Charles River Traffic Patterns

Bridge Traffic
(View looking upstream)

- Normal Traffic
- Use only if necessary
- Caution; see notes
- Do not use

General River Rules

- Keep to the right side (1/3) of the river—especially on turns
- Overtake on the left (port)
- Turn quickly, only where visible
- Move to shore to stop or drill

For full details, see the Charles River Traffic Patterns and Safety Rules

North Beacon

Arsenal

Eliot

Anderson

Weeks Footbridge

Western Avenue

River Street

Harvard (Mass Ave.)

BU Bridge

MIT (Mass Ave.)

Downstream: Keep right of all buoys (Woburns)—very shallow

Upstream: Keep left of all buoys (Woburns)—very shallow

SANDBAR
Downstream: Cross into upstream traffic to avoid, but not excessively.

Head of the Charles (HOCR) Finish Line

Harvard Newell Boathouse

BU Boathouse

BB&N

Cambridge Boat Club

Harvard Weld Boathouse

Powerhouse Stretch: No stopping

1200m Finish

1200m Start (Downstream)

HOCR 1 mi.

HOCR 2 mi.

1000m

MIT Lane

2K Finish

1000m

MIT Sailing Pavilion

2K Start (Upstream)

500m

1000m

Union Lane

BU Bridge

North Beacon Street Bridge

Arsenal Bridge

Eliot Bridge

Anderson Bridge

Weeks Footbridge

Western Avenue Bridge

Harvard (Mass Ave.) Bridge

Union Boathouse

Longfellow Bridge

MIT Boathouse

Riverside Boathouse

Magazine Beach

Upstream: Keep right. Watch for boats crossing to/from CRC.

Downstream: Stay clear of the turn, along the Boston shore.

Powerhouse Stretch: Use center arch only if with coach;
NOTE: Center arch is upstream ONLY between 9am-5pm from Labor Day through Thanksgiving.

Do not use center arch

Caution: crews on upstream side of bridge

8 downstream arches total
(4 on each side of the lighted platform)

Racing Lanes
White arch: Lanes 3-4

Do not use center arch

Caution: crews on upstream side of bridge