from the crew camp areas.

The pontoon areas are restricted to competitors loading or unloading their boats, it is not a spectator area and should be kept clear for the appropriate use.

### **Watersports Centre facilities**

The Liverpool Centre has two large changing facilities which include both showers and toilets, there are additional toilets in the main block, there are 10 toilets in the centre including 2 with disabled access all of which will be signposted on the day. Should crew numbers increase from expected, there will be additional toilets in the crew camp areas.

The centre also has a small café by race control in the main block, providing hot and cold drinks plus a range of simple snacks such as toasties and paninis.

### **Crew areas**

As can be seen in the powerpoint presentation we will be providing some areas for visiting crews to set up camps, the area is hard standing so if you are bringing gazebos they will need some form of weighting to set up

The area is adjacent to the watersports centre and on Mariners wharf pathway.

### **Car Parking**

As can be seen in the powerpoint presentation there are three main parking areas

- On the road adjacent to the centre, these are free on Sundays

- The Liverpool Marina car park five minutes from the site which is pay and display, costing £5 for 12 hours.

### Hotels and places to stay

The following hotels are just outside Liverpool City Centre and offer the best value along with the distance from the Watersports Centre (L34DG) They are within easy access to major motorways including M57 and M62 and all major routes into the city:

- Travel lodge Liverpool Docks(0.5 miles away)
- Travel Lodge Aigburth (3.4 miles away)
- Travel lodge Liverpool Stoneycroft (3.5 miles away)
- Travel lodge Stonedale Park (5.2 miles away)
- Travel lodge Liverpool John Lennon airport(5.7 miles away)
- Liverpool Youth Hostel (less than 2 miles away)
- Premier inn Liverpool Tarbock (8.5 miles away)
- Premier inn Liverpool Roby (6.3 miles away)

Hotel name	Hotel details	Distance from Water sports centre 110 Mariners Wharf, Liverpool L3 4DG	Comments
Travel lodge Liverpool Docks	Brunswick Dock, Sefton Street, Liverpool, L3 4BN, United Kingdom Sat nav postcode: L3 4DZ Tel: 08719 846030	0.5 miles	
Travel lodge Aigburth	531 Aigburth Road, Liverpool, L19 9DN, United Kingdom Sat nav postcode: L19 3QG Tel: 08715 591828	3.4 miles away	Located on main route into city centre from M62 via M57/ Liverpool Airport route.
Travel Lodge Liverpool Stoneycroft	502 Queens Drive, Stoneycroft, Liverpool, L13 0AS, United Kingdom Sat nav postcode: L13 0AP Tel: 08715 591827	3.5 miles away	A few minutes drive from M62 Motorway and Edge Lane: major route into Liverpool City centre.
Travel lodge Liverpool Stonedale Park	East Lancashire Road, Norris Green, Liverpool, L11 9DH, United Kingdom Sat nav postcode: L11 9DH Tel: 08719 846437	5.2 miles away	
Travel lodge Liverpool John Lennon Airport	1 Speke Hall Avenue, Liverpool, L24 1UX, United Kingdom Sat nav postcode: L24 1UX Tel: 08719 846528	5.7 miles away	Located on main route into the city.
Liverpool Youth Hostel	25 Tabley Street, off Wapping, Liverpool, Merseyside, L1 8EE	Approx. 2 miles away	Located on the Dock Road(wapping) which runs

			alongside our docks.
Liverpool Tarbock Premier Inn	Wilson Road, Tarbock, Liverpool L36 6AD Sat Nav Directions: L36 6AD	8.3 miles away	Easy access to M57 and M62 motorways and major routes into Liverpool City Centre.
Liverpool Roby Premier Inn	Roby Road, Huyton, Liverpool L36 4HD Sat Nav Directions: L36 4HD	6.3 miles away	Situated just off the M62(J5) with east access to the city centre.