

United Hospitals Bumps

Sunday 24th May 2026

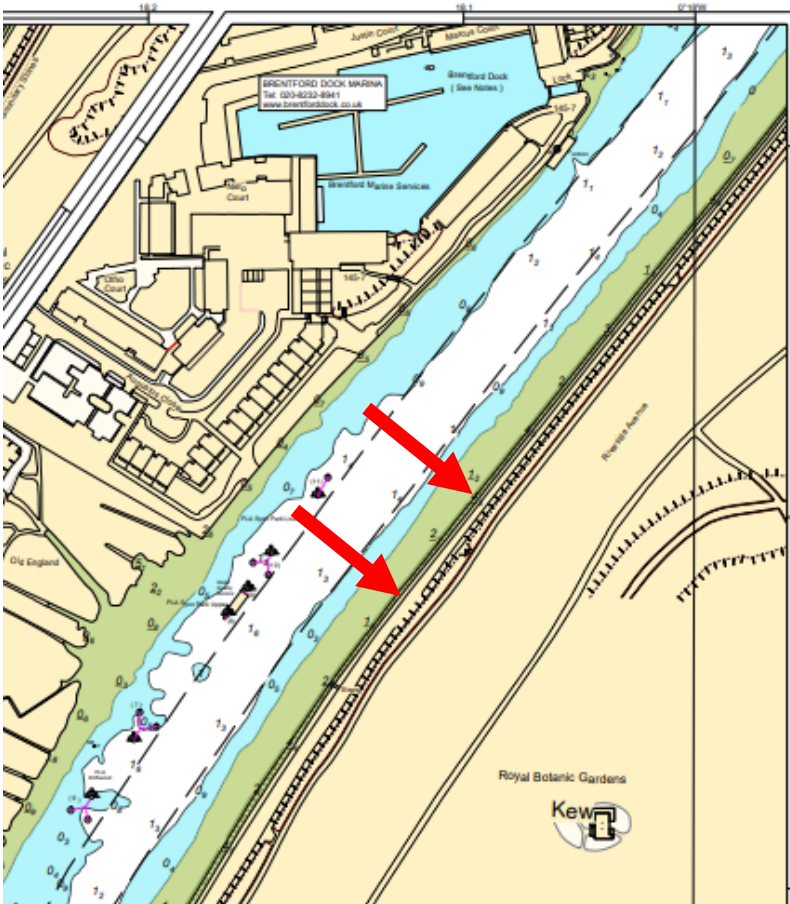
<https://www.uhboatclub.co.uk/bumps>

v2

Dr Jerry Mitchell UHBC President

Surrey wall collapse stakes 4 & 6

PLA NTM U4-26 <https://pla.co.uk/notices/U4-26>



- Red arrows show approximate position of wall collapse
- Do not stand immediately under area of wall collapse

Wall collapse



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

| Sunday 24.5.26 | Amended timetable |
|---------------------------|--|
| 09:28 | HW Chiswick Bridge |
| 09:32 | HW Kew Railway Bridge |
| 09:52 | HW Richmond |
| 11:15 | Officials' meeting |
| 11:45 | Start boating division 1 |
| 12:45 | Start division 1 (women) |
| 13:00 | Finish division 1 at UL, boats return to start |
| 13:35 | Start division 2 (women) |
| 13:50 | Finish division 2 at MAA |
| 14:20 | All boats returned from division 2 |
| 14:35 | Start boating division 3 |
| 15:30 | Start division 3 (open) |
| 15:45 | Finish division 3 at UL, boats return to start |
| 16:20 | Start division 4 (open) |
| 16:35 | Finish division 4 at MAA |
| 17:05 | All boats returned from division 4 |
| 17:11 | LW Chiswick Bridge |
| 17:26 | LW Kew Railway Bridge |
| 17:00 | LW Richmond |
| 21:00 | Dusk |

- Please boat on time
- You can only go upriver to your stake
- First and third races to UL then return to the start for second and fourth races to MAA
- 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

CO

BRITISHROWING **The Rivers Trust** **RIVERACTION**

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.

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

United Hospitals Bumps

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

PLA moorings

Head
START

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)

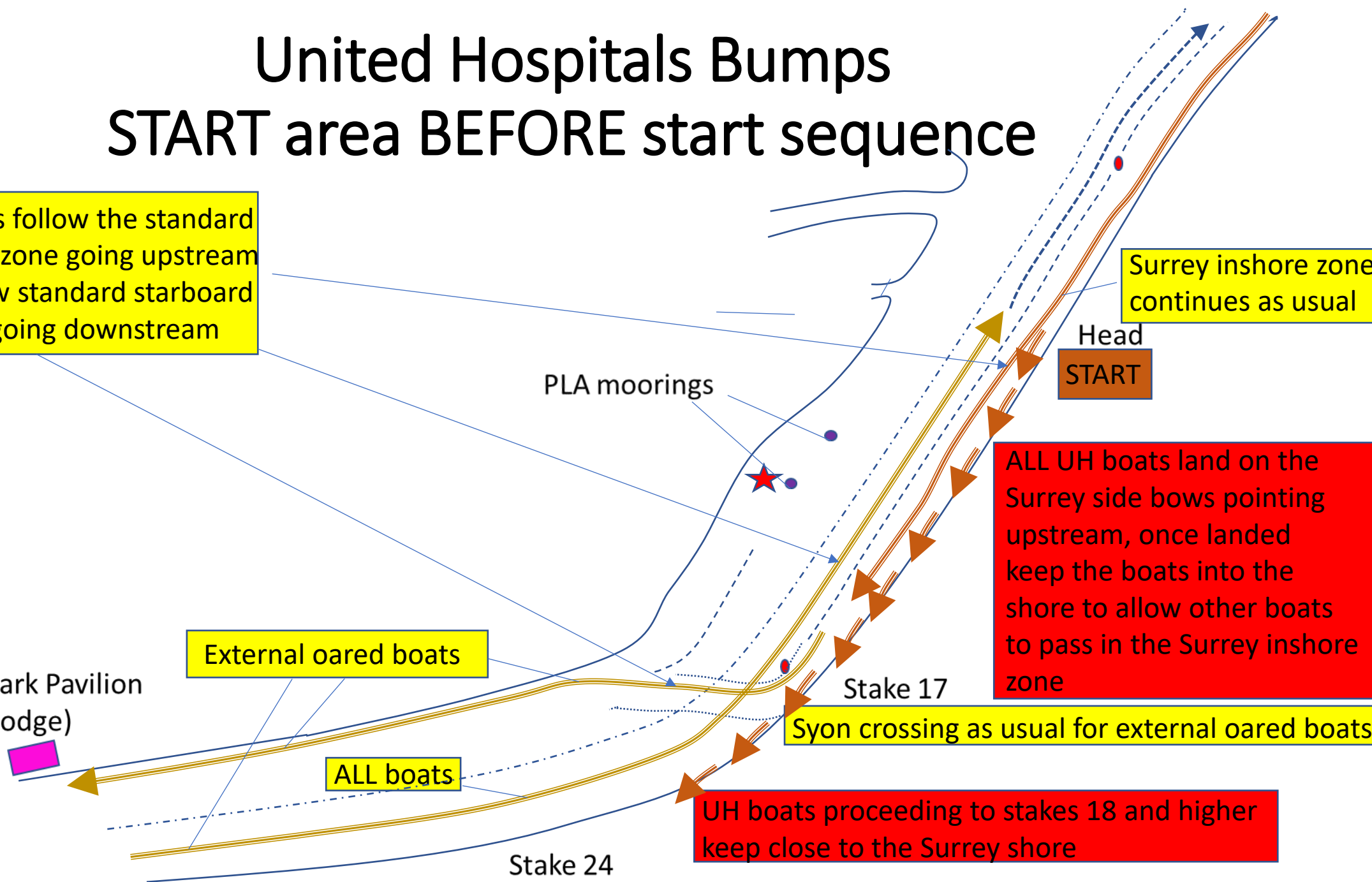
Stake 17

Syon crossing as usual for external oared boats

ALL boats

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

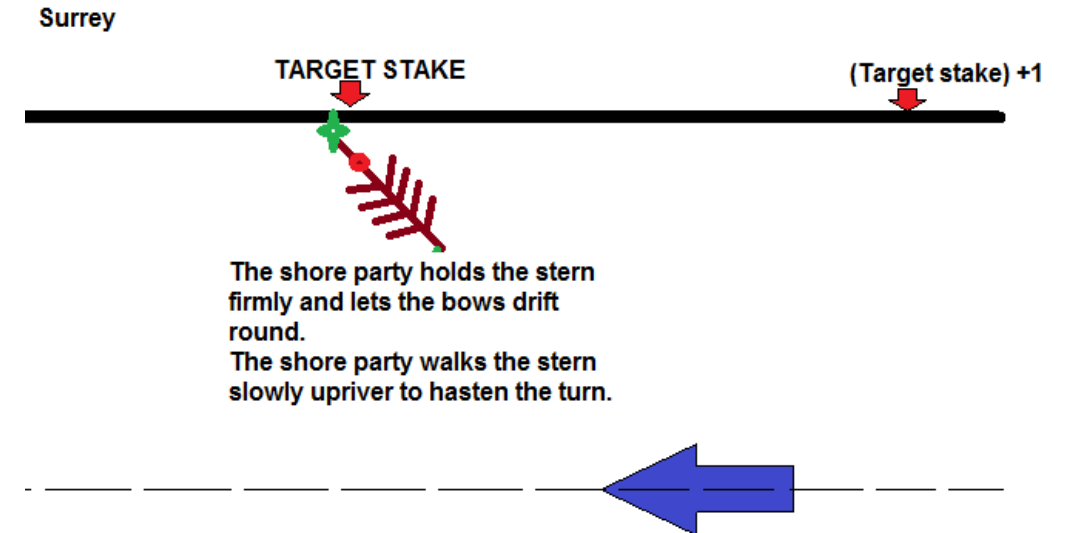
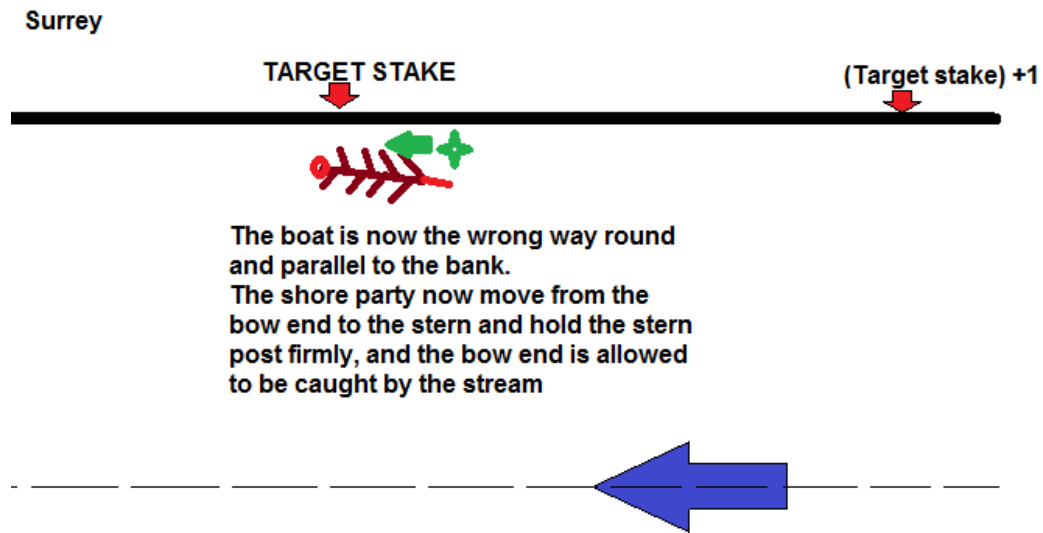
Stake 24



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



United Hospitals Bumps

START area during race start sequence

AFTER FIRST KLAXON

DURING RACE START SEQUENCE
All oared boats must follow the revised circulation pattern going upstream

NON-COMPETING BOATS
Going downriver – follow usual starboard rule but be aware of stationary boats on the Surrey side

Revised crossing at Brentford

Surrey inshore zone suspended for races

Head START

PLA moorings

Care behind PLA moorings

If possible go behind second mooring if safe, otherwise go outside of second mooring - CARE

UH Boats turn simultaneously at each stake
SHORE PARTY HOLD STERN and let bows move out and get caught by the stream
DO NOT LET GO OF STERN

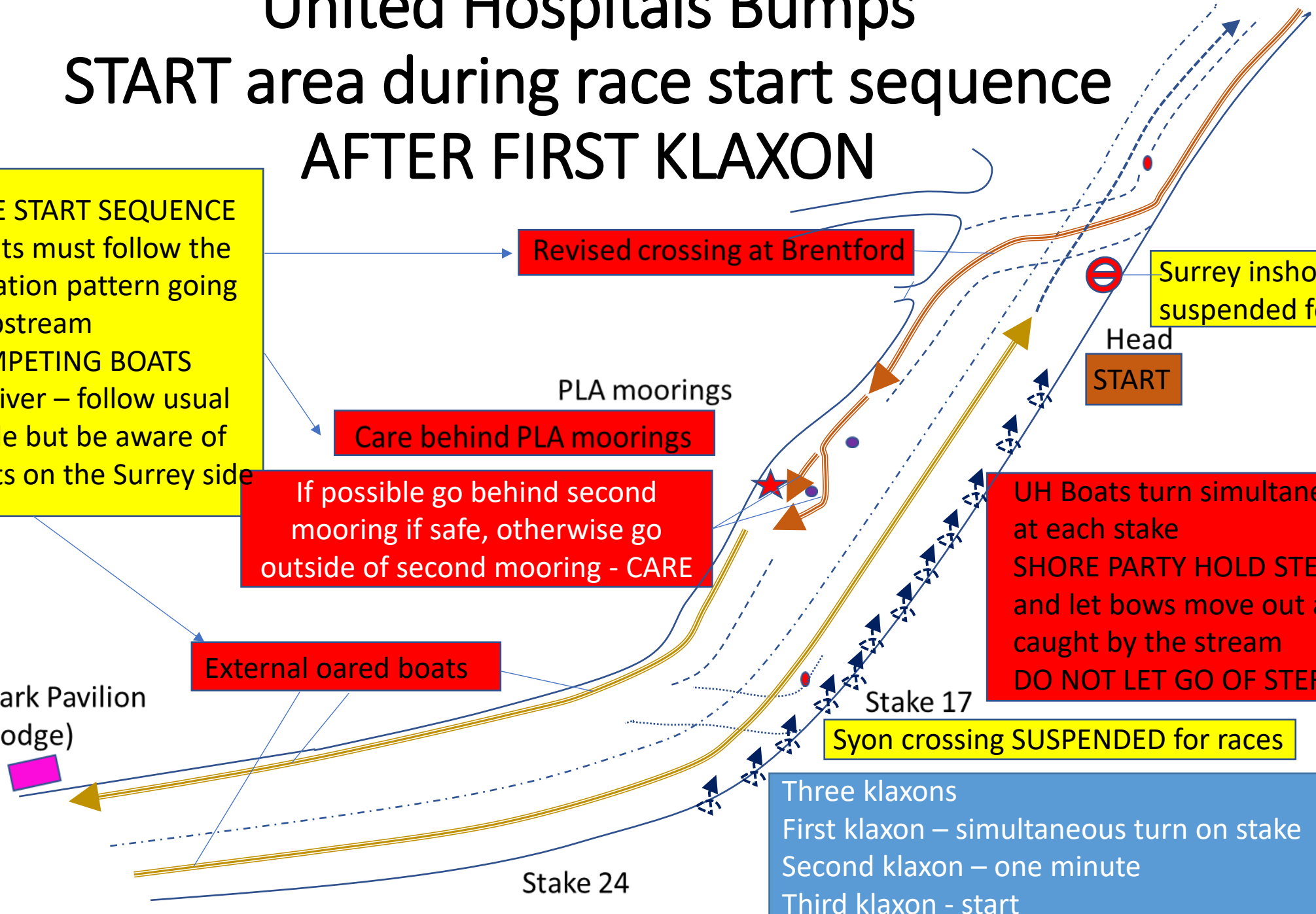
External oared boats

Syon Park Pavilion (Pink Lodge)

Stake 17
Syon crossing SUSPENDED for races

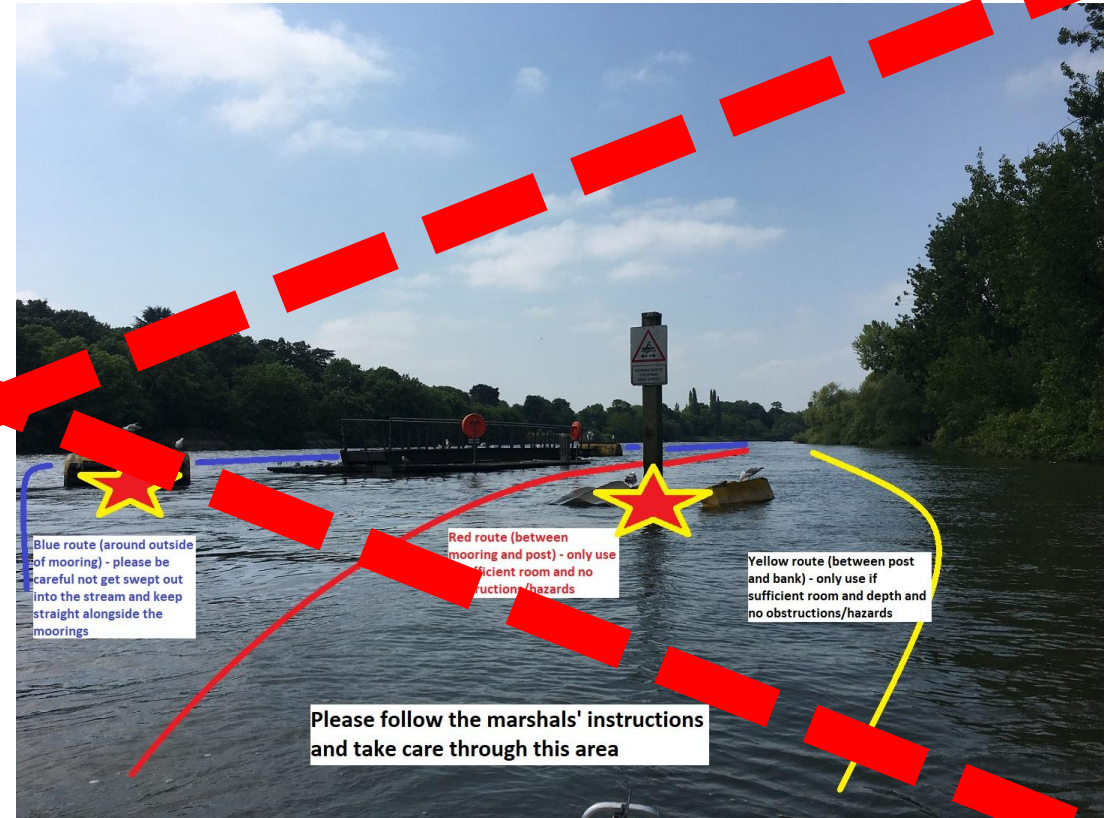
Three klaxons
First klaxon – simultaneous turn on stake
Second klaxon – one minute
Third klaxon - start

Stake 24



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

United Hospitals Bumps

START area during race start sequence

DURING RACE START SEQUENCE
All oared boats must follow the revised circulation pattern going upstream

NON-COMPETING BOATS
Going downriver – follow usual starboard rule but be aware of stationary boats on the Surrey side

Revised crossing at Brentford

Surrey inshore zone suspended for races

Head START

PLA moorings

Care behind PLA moorings

If possible go behind second mooring if safe, otherwise go outside of second mooring - CARE

UH Boats keep stern in to the bank when pointing downriver

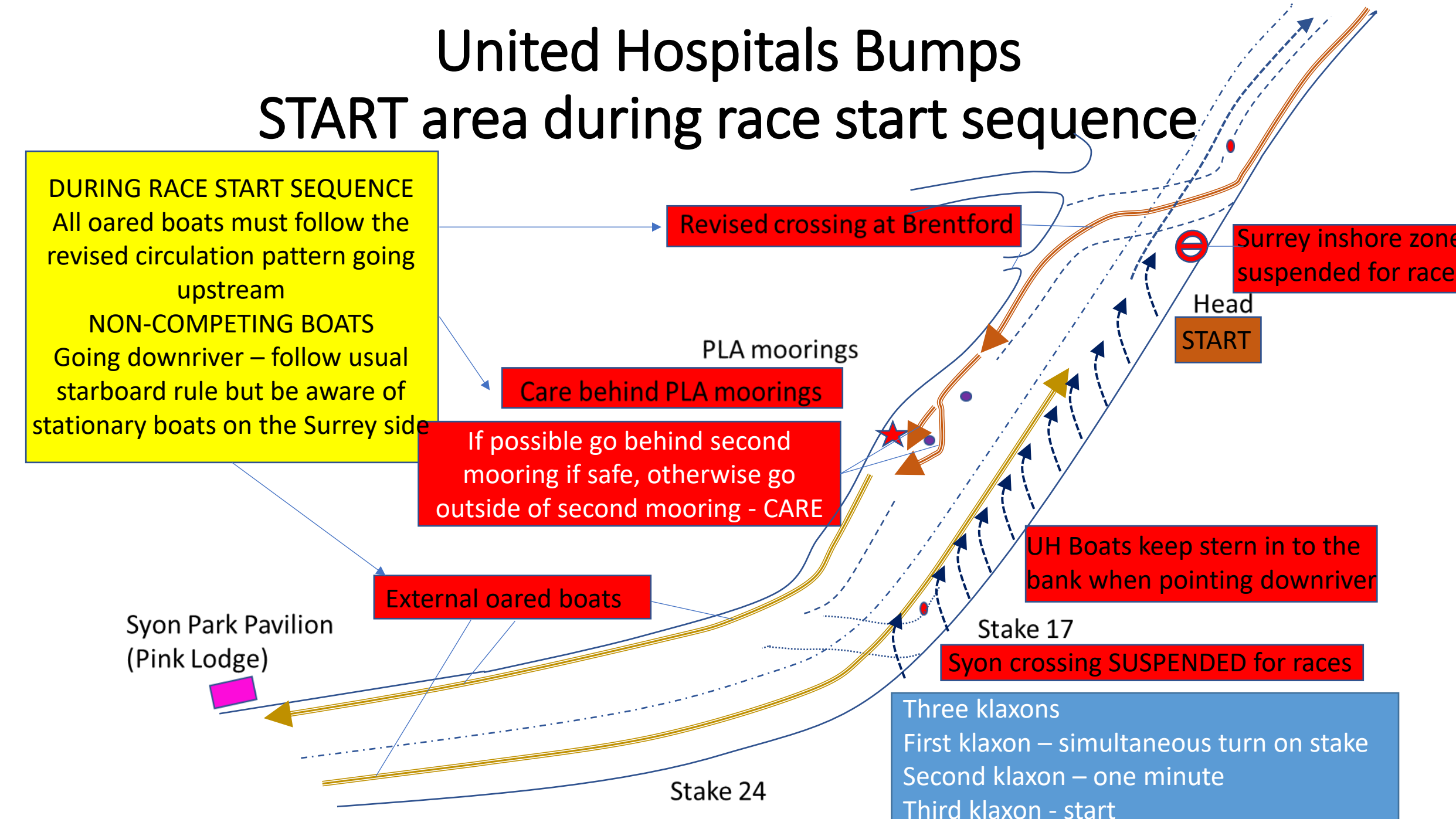
External oared boats

Stake 17
Syon crossing SUSPENDED for races

Syon Park Pavilion (Pink Lodge)

Three klaxons
First klaxon – simultaneous turn on stake
Second klaxon – one minute
Third klaxon - start

Stake 24



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
- Upriver: Westminster to Kew Pier arriving at about 12:15 on Saturday, 13:15 Sunday;
- Downriver: No scheduled Kew Pier downriver departure

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

United Hospitals Bumps SHORT COURSE 2026

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

Revised crossing at Brentford for external crews

Care behind PLA moorings

Syon Park Pavilion
(Pink Lodge)

Stake 24

Stake 17
Syon crossing

START

Brentford Ait
Lots Ait
Kew Road
Kew Railway Bridge
Jetty
ULBH

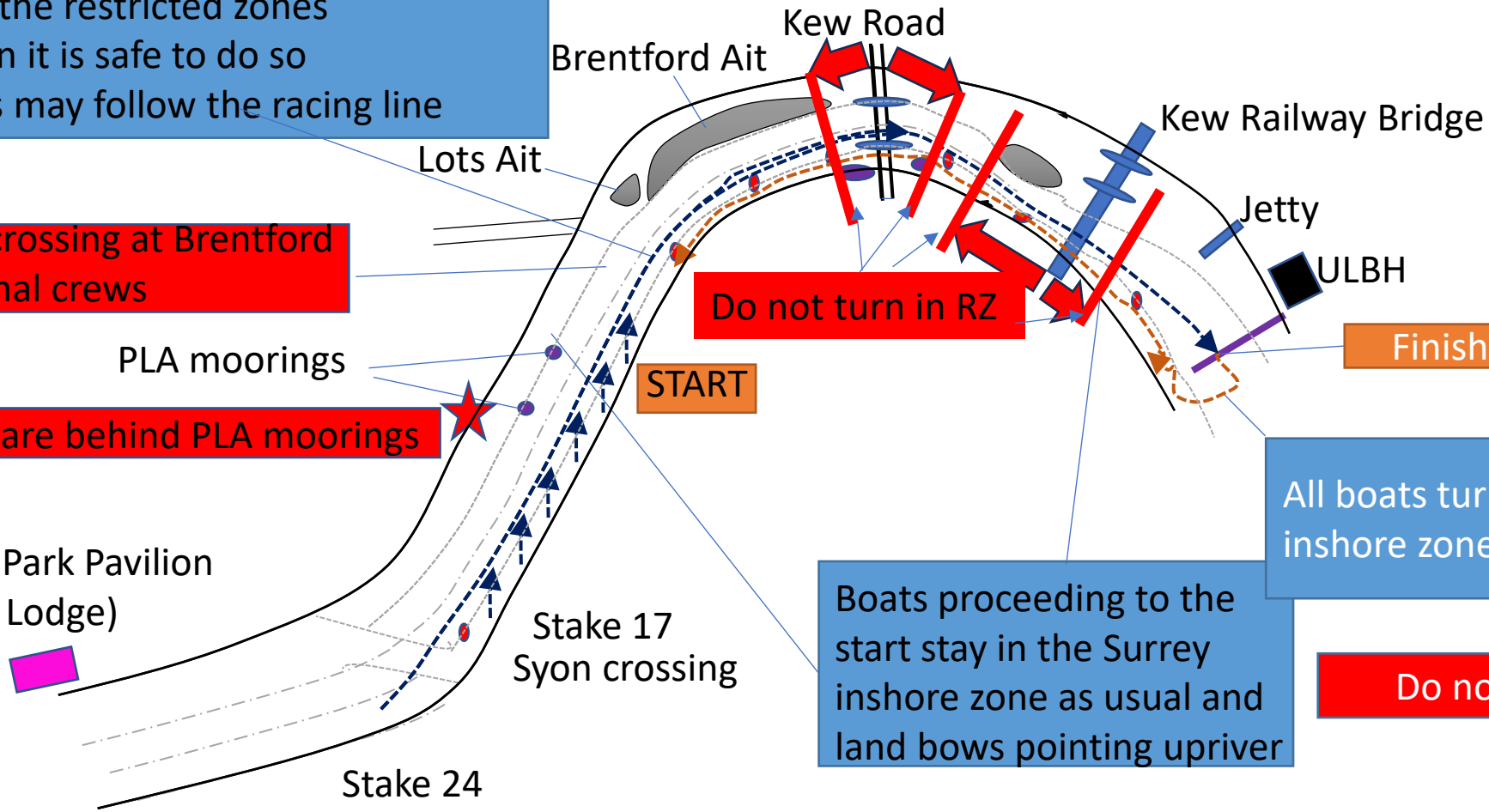
Do not turn in RZ

Finish –short course

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

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

Do not go downriver to MAA



United Hospitals Bumps

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

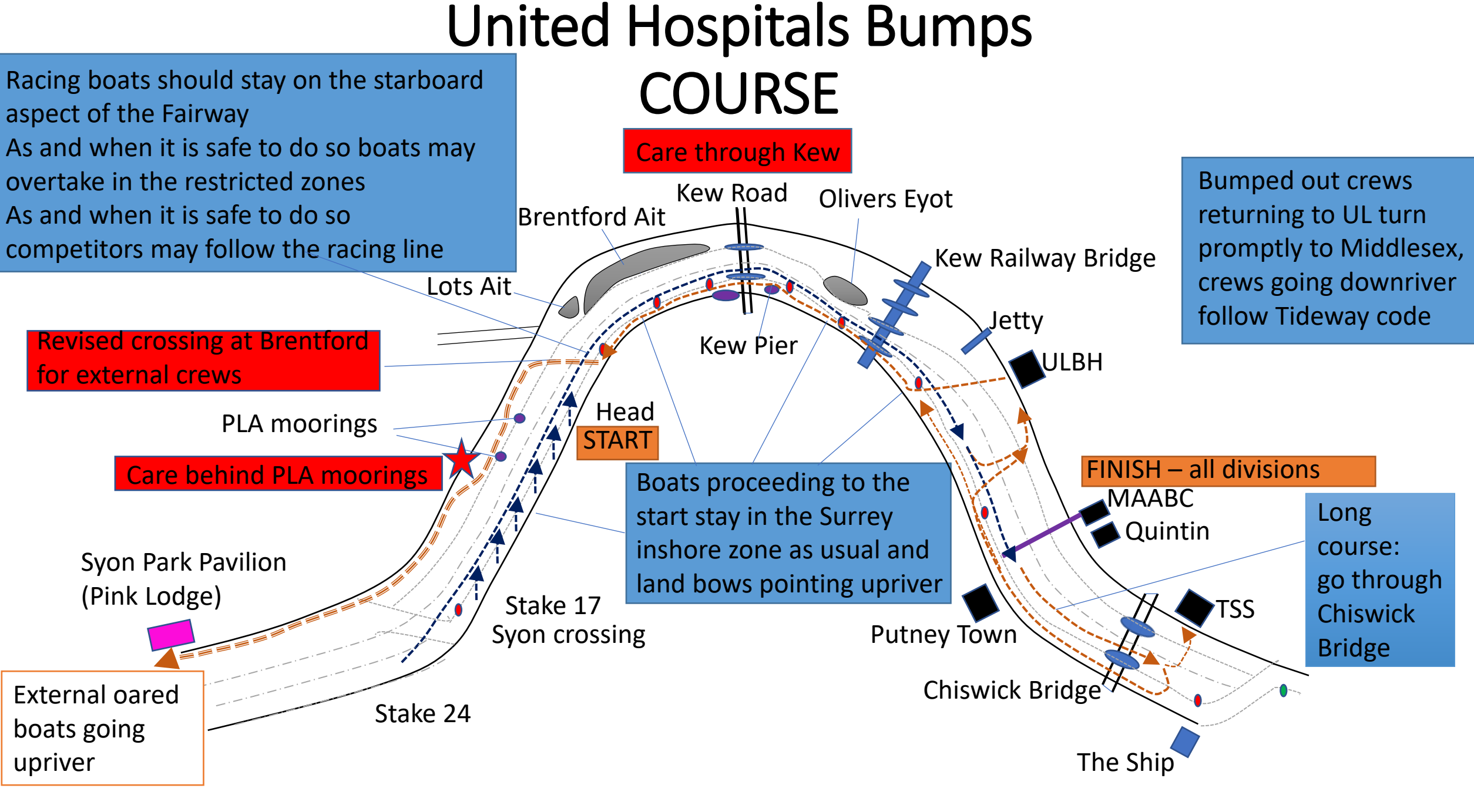
Care behind PLA moorings

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

External oared boats going upriver

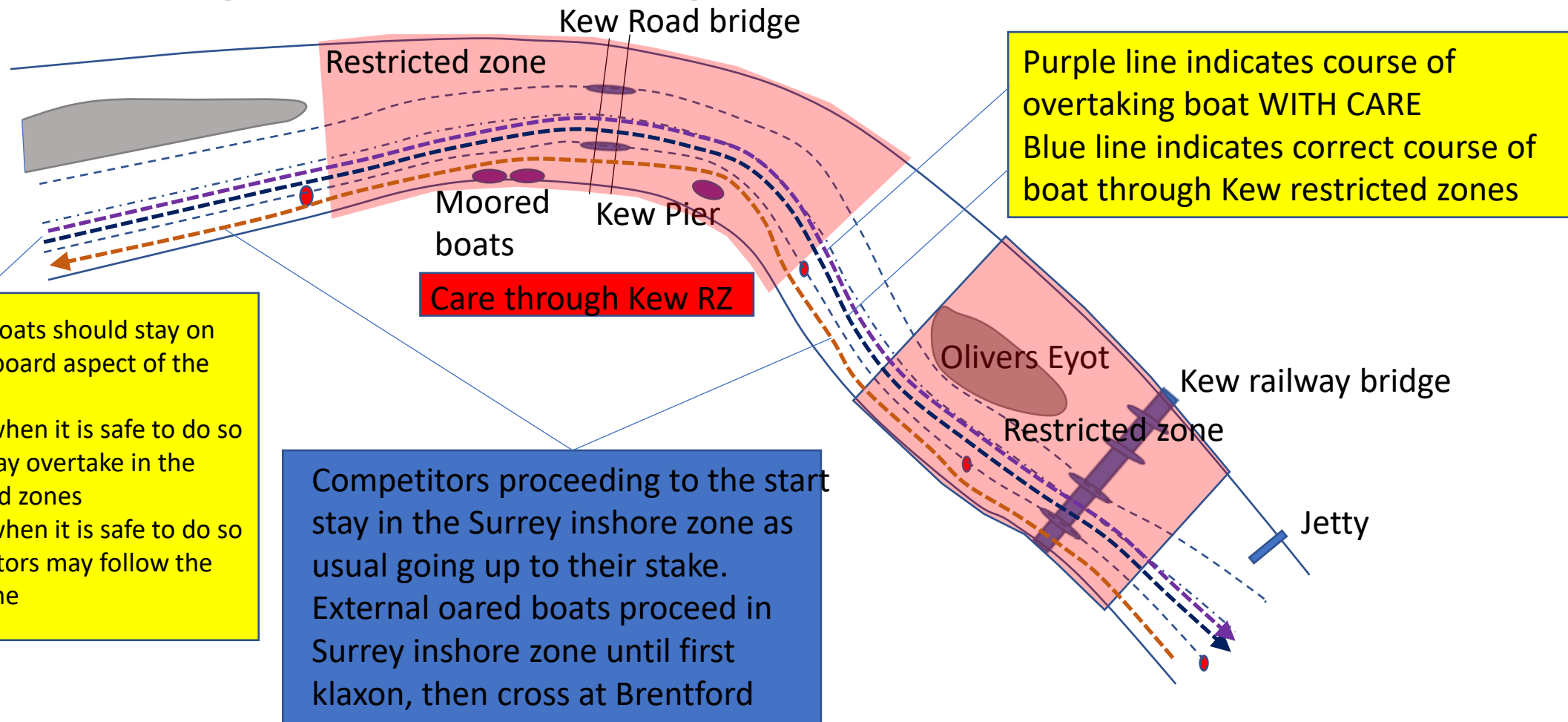


Bump = boat/blade/person = boat/blade (~~person~~)

- 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

United Hospitals Bumps

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)

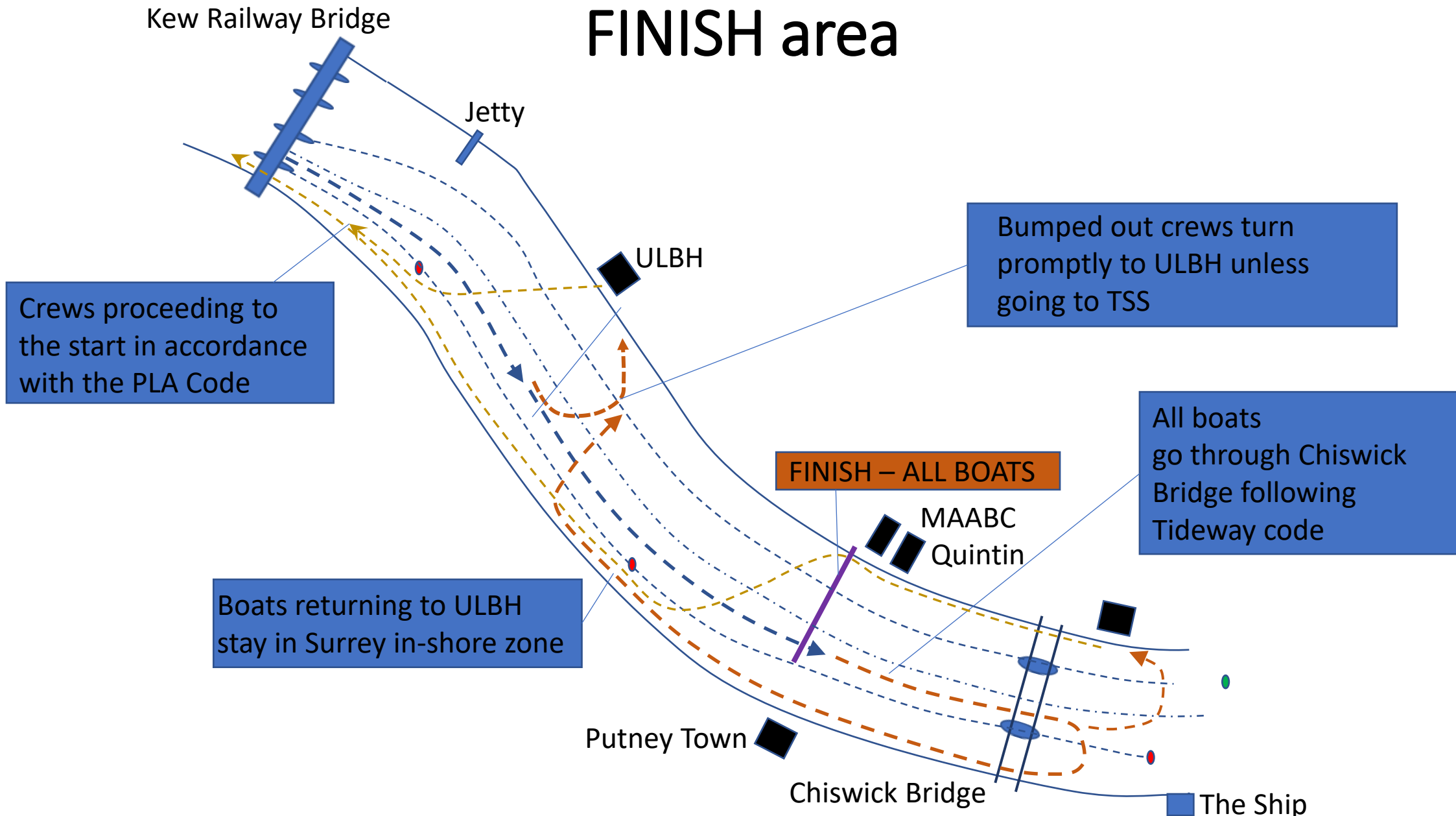
Do not obstruct the Surrey in-shore zone

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

United Hospitals Bumps 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

