



World Pilot Gig Championships

Race Rules 2019

These rules and regulations are set annually by the WPGC Committee. They exist for the safety of the participants and the fairness of the races. Amendments to any of these rules will be announced at the Coxwains Meetings.

1. All coxswains must carry a working hand-held portable VHF radio. This must be set to channel 8.
2. All non-swimmers must have immediate access to a buoyancy aid.
3. All coxswains must wear a buoyancy aid or life-jacket. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification.
4. All coxswains must be 18 years old or over.
5. All crew members must be 16 years old or over.
6. All Vets must be 40 years old or over. All Supervets must be 50 years old or over.
7. All coxswains must be experienced and observe good seamanship at all times.
8. No mixed sex crews are allowed.
9. Any gig not at the start line at its allotted start time may be disqualified at the discretion of the start marshal.
10. For a crew to be eligible for the first 24 places in a particular race category (Open, Vets or Supervets), the crew must be made up of the same six rowers & coxswain from the same club for all races in that category. Essential crew changes (for example, because of injury) must be notified to the race officials who will decide on the eligibility of the amended crew
11. In the St Agnes races, any gig over the line after "one minute to the start" is called will be disqualified. No warnings will be given.
12. In the group race starts, any gig failing to obey the start marshal's orders will be given a final warning and disqualification will take place if this is ignored.
13. Any gig touching a safety boat may be disqualified.
14. All boats must steer a proper course. Any zig-zagging to block another boat or spinning a gig will result in disqualification.
15. All gigs must stay outside the yellow buoys along the St. Mary's shore on the St. Agnes race.
16. In the event of a collision all crews should make every attempt to disengage.
17. Spinning a gig or taking off the yoke in the St Agnes races may result in disqualification.
18. Spinning a gig or taking off the yoke in the Nut Rock races will result in disqualification.
19. All gigs must finish between the two finish buoys. Gigs nearest the buoys must be given water. Any gig finishing outside the buoys may be disqualified at the discretion of the finish marshall.
20. Any gig not completing a race will not continue in the championship.
21. In the event of a serious safety incident, the race may be stopped by the intervention of a safety boat.
22. if a medical emergency arises at sea, the safety boat must be alerted, the position on the course given and oars raised. If the emergency arises close to or in the harbour, the crew must row towards the Rechabite Slip (from where they launched) where medical assistance is available.
23. All decisions made by the race stewards will be final.