

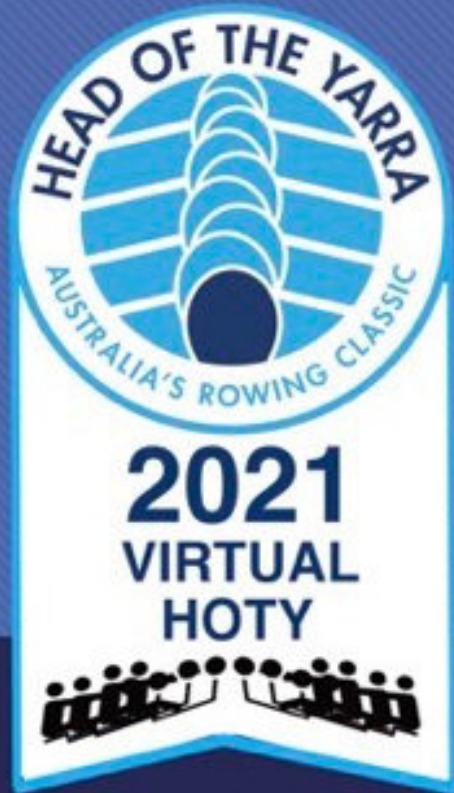
# Virtual HOTY



Saturday Nov 27<sup>th</sup> 6am- 3pm AEST



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## The Concept:

- Covid-19 safety issues have once again forced the cancellation of an on-water Head of the Yarra event in 2021.
- The Head of the Yarra organizing committee are however considering running a virtual event, if there is enough expressed interest from the Australian Rowing Community.
- The Concept is for club-run ergo trials (over 8000Mts) aggregated for each club crew of 8, as the basis of race times, in each race category, determining winners.
- The time-trials would be held at/by each participating club using Concept2 ergos (PM3-PM5 Monitor models) on Saturday November 27<sup>th</sup> between 6am – 2pm AEST.
- We'd like to see a party atmosphere and club social events being created at participating clubs who can utilize our virtual event as an opportunity to engage with their own local club communities.
- Clubs would be supported on the day with merchandise, video and technology linkage via a zoom hookup with race central and with other competing clubs around the country.
- Category winners would be announced in a broadcast zoom hookup at 3.00pm AEST with results also posted on the web.

# Why Club Run events?

The Annual Head of the Yarra is loved by the rowing community for its breadth of club involvement Australia-wide, and for the post-race rowers' party.



Covid safety issues preclude a national on-river competition this year and the traditional post-race rowing community party at Hawthorn.

With true resilience however, we can still provide an opportunity for clubs to come together, to compete, to connect Australia-wide and to party with their own club communities via use of online technology with a virtual race.

Participating clubs can also use the virtual infrastructure we provide to engage their own club communities in a national event, running a club fundraiser or locally run social, around their crews' activities.



# Club Ergo Setup and Submitting Crew times



- Clubs require at least 1 Concept 2 ergo, set up in static mode, (without sliders) with PM3 – PM5 monitors.
- The ideal setup is to use 8 Ergos , so crew members can row simultaneously, and a coxswain/motivator can push performances. Lower nos. of ergos than 8 just mean multiple timeslots are required by each club during the day, for their crew members to row their 8000 mtrs.
- Your local community Covid safety conditions will determine club setup and density on the day. Crew members can actually be in different locations, so there is wide flexibility.
- Ideally your clubhouse or a local community facility would be used for your crew races, with a club/community social being convened as part of the day's activity.
- Ergos are to be set for 8000mt single distance. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aF4alyE-2jo>
- For each member of the crew your club will submit a record of times and the 16- digit authentication code (see picture below right -> . This procedure ensures timing validation.
- Our online timing software will check the authentication codes, collate crew times and apply any age-based masters handicaps, to ascertain race category placings.
- All race results will be announced at 3.00pm on race day via a National club zoom hookup as well as being available on the HOTY website.
- We'd like clubs to actively engage in the zoom results hookup to ensure winning crew and club recognition.



# Support infrastructure

Each Club or crew needs to supply the Ergs - Concept 2 with PM3 - PM5 monitors.



Other infrastructure that would enhance your day:

- A Clubhouse or community facility to host your crews and supporters
- A computer or device to connect into the central zoom feed.
- A connected TV monitor to enhance your clubhouse engagement with the event
- A computer or device to submit your crew times and the authentication codes which you can copy from your Concept 2 machine log. (By 2.00pm on race day).
- A club social event run as an excuse to engage your local club community, to sell some beers and to have a fun club social day around the event.
- Connecting in with results presentation via Zoom at 3pm or checking in with the Head of the Yarra website.



# Other

**Entry Cost** : \$30 per crew member, (\$240 per crew) includes a commemorative T-shirt mailed as a crew set of 9 to one location. ( Yes one for your coxswain as the crew motivator).

**Race Categories:** Categories will model the actual on-water race categories. Any category that attracts less than 3 crews will be aggregated to the next level category, with any appropriate age-based handicaps applied.



# Survey



**A very short Survey Monkey questionnaire will be sent to our Head of the Yarra database in late September to ascertain interest in a virtual event , club and crew access to appropriate Concept 2 machines, and club reaction to this proposal.**