

King of the River Series 07 (review)

Paddling in the south island isn't anything like the north island, we just don't have the paddler numbers to hold major events or get the kind of competition going as seen in the north island events. A few years back in preparation for the national sprints and remembering that paddlers love to race, The King of the River Series was borne, racing on the river Avon in Christchurch over 500 metres. The following year, the novelty wore off, the worlds selection process decimated interest and it died.

On returning from Auckland and eager to get racing, Jack reignited the King of the river series into what has been a very successful series. This document gives you a break down of what, who, where and why !

The what

An 8km race on the lower reaches of the Avon every Weds night throughout the rest of the summer. Starting Weds 24th Jan through to Weds 4th April.

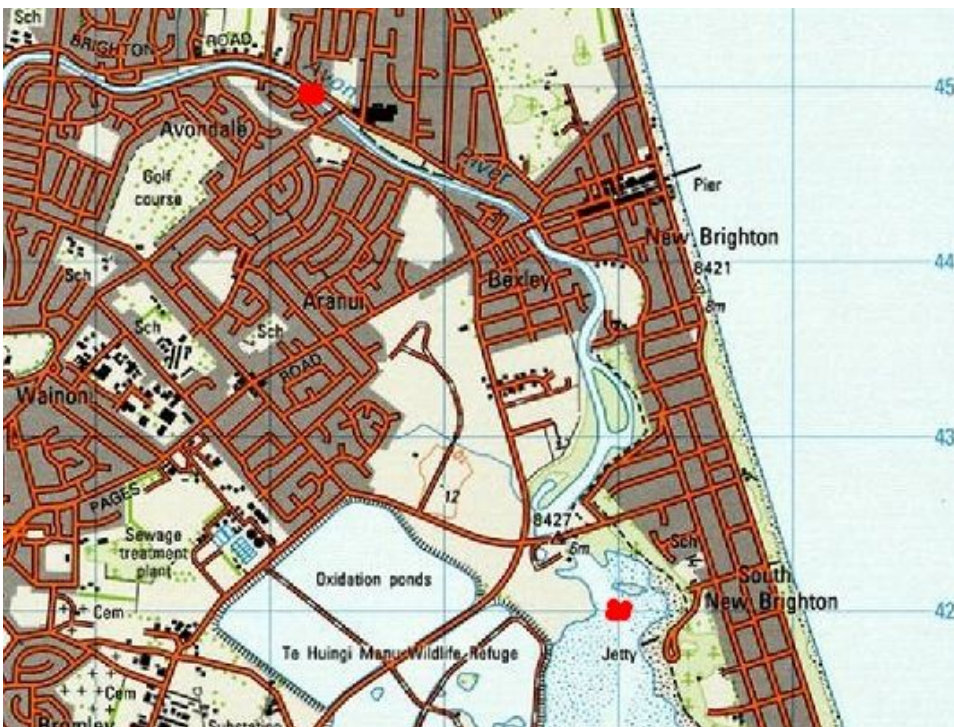
The King of the River Series is aimed at all levels of paddlers from the elite to the casual keep fit exerciser..

The Why

Because we all love to race, this 8 Km course will be challenge enough for those craving for competition. Organising 6 men is too hard and organising boats (a nightmare). Bring your own or club single, lets race.

The Where

From the Red mark at Hulverstone Dr to the Red mark (buoy) in the estuary and return



The Rules

a. Pre Race briefing Will take place 5-7 minutes prior to race start at approx 6.10pm. This is compulsory for all paddlers, and will inform you of the course for the day and expected changes in weather. The series organisers take no responsibility for race errors due to paddlers not being present at the briefing.

b. Race Start Is from the river outside Jacks place – all divisions to start at once – please be considerate to faster paddlers when lining up – it is a long race and no-one wants to be swimming due to a collision at the first bridge!

c. Race Finish Same as the start line.

- d. **Two** false starts will result in the paddler losing their points for that race.
e. **Drafting** other paddlers' boat wash is both legal and encouraged.
f. **All turning marks** must be rounded as per the pre race briefing.
g. **Paddlers are obliged** to assist anyone (paddler or otherwise) who they may find in distress. Any race points lost will be compensated as an average of previous points.

The Results

Jacks OC1 OC2 Series Results

| | POINTS | | | | | | | | | POINTS Week 10 28-Mar | TOTAL Points |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| | Week 1 24-Jan | Week 2 31-Jan | Week 3 7-Feb | Week 4 14-Feb | Week 5 21-Feb | Week 6 28-Feb | Week 7 7-Mar | Week 9 21-Mar | Week 10 28-Mar | | |
| OPEN MEN | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rob | 10 | 9 | 6 | 9 | 10 | | 9 | 8 | 5 | 66 | |
| Murray | 9 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 63 | |
| Carl | | 7 | 9 | 6 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 63 | |
| Guy | | | 8 | 10 | | 10 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 56 | |
| James | 7 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 2 | | 42 | |
| Rodney | 8 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 37 | |
| Dan | | 6 | 1 | 8 | 6 | | | | 10 | 31 | |
| Jack | | 10 | 10 | | | | | 10 | | 30 | |
| Brent | | | 4 | | | 5 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 24 | |
| Don | | | | 3 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 23 | |
| Barney | | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | 16 | |
| PJ | 6 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | 11 | |
| Nelson | 4 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 9 | |
| Mike Hickson | | | | | | | | | 7 | 7 | |
| Stace | | | | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | | 1 | 7 | |
| Shaun | | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 6 | |
| Vai | 5 | | | 1 | | | | | | 6 | |
| Ben | | 1 | | | 2 | 1 | | | | 4 | |
| Jordie | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| Hoff | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | |
| Taz | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Eru | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Iaeon and Steve | | | | | | 10 | | | | 10 | |
| Andy Double | | | | | | | | | | 0 | |
| SENOIR MM | | | | | | | | | | 0 | |
| PJ | | 10 | | | | | | | | 10 | |
| Barney | | 9 | | | | | | | | 9 | |
| Ben | | 8 | | | | | | | | 8 | |
| OPEN WOMEN | | | | | | | | | | 0 | |
| Jane | | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | | 10 | 10 | | 60 | |
| Shelley | | | | 9 | | | | | | 9 | |

The Laughs

1. It being so shallow during one race, that one paddler was overtaken by another who was running and carrying the waka
2. one paddlers steering rope snapping and tying it around their feet to steer and keep the blade straightish rather than dragging ! classic !
3. one paddler hitting the rear of another, resulting in a 8 waka pile up (no damage !)
4. jumping out of the waka to take some weed of the rudder and busting your shin in such a hurry as not to loose your place in the race
5. taking a short cut and ending up stationary on a sand bank (you know who you are !)

The Conclusion

Racing, watching little battles unfold, seeing everyone improve their times, the laughs (see earlier) and finally the winning. Congratulations to all paddlers for taking part. Thanks to Jack for setting up and we all look forward to the next series (in the daylight !)

The contact

Any queries on the content of this document please contact Jack on jackwormald@gmail.com