# Nithraid 2016 Competitors’ Notes

**Race day schedule**

0900. Arrive at Carsethorn, boats to the beach, rig boats.

1000. Steamboat Inn opens.

1100. Soup, Tea and Coffee.

1130. Pre-race briefing.

1200. (+ or – 15mins) Race start.

## Competitors Notes

**Arriving at Carsethorn**

Please plan to bring boats to Carsethorn by 9.00am.

Please display your race number to marshals and follow their instructions. We will be using a private slipway so as to avoid any traffic problems in the narrow road through the village. Access to the slipway will be via a one-way route through private property. Please see plan A.

After getting the boat onto the beach, road crews will be shown where to park by marshals.

Once boats are rigged, crews please proceed to the race briefing at the Steamboat Inn.

Road crews please follow marshal’s instructions for retrieving trailers after the start.

Nithraid is very grateful for the generous assistance of the Carsethorn Community Development Group and especially to Billy Wilson for generously allowing the use of his slipway.

**Race briefing**

The Steamboat Inn will be open to competitors and crews from about 1000. Soup and hot drinks will be provided for crews, road crews, and helpers.

Pre-Race Briefing will be at about 1130. The briefing must be attended at least by the skippers of all boats, preferably by everyone participating in the race.

**Start**

The start will be given on the beach immediately outside the Steamboat Inn. From the start competitors will make their way, in a relaxed manner, to their boats, launch with the aid of their road crews, and commence racing to the Caul.

**Road Crews**

After the start, road crews will collect their trailers and make for the Mill Green, next to the Burns centre, in Dumfries for the finishing spectacle and where boats will be lifted out.

We have been asked to keep vehicles off the grass as much as possible at the Mill Green so please follow marshal’s instructions.

Enter via Mill Road and the Burns Centre and exit at the downstream end into Welldale and Suspension Brae. Trailers and/or trolleys will be manhandled to the lifting out point. See Plan B

**Finish**

At the pre-race briefing each skipper will be given a small item of cargo which has to be delivered to the finish. A pontoon will be moored in the middle of the river in Dumfries. Boats must pass to the Whitesands side, the right-hand side as you approach from the bridges, and deposit their cargo in a receptacle on that side of the pontoon as you go by to have finished. It is permissible to throw the item from wherever you like but if the item falls in the river, then you will not have finished the race. If you need to take a second attempt at finishing, go round the pontoon in an anti-clockwise direction and re-approach from downstream. Goods must be deposited on the right-hand side unless otherwise indicated at the briefing.

After finishing boats will circle to port behind the pontoon and proceed to the lifting out pontoon moored at the Mill Green adjacent to the Burns Centre.

**Cancellation**

In the event of very bad weather on the day we may run a shortened race from Glencaple. If it is possible, notice will be given the day before and launch will be from the slipway at Glencaple. Alternatively the decision may be made on the morning of the race in time to get the whole fleet to Glencaple.

If the weather is too bad even for the shortened version, a discussion will be held with entrants about an alternative date.

Full refunds will be made in the event of total cancellation.

**General**

The organisers wish the entrants the best of luck. As well as a race the Nithraid is conceived as a fine and unusual spectacle in the centre of Dumfries celebrating the return of sailing vessels to this waterway.