

Pre-Race Safety Briefing

- **Safety Gear:** All participants must be capable swimmers and wear adequate self-righting life jackets, which they must provide themselves.
- **Protective Headgear:** Lightweight protective headgear (e.g., canoe or cycling helmets) is strongly recommended.
- **Raft Construction:** Rafts must be built using materials provided within the designated time limit.
- **Scrutineering:** All rafts must pass a safety inspection before launch to ensure compliance with race rules.
- **Debris Removal:** Crews are responsible for removing their rafts and any debris from the river and marina after the race.
- **Personal Safety & Hygiene:** Participants must take necessary safety and hygiene precautions, including showering after the race.
- **Designated Captain:** Each raft must have a captain responsible for crew safety and navigation. Captains must attend a pre-race safety briefing.
- **Alcohol & Drugs:** Alcohol and drugs are strictly prohibited before and during the race, both on rafts and in crew possession.
- **Emergency Procedures:** If a crew member falls into the water, they must swim to safety and follow further instructions.
- **Sportsmanship:** Foul language or abusive behaviour will result in disqualification. This is a family-friendly event.
- **Race Officials' Authority:** Race officials have the right to disqualify rafts or crew members for rule violations or inappropriate conduct.
- **Weather Contingency:** The race may be modified or cancelled due to adverse weather or unforeseen circumstances.
- **Participant Agreement:** By participating, all competitors agree to abide by the Winsford Raft Race Rules and follow race officials' instructions.
- **Indemnity:** Participants acknowledge the risks of raft racing and absolve the organisers of responsibility for any loss or injury.