

S2C EVENT RULES

- 1) Entry denotes acceptance of these rules by all participants for the duration of the event.
- 2) All participants will wear a life preserver/buoyancy aid whilst on the water or be deemed to have withdrawn from the event.
- 3) A 'waterways licence' is required to paddle on the River Stour and is required for all entries for the duration of the event. This is achieved by one of the options below:
 - a) Paddle UK 'on the water' membership
 - b) Environment Agency craft registration
 - c) Hire of a licensed craft (S2C Official Hire Partner)
 - d) S2C 'Paddle Pass'
- 4) Entrants must be able to verify validity of their waterways licence. Any craft entry without valid and acceptable proof at any point during the event must purchase a 'Paddle Pass'. This is refundable (less £3 admin fee) subject to valid and acceptable proof of an existing waterways licence covering the event dates be presented within 3 days after the event.
- 5) All participants must be competent and confident in handling their craft. A responsible adult must accompany children either by sharing a craft or paddling alongside.
- 6) We advise participants to use the official portages and keep clear of weirs and sluices. You might find it useful if your craft has a painter (a rope that is attached to the bow of a boat).
- 7) All participants must be prepared, fit and able enough to use the portages. Physical assistance from our volunteer marshals or others cannot be expected.
- 8) Most portages are over private property - do not trespass. Only portage at the official portage points (as outlined in 'S2C Route' document, EA Navigation map and route signage).
- 9) You are advised to keep in sight of other craft as far as is possible.
- 10) Participants must check in and out at each and every checkpoint. This is essential, as failure to do so could result in a search being made. If you cannot leave a checkpoint by the designated time, you are deemed to have withdrawn from the event.

	LOCATION	DEPART TIME
Checkpoints DAY 1	Sudbury	No later than 10.30am
	Bures	No later than 2.30pm
Checkpoints DAY 2	Wissington	No later than 10am
	Stratford St Mary	No later than 3pm

- 11) Unfortunately, there are no refunds if you withdraw before or during the event.

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- 12) If you are choosing to withdraw from the event:
 - a) At a checkpoint: please ensure the checkpoint marshal is notified before you leave.
 - b) An unmarshalled location: contact our emergency number/s as soon as possible.
- 13) Please follow advice and guidance to help ensure a safe and enjoyable event for everyone. You must not do anything (or omit to do anything) which may cause damage or loss to any property or facilities, to other participants or cause nuisance, annoyance, disturbance, inconvenience, or injury to any other persons.
- 14) Watch out for submerged obstructions or other hazards. Report any urgent problems or incidents to our emergency number/s. If possible, pinpoint location using [What3Words app](#).
- 15) **Weill's Disease (Leptospirosis)** - www.nhs.uk/conditions/leptospirosis/. Everyone should be aware of this potentially fatal infection. Transmission is usually through an open wound or abrasion but can also be caused by ingestion of contaminated water. Symptoms are often akin to flu symptoms and, if untreated, can be fatal. If you feel ill after paddling, you should tell your doctor as soon as possible and let them know where and when you have been on the water.
- 16) Please take every opportunity to wash your hands properly with soap and water. Although the usual toilet and hand washing facilities will be available at the checkpoints; we suggest that all participants also bring along their own hand sanitiser gel.
- 17) There will be staggered time slots for launching on Saturday morning to help reduce overcrowding and expedite the registration process. Please aim to arrive 10 minutes before your launch timeslot so we can efficiently manage this process. Delays are possible if you arrive outside your timeslot.
- 18) Remember that boating is an 'assumed risk' sport - you paddle at your own risk. The River Stour Trust will make every effort to assist you to enjoy this event - however no liability can be accepted for any loss, injury, or damage, however caused.
- 19) Please do what you can to support the Check-Clean-Dry scheme and prevent non-native species entering our waterways: www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry/
- 20) We may occasionally take photos of participants for publicity purposes, including for use on our website and social media, and in submitting your booking you are indicating your consent unless you tell us otherwise either in writing (letter or email) or in person.
- 21) The River Stour Trust reserves the right to cancel or postpone the event if circumstances beyond our reasonable control will negatively impact on safety or viability of the event.