

United Hospitals Bumps

Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th May 2025

<https://www.uhboatclub.co.uk/bumps>

v1

Dr Jerry Mitchell UHBC President

Same marshalling and start sequence as last year

- Marshalling arrangements
 - Proceed up on Surrey
 - Land bows pointing upriver
- Klaxon (start) sequence
 - Turn with sterns held at first klaxon
 - Variable interval between first and second klaxon



Timetable

Saturday 24.5.25	Sunday 25.5.25	REVISED timings
12:48	13:47	HW Chiswick Bridge
12:54	13:53	HW Kew Road Bridge
13:13	14:10	HW Richmond
15:30	16:30	Officials' meeting
16:00	17:00	Start boating division 1
17:00	18:00	Start division 1
17:10	18:10	Race to middle of Brentford Ait only, boats return to start
17:40	18:40	Start division 2
18:10	19:10	All boats returned from division 2
18:25	19:25	Start boating division 3
19:10	20:10	Start division 3
19:45	20:45	All boats returned from division 3
20:57	21:54	LW Richmond
20:58	21:00	Dusk
21:15	22:23	LW Kew Bridge
20:53	22:01	LW Chiswick Bridge

- Please boat on time
- You can only go upriver to your stake
- If you need more warm up then please go downriver first
- First division – you may be held below your stake if the depth is not sufficiently shallow (this applies to 10 and above)

General advice – dirty water

River Action

- The Tideway is dirty with risk of raw sewage
- Please use wellies to get into boats, do not use bare feet
 - Cut glass injuries
- Please do not go too deep into the water at the start
 - Advice to wash properly afterwards especially before eating/drinking
 - Keep cuts covered properly




River Action BR guidance

<https://www.britishrowing.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Guidance-for-Rowing-When-Water-Quality-is-Poor-March-2024.pdf>



Vile amounts of human sewage detected at popular rowing site on the Thames. British Rowing and River Action warn river users to take extreme caution


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GUIDANCE ON ROWING WHEN WATER QUALITY IS POOR

WHAT IS 'POOR WATER QUALITY'?

When we talk about poor river water quality we are referring to the chemicals or microorganisms that don't naturally occur in the river, usually from sewage or agricultural run-off in the water. This toxic discharge poses threats to both wildlife and human health.




Our rivers face an imminent threat of ecocide, with only 15% meeting 'good ecological status'.

WHY DO WE MONITOR THE LEVELS OF PHOSPHATES, NITRATES AND ECOLI IN THE WATER?

Phosphates and nitrates are chemical compounds that are found in fertilisers, and when introduced to rivers can cause ecological problems.

Alongside phosphates and nitrates, the presence of E. coli tells us there is pollution in the river, possibly from sewage. E. coli is a microorganism that gives us a good indication that there are harmful bacteria and viruses in the water.



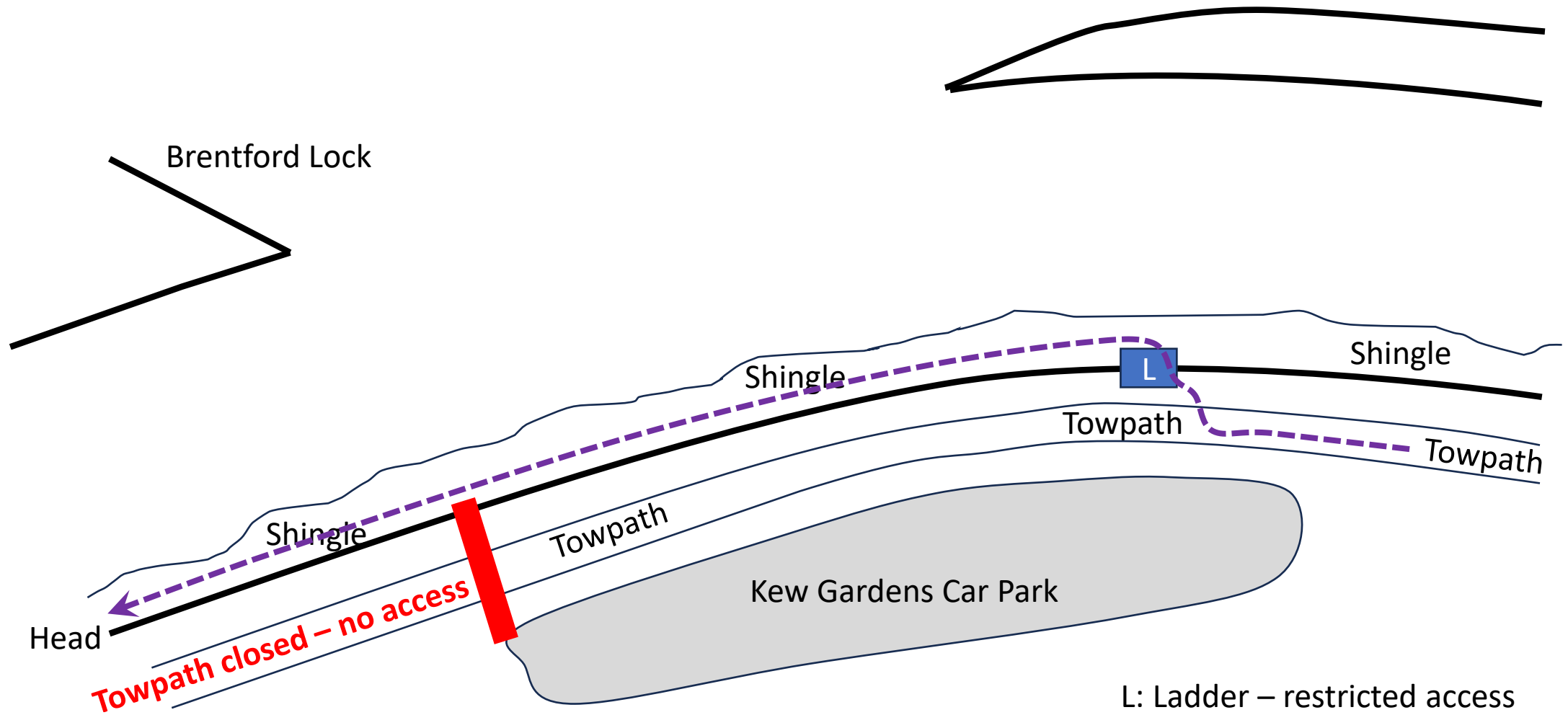
2025 – TOWPATH CLOSURE

Change to race format

- Saturday
 - Women (short); Women (long); Open
- Sunday
 - Open (short); Open (long); Women
- Boats stay on water between first and second divisions
 - Turn alongside Brentford Ait following short race; go back to start immediately

Access to start area – shore parties only

NO ACCESS TO TOWPATH ABOVE CLOSURE



Revised start access 2025

Steps opposite Brentford Ait

Stop before you get near the main carpark



Marshalling

- Standard rules of navigation up to Brentford Lock
- All boats proceed upriver on SURREY side – including external oared boats
 - **DO NOT CROSS AT BRENTFORD!**
- Land under stake number, bows pointing upriver
- One member of the shore party needs to be in place at this time
- **Keep bows held in to the side**
- **External crews will proceed upriver following the usual rules**
 - **External crews cross at Syon Crossing**
- When we are ready first klaxon will sound

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START area BEFORE start sequence

All oared boats follow the standard Surrey inshore zone going upstream
All boats follow standard starboard navigation going downstream

Surrey inshore zone continues as usual

Head
START

PLA moorings

ALL UH boats land on the Surrey side bows pointing upstream, once landed keep the boats into the shore to allow other boats to pass in the Surrey inshore zone

External oared boats

Syon Park Pavilion
(Pink Lodge)

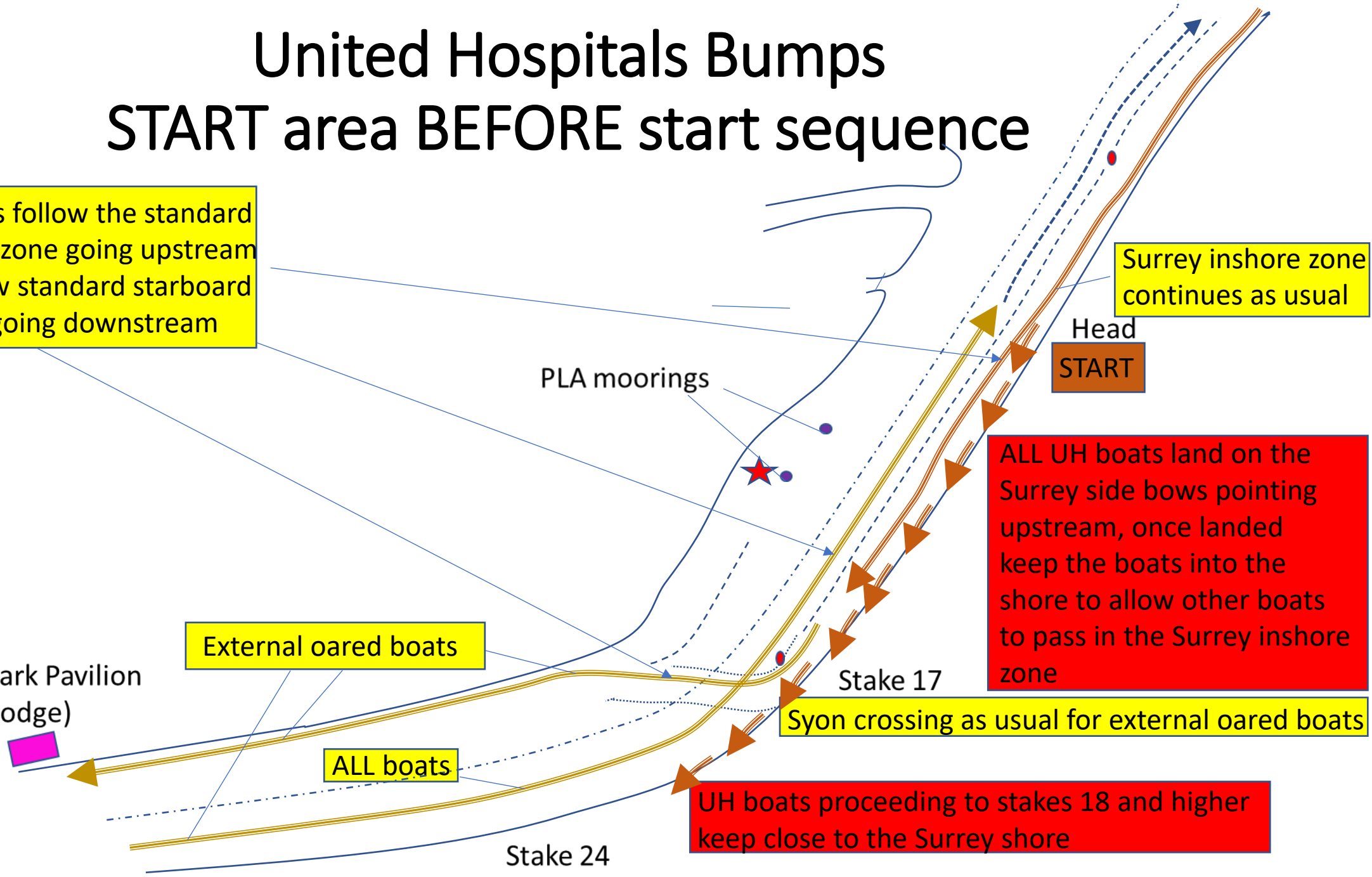
Stake 17

Syon crossing as usual for external oared boats

ALL boats

UH boats proceeding to stakes 18 and higher keep close to the Surrey shore

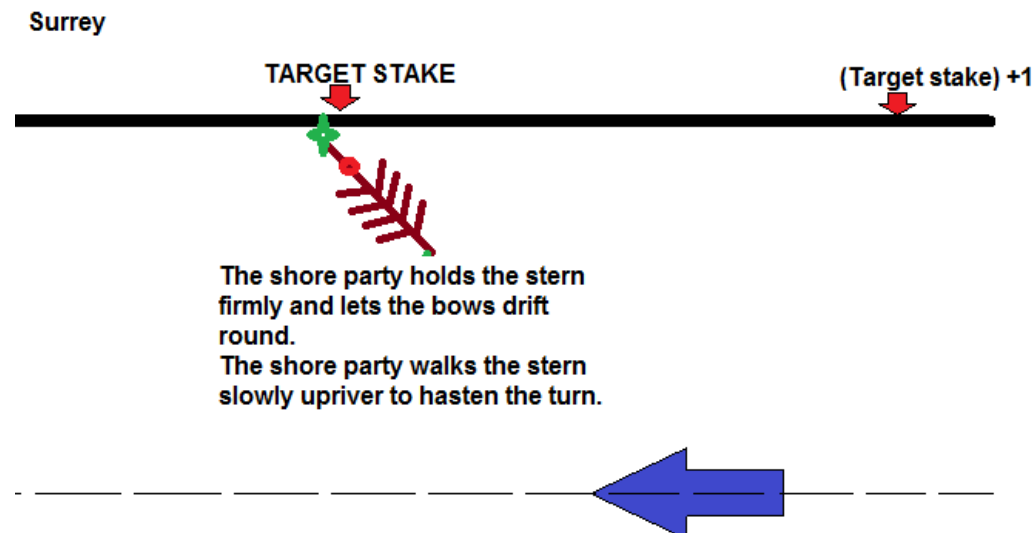
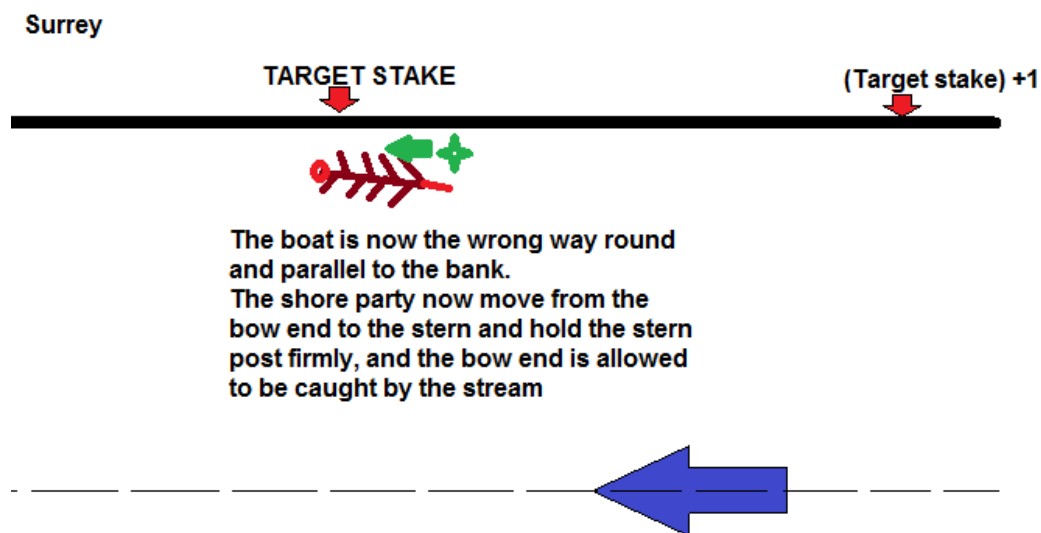
Stake 24



First klaxon

- We will sound the klaxon when we are ready
- At this point the rules of the river will change
 - External oared boats will cross at Brentford lock
 - External oared boats will pass through PLA moorings (narrow and difficult)
 - The Syon crossing is temporarily suspended
- All UH boats will turn under their stake number
 - Hold stern of boat securely
 - Push out bows, let stream take the boat round
 - Gently walk the stern upriver to aid the turn process
 - For competent crews a chop turn is permissible

Turning at the stake – hold stern securely Do not let go

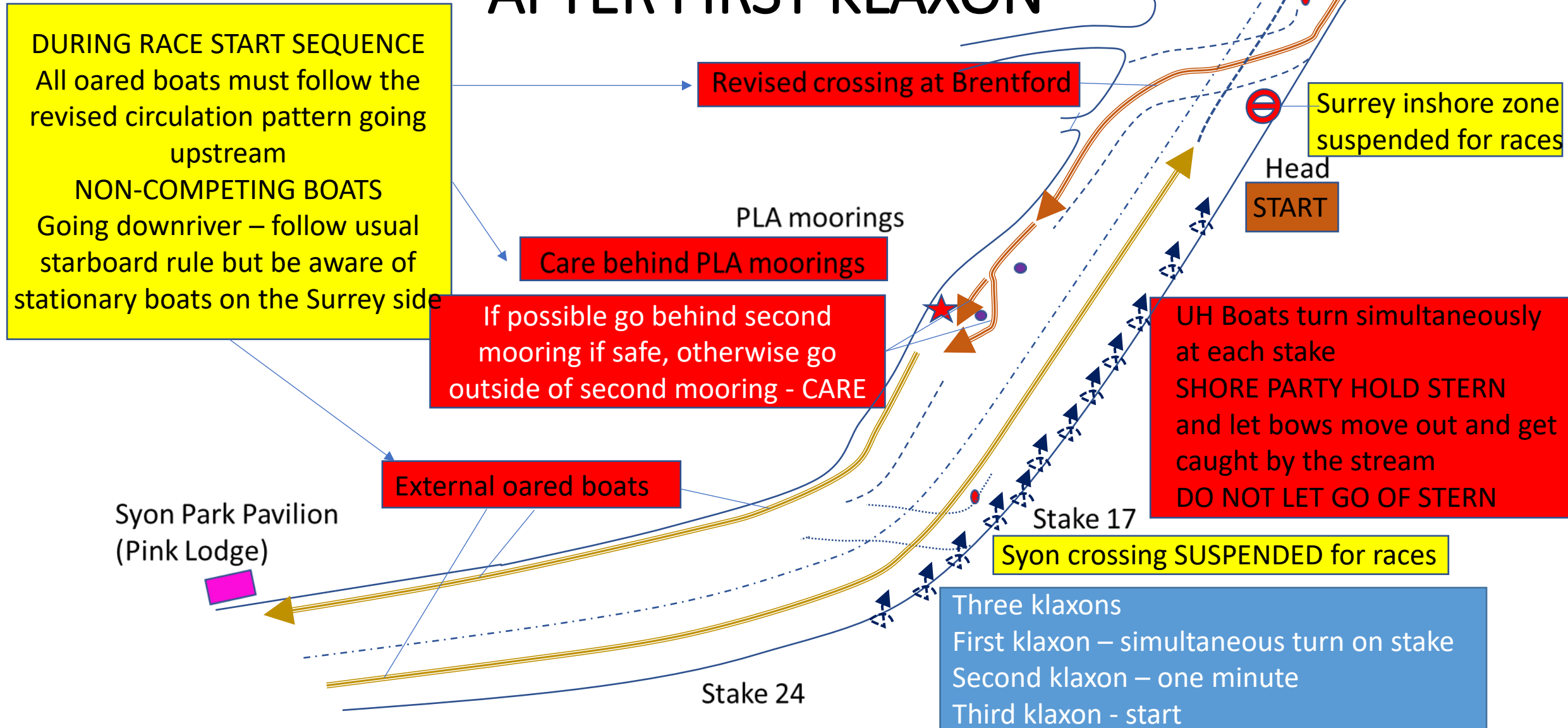


Synchronised spinning – First klaxon



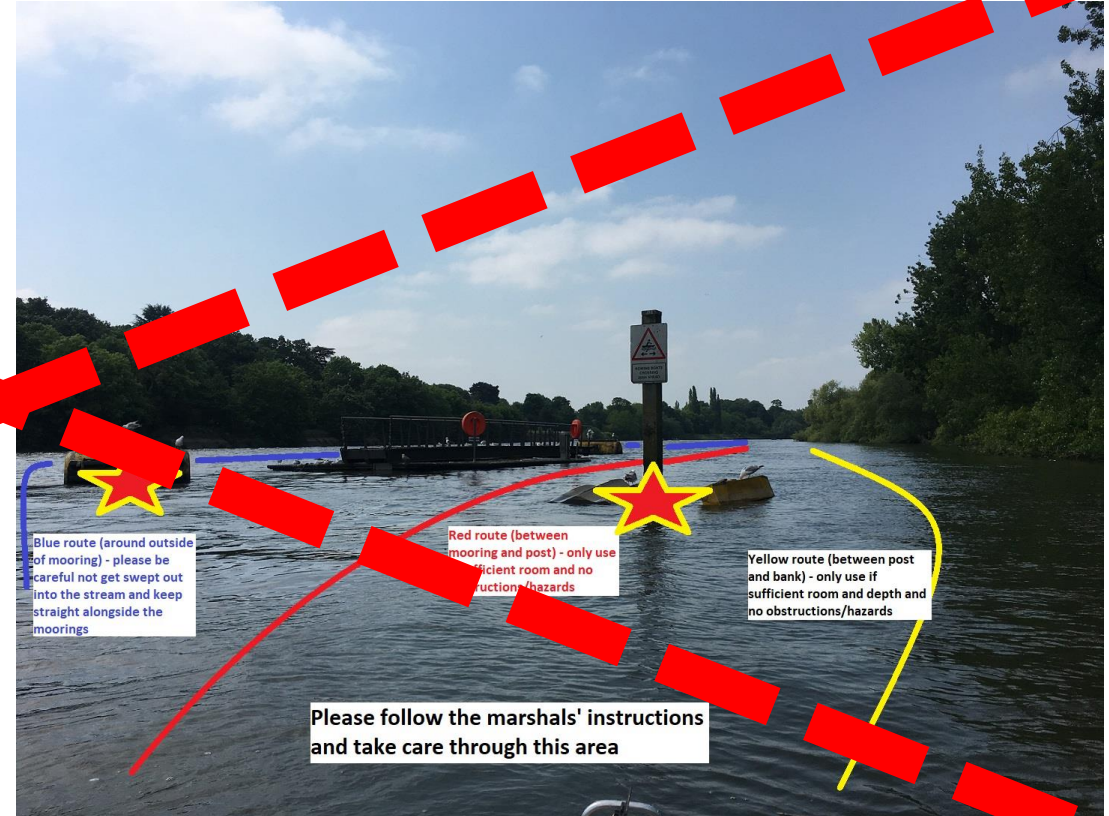
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START area during race start sequence AFTER FIRST KLAXON



Non-UH boats after first klaxon ONLY

No UH boat should be crossing at Brentford Lock

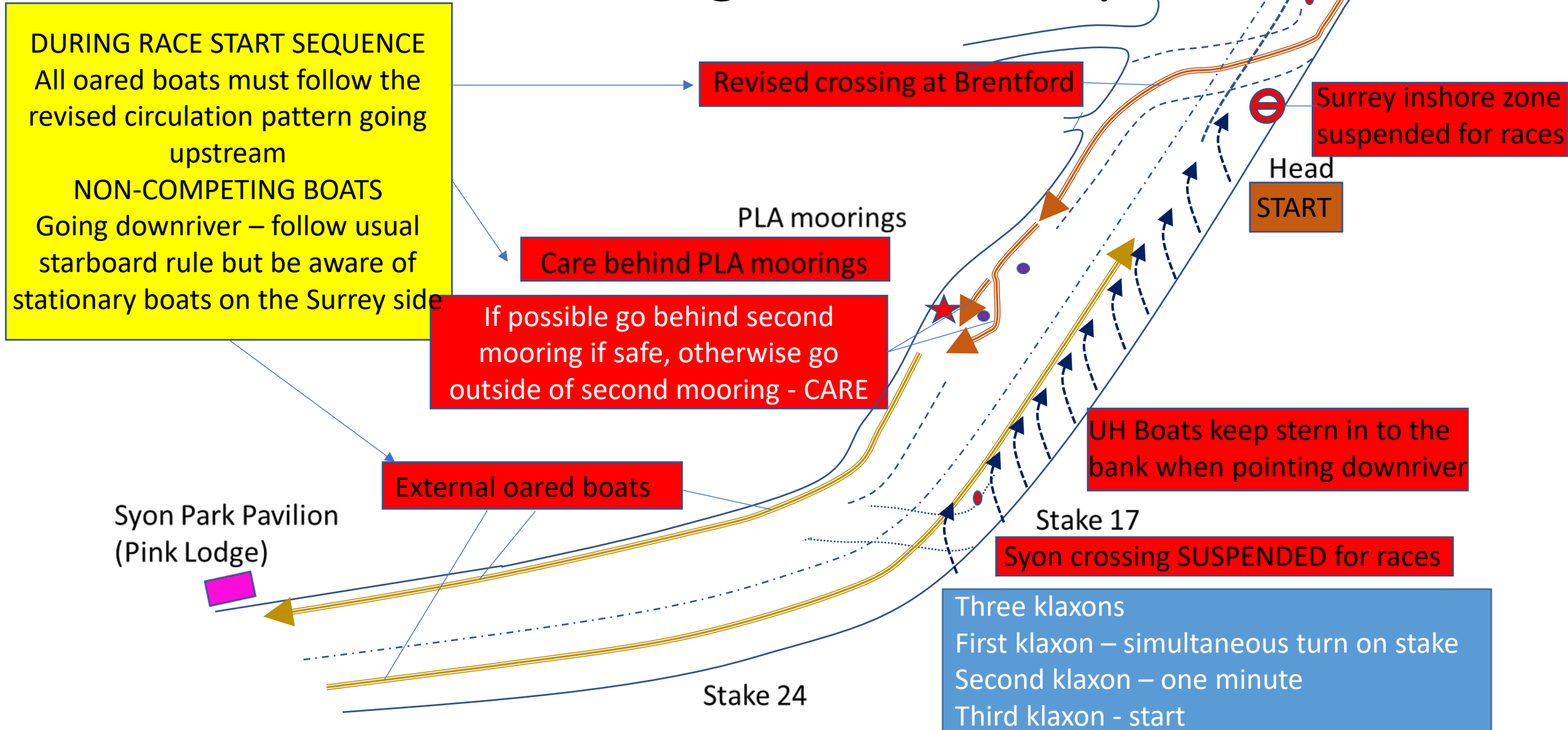


Once crews have turned:

- Stay well into the side
- Keep stern well into bank
- Ensure shore party are holding the stern end in to the side
- Keep stern under stake number

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START area during race start sequence



Bumps start

- The start will consist of three klaxons
First, 1 minute, start
- **Variable interval between first (turn) and second (one minute warning)**
- If there is an issue then the start may be aborted right up to the final klaxon.
- If there is a reset the next klaxon will be a one minute klaxon
- The timing between the one minute and start klaxons is usually reasonably accurate – e.g. +/- 2 seconds
- Please ask crews not to square until late otherwise the boat will drag
- The shore party will hold the 7 blade and either the 5 or 3 blade tip
 - Please ensure that the 7 spoon is in sufficient depth of water
 - The shore party should not be pushing the boat very far out!

Class V and other motor boats

- Main issue is class V coming upstream
 - We will need to wait
- All crews **MUST** pass on starboard side of powered vessels
- Scheduled class V passenger vessel activity (note that times are approximate): Connaught/ Cockney Sparrow/ Princess Freda

Saturday & Sunday

- Upriver: Westminster to Kew Pier arriving at about 16:00; No scheduled Kew Pier departing upriver to Richmond
- Downriver: Richmond to Kew Pier (must turn onto pier) arriving at about 16:20; Kew Pier departing downriver (must turn off pier): 16.30

The race

- Please adhere to the Tideway Code at all times excepting:
 - *As and when it is safe to do so competitors may overtake in the restricted zones*
 - *As and when it is safe to do so competitors may follow the racing line*
- Stay on the starboard side of the fairway
- Keep a careful look out for powered boats coming upriver
 - Traffic into Brentford Lock

*******BRENTFORD (aka Team Keane)** boating from Middlesex side at Brentford *****

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SHORT COURSE 2025

Racing boats should stay on the starboard aspect of the Fairway
As and when it is safe to do so boats may overtake in the restricted zones
As and when it is safe to do so competitors may follow the racing line

Do not go through Kew Road Br

Revised crossing at Brentford for external crews

PLA moorings

Care behind PLA moorings

Syon Park Pavilion
(Pink Lodge)

Stake 17
Syon crossing

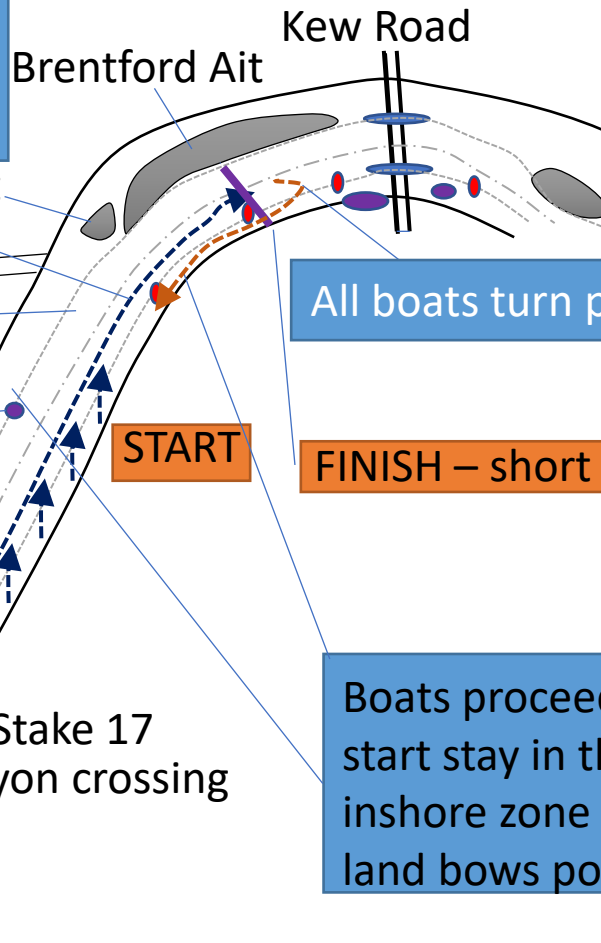
Stake 24

START

FINISH – short course

Boats proceeding to the start stay in the Surrey inshore zone as usual and land bows pointing upriver

All boats turn promptly into Surrey inshore zone and return to start



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COURSE

Racing boats should stay on the starboard aspect of the Fairway
As and when it is safe to do so boats may overtake in the restricted zones
As and when it is safe to do so competitors may follow the racing line

Care through Kew

Bumped out crews returning to UL turn promptly to Middlesex, crews going downriver follow Tideway code

Revised crossing at Brentford for external crews

PLA moorings

Care behind PLA moorings

Syon Park Pavilion
(Pink Lodge)

External oared boats going upriver

Head
START

Boats proceeding to the start stay in the Surrey inshore zone as usual and land bows pointing upriver

FINISH – all divisions

Long course:
go through
Chiswick Bridge

Stake 17
Syon crossing

Stake 24

Brentford Ait

Kew Road

Olivers Eyot

Kew Pier

Kew Railway Bridge

Jetty

ULBH

MAABC

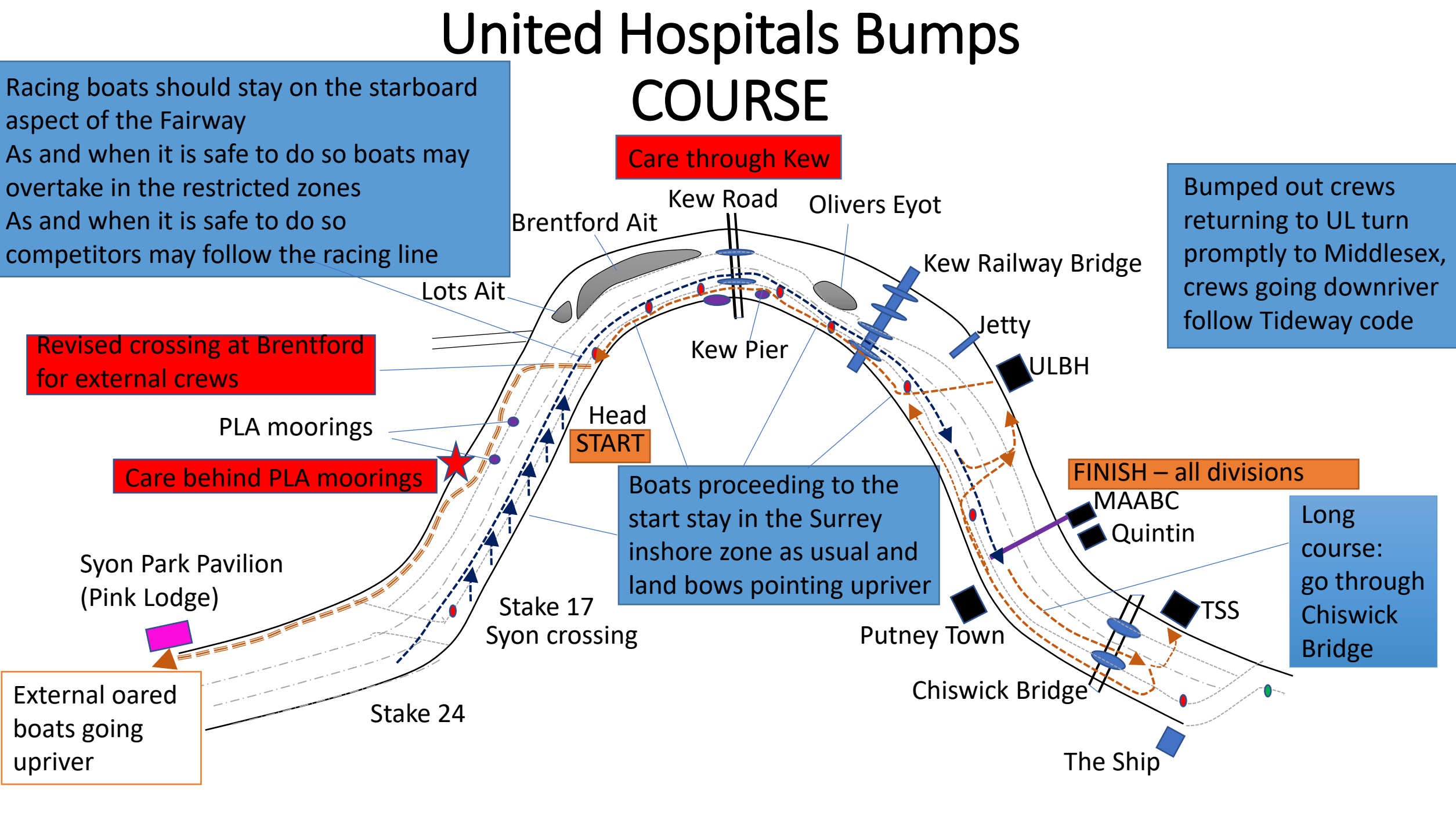
Quintin

Putney Town

Chiswick Bridge

The Ship

TSS

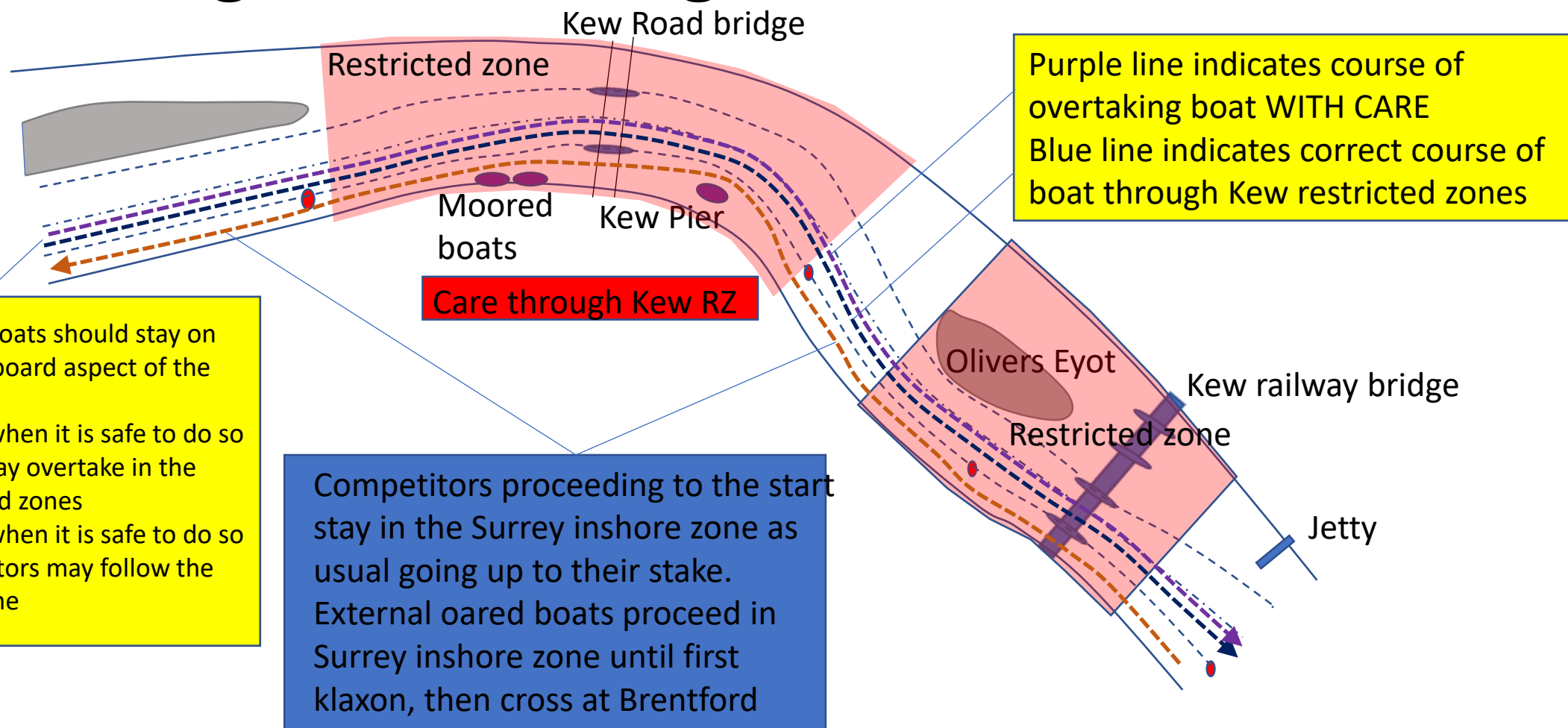


Bump = boat/blade/person = boat/blade (~~person~~)

- Acknowledge early
- Bump inevitable if:
 - < canvas separation across the river
 - > canvas overlap
- If involved in a bump the front crew (the one which was bumped) needs to row out of the tangle first
- Dangerous activity can be penalised (award of a bump)
- Crews should only stop where safe, not in a restricted zone
 - Surrey side of the fairway above Kew Road and below Kew Rail

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Navigation thorough Kew Restricted Zones



Finish – the race ends at MAA

All divisions finish at MAA

Bumped out crews turn promptly at UL (to Middlesex side)

Do not obstruct the Surrey in-shore zone

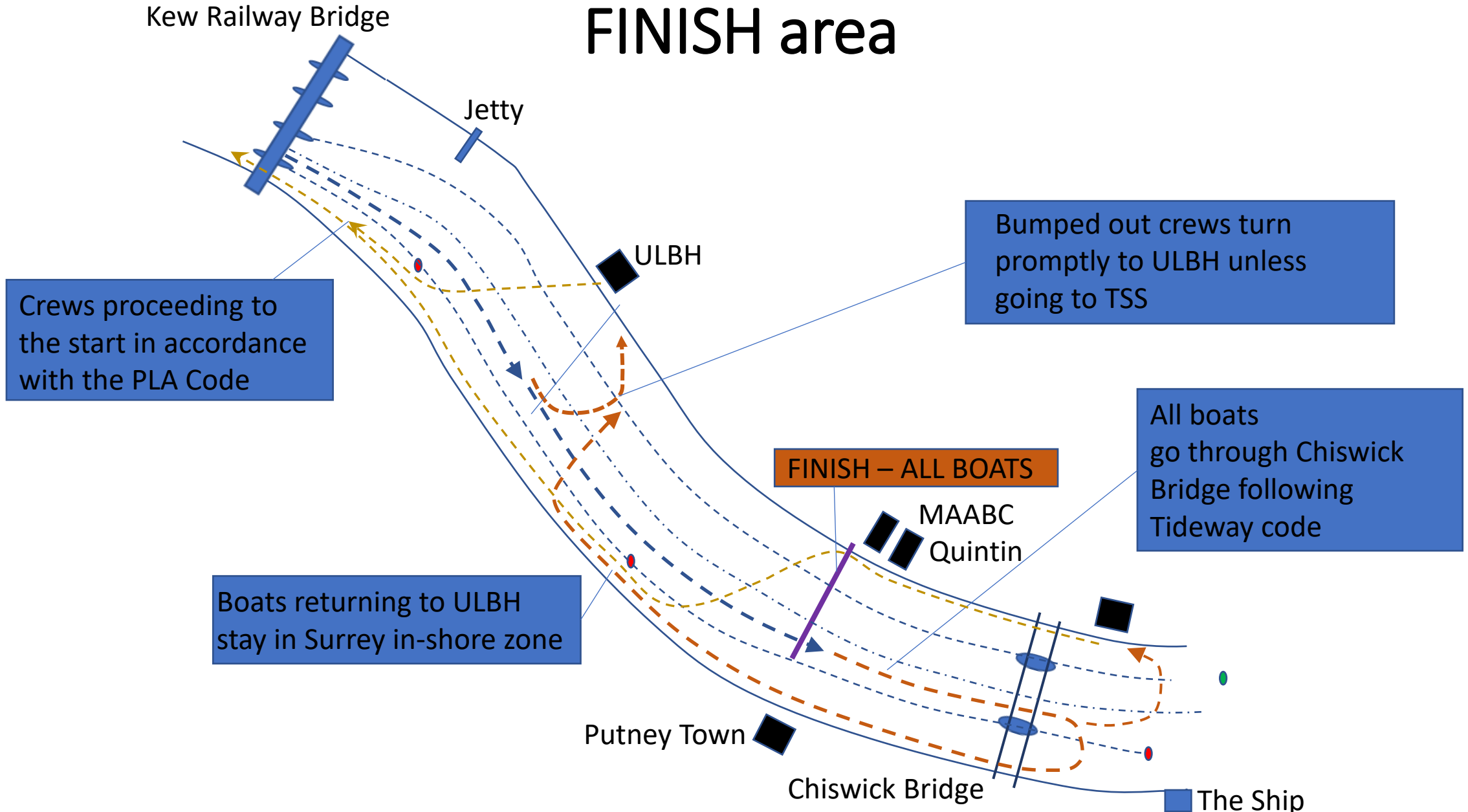
Crews going to MAA must go through Chiswick Bridge

Bottom 2 crews in each division do not need to go to MAA; finish at UL

Crews returning to Quintin should proceed through Chiswick Bridge, turn to Middlesex and proceed through the Middlesex arch upriver

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FINISH area



Following the race

- Please advise all bumps to race control
- Please encourage prompt turnover

Remember

- Marshalling arrangements
 - Proceed up on Surrey
 - Land bows pointing upriver
- Klaxon (start) sequence
 - Turn with sterns held at first klaxon
 - Variable interval between first and second klaxon
- **No towpath access**
 - Change to race format
 - Stay on water between 1st and 2nd divisions (short → long)

