THE Vice-Chancellor’s Challenge Long Distance Rowing Eights Race
Saturday 5th September 2015

To be held on the River Tamar, starting adjacent to Australian Maritime College Campus at Newnham, finishing at Launceston Seaport, a race distance of 5 kilometres.

Trophies will be presented at 11.00 am at The Boathouse on North Bank, Lindsay Street Launceston. Competitors and supporters are invited to attend the presentations and socialise afterwards with fellow competitors and supporters. Light food & refreshments will be available.

RACING RULES – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Competitors must be currently enrolled students of University of Tasmania and/or Australian Maritime College, Northern or Southern Campuses and may only represent their Campus of principal study this year.

2. All competitors must also be registered with the governing authority for rowing in this state, Rowing Tasmania.

3. Safety of all crews and boats is paramount in actions undertaken by crews. Competitors must be proficient swimmers as well as experienced rowers, and competent to participate safely in the event. Safety boats will be present during all races, but entrants should be aware they enter the races at their own risk.

4. To address safety concerns and promote fair play, a penalty system is in place. In the event of failure by a crew to comply with the rules set out below, a time penalty may be imposed at the absolute discretion of the race umpires, and be added to an infringing crew’s race time.

5. If not adhering to the advised course, an infringement time may also be imposed at the discretion of the race umpires. Failure to comply with an umpire’s instructions may also result in disqualification.

6. The start / finish line will be located adjacent to The Australian Maritime College, Newnham at the Tamar River marker known commonly as the “6/8 Pile”. The starter will located on a motor vessel moored at the start pile.

7. The finish line will be located on a floating pontoon at Launceston Seaport in the North Esk River.

8. More than one crew from each campus may be entered in the event, but at least one crew from each campus must be comprised of all male rowers and at least one crew from each campus must be comprised of all female rowers to be eligible to win the Vice-Chancellor’s Cup (Men’s race) & the Vice Chancellor’s Plate (Women’s race).

9. The preference is for crews to be of the one gender, however additional crews of mixed gender may be accepted provided details of gender mix is advised at the time of race entry acceptance. Mixed gender crews will be allowed to participate but will not be eligible to win the Vice Chancellor’s Cup nor Vice-Chancellor’s Plate. Mixed crews will be handicapped at the discretion of race officials and handicap times will be advised to all participating crews prior to race day.

10. Each crew must be identified by number and crews are to ensure supplied bow numbers are in place on race day.
11. Crews must stay strictly within the shipping lane during conduct of the race. Thus when passing a RED pile, the pile must be on the crew’s STROKE side, when passing a GREEN pile, the pile must be on the crew’s BOW side.

12. Note: For safety purposes, the Broken Grey Pile at the 2000 metre mark on home reach, near the power lines, is deemed to be a red pile; crews must not travel between this pile and the bank.

13. A crew which attempts to overtake or impede other crews unfairly during the race will receive a safety breach time penalty.

14. When overtaking, the overtaking crew must not risk a clashing of equipment. Overtaking must only be done if it is clearly safe to do so. Crews being overtaken must not impede progress of the overtaking crew and should move out of the way so as they do not unfairly impact.

15. Once crews have reached the home reach (approximately 2k from the finish), the shortest, safest and most practical course may be taken, subject to compliance with normal boating rules. Race marshals will be stationed variously along the course to ensure safety of competing crews and equipment.

16. On approaching the junction of the North Esk & Tamar Rivers, Coxswains should be particularly alert to activities of Tourist Boat Operators in the area and respect all other river users. A large marker buoy will be positioned at the mouth of the North Esk River to assist navigation.

17. The finish line will be adjacent to the blue pontoon located slightly west of St Patricks College Rowing Sheds on the northern bank of the North Esk River. The Race Judges will acknowledge each Crew as they cross the finish line by the sounding of a siren or hooter.