



**Subject The Role of a Dragon Boat Drummer**

**DragonBoatSA**

**Policy and Procedures**

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Listed below are the various regulations and rules which govern the role of a drummer:

**DBSA 005 1.2**

Drummer must be twelve (12) years of age or older (that is have turned 12 as of 1<sup>st</sup> July of the year of the event), and must have a demonstrated knowledge of the safety requirements for drumming.

**R6.6** When aligner is satisfied that all the boats are correctly aligned, the starter shall alert the crews by saying "Are you ready". If the crew is NOT READY then the drummer must immediately raise a hand above head height to indicate the situation to the starter (The drummer is forbidden to take such action prior to this instruction, especially in crews under starter's orders when moving to the start line.)

**R4.4** The Drummer. The drummer shall sit on the drummers seat provided and must, actively beat the drum throughout the race, once the boat has cleared the starting area which is deemed to be 50 metres from the start line. Failure to actively beat the drum will result in disciplinary action being taken against the crew concerned.

**R6.11** It is incumbent upon the drummer to watch the race aligner and umpire to instruct the crew to stop when a false start has been called.

**R6.15** Equipment failures off the start. In the event of a crew experiencing equipment failure, for example a broken drummer's seat or steering arm/oar (but not a paddle), off the start line and up to fifty (50) meters after it, the race will be restarted, providing the crew concerned stops paddling immediately and both the paddlers and the drummer raise their hands fully in the air. In this case the starter will carry out the same procedures as for a false start and in addition the course umpires boat will proceed quickly down the course and stop any crews who may not have heard the recall signal.

In addition to the above, the sweep has other responsibilities in relation to safety:

The drummer is number 1 in the head count. If the sweep falls from the boat the drummer ensures that the boat is stopped.

The drummer should sit in the centre of the drummer seat in a balanced boat but can be used to assist in balancing the boat by moving left or right.

The drummer can be used to ensure that communications are effectively relayed from the sweep to the strokes.

**Endorsed by:**

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**DragonBoatSA Chairman on behalf of the DragonBoatSA**

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**Date**