

Round the Island of Kerrera; 4th September 2010

Alternate adverse weather route in the Sound of Kerrera/Oban Bay will be notified to race participants on the morning of the race, if required.

It is the responsibility of the paddler to ensure the correct route.

Time penalties and disqualification may result from failure to adhere to route requirements, Maritime Rules of the Road (Collision Regs.) and environmental considerations (i.e. giving seals a wide berth [200m minimum] especially whilst "hauled-out" of rocks and reefs).

Tide times, Standard Port; Oban: High Water 15.47 hrs. (BST) 3.2m

Scrutinising

Scrutinising will take place at Kilbowie Outdoor Education Centre prior to 12pm.

Race brief will take place at 12pm, Kilbowie beach/launch point.

The Oban Sea Kayak Race flotilla will then paddle escorted and together to Oban Bay, taking into account the local ferries before crossing the CalMac Ferry RoRo Piers.

Please abide by these conditions: The whole of Oban Bay will be watching.

Paddlers will in effect become ambassadors of their sport.

Any contraventions may jeopardise future events.

Any boats not scrutinised at Kilbowie may be checked on the beach between North Pier and the CalMac Railway Steps, after 1pm.

**Laminated A4 Race/ID Numbers will be issued once sea kayaks have been scrutinised,
Race/ID Numbers must be clearly visible when paddling.**

Course

NB: NO KAYAKS ARE TO IMPEDE THE CALMAC FERRIES/RORO PIERS BETWEEN 1.30pm and 2pm

Pre-Start 1- 1.30pm Oban Bay Beach

Mini social pre-event, media opportunities, and thanks to sponsors. Final race brief at 1.30pm.

Start 14.15hrs. Oban Bay (east)

The start line lies between North Pier and the Caledonian MacBrayne South Pier (Railway Steps), position approx:

Latitude and Longitude 56° 24·86' N. 005° 28·39' W. Ordnance Survey Grid Reference NM 858 301.

- South through the Sound of Kerrera, keeping the Island of Kerrera to starboard throughout.
- Turn right at Rubha Seannoch (Kerrera's most southerly tip).
- Pass between Bach Island and Rubha na Feundain (Kerrera's southwest tip).
- **N.B. From Rubha na Lice, across Slatrach Bay, it is very important to keep all of the islands and islets (Eilean nan Gamhna, Eilean nam Uan and several reefs which flood at high water) on the northwest coast of Kerrera to port, still keeping Kerrera to starboard. Keep the salmon farm floating structures along the northwest Kerrera coast to port.**

This is to avoid the seal colony, this colony comprises Common Seals and they will be approaching the end of their breeding season. Seal pups need "time-out" of the water in order to warm; kayaks present probably the scariest sight to hauled-out seals than anything else. Please keep well clear of any hauled-out seals. Seal pups can die from hypothermia, caused by kayaks passing too close!

- Turn right at Rubha' Bhearnaig into the approach to Oban Bay: N.B. Be very aware of fast approaching ferries, which leave a large wash, this can be especially hazardous in the shallow reef waters. Leave both fixed navigational marks (red lights) to starboard.
- Once in Oban Bay, keep close to the shore of Rudha' Chruidh island (northeast Kerrera). Paddlers must keep within one cable (200m) of Rudha Chruidh and be perpendicular to its south tip to before making the crossing to the South Cardinal Buoy (Yellow topsides/Black below, two black top mark cones pointing down), in order to comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972 (COLREG Rule 9 Narrow Channels).

N.B. Any contravention of IRPCS 1972 will result in disqualification from the race.

- **Finish Oban Bay (south)** The Finish lies approximately 300m east of the South Cardinal Buoy in Dungallan Park. Kayaks should be safely beached at the dingy park slip/beach, paddlers should then make their way by foot through the dingy park, following the marked route to the timekeepers.
- **The race is deemed complete once the paddlers laminated number has been handed and recorded by the timekeepers.**

Latitude and Longitude 56° 24·51' N. 005° 29·28' W. Ordnance Survey Grid Reference NM 849 297.

Communications

The Official Race boat is called "Seaforth", an NB Marine 820 Cabin cruiser; she can be identified by white topsides and white hull. She will be displaying the Oban Sea Kayak Logo. Several other support boats will also be in attendance.

Contact by VHF Restricted Marine Radio: Channel 16 or 72; call-sign name; "Seaforth". Contact by mobile phone: 07768 924 841.

Please note due to the nature of the terrain and conditions radio signals may be intermittent.