

Macclesfield And District Canoe Club

Hare and Hounds Race Rules

- The event will be held monthly, normally on the second Sunday of the month, with dates published on the MADCC website [Calendar Page](#). Any date changes will be notified via the [MADCC Forum](#).
 - Competitors will meet at 10am at the Adelphi boatshed.
- Courses
 - Start/finish is from the Bollington milestone (between the boatshed and bridge 27).
 - Paddlers ranked in divisions 1-9 will paddle a 4 mile course.
 - Lightning paddlers will paddle a 2 mile course.
 - Courses will alternate monthly.
 - Course A is from the Bollington milestone to the milestone before the canal cruising club (bridge 25) and return.
 - Course B is from the Bollington milestone to the milestone after Clarke Lane (bridge 29) and return.
- At the December event (or at the first event if unable to attend in December), competitors will paddle the course to set an initial handicap time. Thereafter their best time of the season is used to set the handicap (to the nearest 30 seconds).
 - The 4 mile course has a nominal time of 40 minutes; the difference of the competitor's time from this will be used to set a start time.
 - E.g. time-trial/handicap time 35 minutes: Start time +5 minutes.
 - E.g. time-trial/handicap time 43 minutes: Start time -3 minutes.
- All boats with the same handicap time will be started together.
- Normal BCU racing rules apply
 - Buoyancy aids must be worn by all paddlers ranked in Divisions 9-7 and Lightning paddlers.
 - Competitors must stop to assist any paddlers in difficulty.
 - Overtaking boats must keep clear and not hinder other boats.
 - Starts will be made with a call of: "Are you ready? Go."
 - All turns will be made anticlockwise at the milestones.
- Entry will be by signing on prior to the start.
- The timekeeper has the right to refuse entry to any paddler who they believe is not competent or adequately equipped. This does not relieve any paddler from personal responsibility for their own safety.
- There will be an entry fee of £1.50 for seniors and £1.00p for juniors. Monies will be used for prizes.
- Paddlers who retire or do not complete the full race distance must inform the timekeeper.
- Points will be awarded at each event based on finishing position:
 - 10 points for 1st, 9 points for 2nd, 8 points for 3rd down to 1 point for 10th or lower positions.

- 1 point will be credited to each paddler, in addition to race point, for each H&H they attend up to a maximum of 10 points.
- Prizes will be awarded at the MADCC AGM each year:
 - Best paddler: The paddler with the highest total number of points from their best 4 positions plus their attendance points during the year.
 - Best improver: an annual trophy will be awarded to the best improver, based on improvement in time from the initial handicap time across the season. (NB the organiser has discretion to ignore high initial times if these were the result of adverse circumstances [e.g. capsized, barges, etc]). 4 mile and 2 Lightning mile improvements will count towards this prize.
 - Best Lightning paddler: The Lightning paddler with the highest total number of points from their best 4 positions plus their attendance points during the year.
 - Runner up prizes may be awarded dependent on available monies.