



Savernake (Bruce) Tunnel - Instructions

Location: Grid SU 4235,1632 (SN8 3AY) Just North of Burbage, Wiltshire.

Races: Waterside Races C & D.

Aim:

To control entrance and exit of the tunnel for competitors/canal traffic. Aiding recovery of a crew if they capsize within the tunnel.

Equipment:

- One or two Open Canadians + Paddles
- Radios (*Waterproof*)
- Throwline(s)
- Paper and pencil (*Protected*)
- Tourches (*Waterproof*)

Control:

Prevent entry into tunnel if:

- Rescue is underway (unless permitted by rescue boat executing recovery)
- Control Canal traffic and Competitors allowing each passage without undue delay.
- Canal traffic is currently negotiating tunnel
- Marshals and rescue crew in co-ordinate instructions via handheld radios

If a crew is prevented from entering the tunnel then a time should be recorded appropriate to their delay.

Race Rule:

There is to be NO overtaking within the tunnel.

Paddling Guidance:

Keep to the centre of the water course and keep looking straight ahead NOT at the side walls. Although a paddle strike against the wall is unlikely, better to paddle slightly lower in style to aid stability. The water can be slight choppy within the tunnel.

There is a slight step on the river Right of the tunnel – this may aid self-recovery but it is close to the wall.

The depth is not significant throughout the tunnel. However wading is tiresome and energy sapping recovery is generally quicker for all concerned.

Support Crew:

There is no appropriate access for support crews with little in the way of parking. Access to the tunnel exit is possible but quite a distance from the road.

Recovery:

This is performed by one or two open Canadian canoes. Recovery inside the tunnel or towed outside for bankside recovery.

The method of recovery is the call of the rescuing crew depending on the location of the capsize/rescue.

Communications:

Radios are used to co-ordinate communications from within or from each end of the tunnel. Waterproof radios have been tested and work through the tunnel.