

# Bed Race Rules

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[Rules PDF \(87KB\)](#)

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## THE GREAT KNARESBOROUGH BED RACE

### RULES

#### 1. THE TEAM

- a) The team shall consist of six persons who are at least 12 years of age on the day of the race to propel the bed, and one other person on the bed as passenger.
- b) The bed passenger must be at least 10 years of age and suitably attired. **Protective headgear must be worn** by the passenger during the Race on pain of disqualification.
- c) No substitutes will be allowed at any time during the Race.
- d) Except for the nominated passenger, any riding on the bed is strictly forbidden, especially on the downhill parts of the course.
- e) Race competitors must obey instructions from all Race officials (eg starters, timekeepers, marshals etc).
- f) **All competitors must** be able to swim for their own safety.
- g) All beds must complete the course as far as High Bridge within 30 minutes.
- h) The throwing of missiles or objects of any description is dangerous and is **strictly forbidden at all times** (this includes water bombs, flour, eggs, sweets and anything else that could cause alarm, damage or injury).
- i) There must be no deliberate obstruction of other beds during the Race.
- j) During the Race beds should keep to the left hand side of roads unless overtaking.
- k) All beds must participate in the Parade and be decorated in the published theme of the year to qualify for entry to the Race.

#### 2. THE BED

- a) Each team must provide a bed, decorated in the theme for the year. NB: it is the team's responsibility to prove that they have the use of a bed prior to their application being accepted.
- b) When decorated, the bed must not exceed 2 metres in width, 4 metres in length and 3 metres in height. Decorations **must** be removed from the bed before the start of the Race, provided that the bed will still conform to Race rules (under section f below).
- c) The bed must have no means of mechanical propulsion.
- d) The bed must not be deliberately run on less than four wheels during the Race.
- e) All bed must have been examined and passed by the scrutineers prior to the start of the Race.
- f) The bed must: -
  - i Have four wheels of not more than 0.25m (10 inches) in diameter. The maximum is to include the tyres. NB: wheels/tyres must be a minimum of 5cm (2 inches) in width.
  - ii Allow a gauge of 0.15m by 0.45 m wide to pass under the bed in the direction of travel (ie ground clearance of 0.15m and the wheels must be at least 0.45m apart, side to side).
  - iii ~~Delete~~ Allow a gauge of 0.15m by 1.25m long to pass under the bed in the direction of travel (ie ground clearance of 0.15m and the wheels must be at least 1.25m apart, front to rear).
  - iv Have a minimum length of 1.75m and a minimum width of 0.75m.
  - v Have a maximum length of 3.0m and a maximum width of 1.35m.
  - vi Have a built-in buoyancy aid capable of supporting the bed and the passenger for not less than five minutes, and have an aperture large enough to allow the passenger to escape quickly if required.

- vii Display the Race numbers given prior to arrival. These must be displayed and securely attached on the front and sides of the bed. It is the team's responsibility to ensure that these stay attached during the Parade and the Race.
- viii Have two ropes, each not more than 3.75m long, attached to the rear of the bed in order to slow its progress when necessary. A maximum of two additional ropes, not more than 3.75m long, also may be attached to the bed.
- ix Have an audible air horn or hooter warning device (no whistles).

**PENALTIES: Infringement of the rules will be penalised as follows: -**

Rules 1a, 1b, 1k, 2c, 2e, 2f item ix – disqualification and removal from Race prior to start.

Rule 2f item iv – judged when the bed is in 'race trim' and will be determined by the safety divers. They are the sole arbiters of this rule and may request removal of a bed or a demotion down the Race order for safety reasons.

Rules 1c, 1d, 1e, 1h – disqualification and exclusion from future Races. The team may be stopped and removed from the Race immediately.

Rule 1g – the team may be removed for safety reasons at the discretion of the Race organisers.

Rules 2b, 2d, 2e, 2f (except items iv, vii and ix) – 2 minutes penalty for each infringement.

Rules 1i, 1j, 2a and 2f item vii – 30 second penalty.

Race marshals will be the sole judge of any infringements during the Race, and the team captain will be notified of any penalties after the Race.

Teams will be allowed until 15 minutes before the start of the Race to rectify any construction faults or mechanical problems.

**PRIZES:** To be awarded to winners of the various categories.

NB. To enter for the fastest new team no team member must have competed in a previous Bed Race. All members of a junior team must be under 16 years old on the date of the Race.