

= The Boat Race 1922 =

The 74th Boat Race took place on 1 April 1922 . Held annually , the Boat Race is a side @-@ by @-@ side rowing race between crews from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge along the River Thames . Cambridge went into the race as reigning champions , having won the previous year 's race , and had the significantly heavier crew . Four of the Oxford crew and three of the Cambridge crew had previous Boat Race experience . In this year 's race , umpired by former rower Frederick I. Pitman , Cambridge won by four @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half lengths in a time of 19 minutes 27 seconds . It was Cambridge 's fourth consecutive victory , the largest winning margin since 1914 and the fastest winning time since 1911 .

= = Background = =

The Boat Race is a side @-@ by @-@ side rowing competition between the University of Oxford (sometimes referred to as the " Dark Blues ") and the University of Cambridge (sometimes referred to as the " Light Blues ") . The race was first held in 1829 , and since 1845 has taken place on the 4 @.@ 2 @-@ mile (6 @.@ 8 km) Championship Course on the River Thames in southwest London . The rivalry is a major point of honour between the two universities ; it is followed throughout the United Kingdom and , as of 2014 , broadcast worldwide . Cambridge went into the race as reigning champions , having won the 1921 race by one length , while Oxford led overall with 39 victories to Cambridge 's 33 (excluding the " dead heat " of 1877) .

Oxford 's coaches were George Drinkwater who had rowed for Oxford in the 1902 and 1903 races , E. D. Horsfall (who had rowed in the three races prior to the First World War) and R. P. P. Rowe who had rowed four times between 1889 and 1892 . Cambridge were coached by H. Peake (who had participated in the Peace Regattas of 1919) , Sidney Swann (who had rowed in the four races from 1911 to 1914) and G. L. Thomson . For the fourteenth year the umpire was old Etonian Frederick I. Pitman who rowed for Cambridge in the 1884 , 1885 and 1886 races .

= = Crews = =

The Cambridge crew weighed an average of 12 st 11 lb (81 @.@ 0 kg) , 7 pounds (3 @.@ 2 kg) per rower more than their opponents . Five of the Oxford crew had previous Boat Race experience , including cox W. H. Porritt who was making his third appearance in the event . Cambridge 's crew also included five individuals who had previously represented the university , including Humphrey Playford and P. H. G. H @-@ S. Hartley who were rowing for the Light Blues for the third consecutive year . Two of the participants were silver medallists in the men 's eight at the 1920 Summer Olympics : Oxford 's Sebastian Earl , and Guy Oliver Nickalls . All of the participants in the race were registered as British .

= = Race = =

Cambridge won the toss and elected to start from the Middlesex station , handing the Surrey side of the river to Cambridge . In a light wind and with a good tide , umpire Pitman commenced the race at 4 : 40 p.m. , which resulted in a false start , with Cambridge being released from their stakeboat too soon . After the restart , Cambridge were clear by the Mile Post and two lengths ahead of Oxford by the time the crews passed under Hammersmith Bridge .

According to Oxford 's bow , George Drinkwater , Cambridge were " rowing well within themselves " and passed the finishing post four and a half lengths ahead in a time of 19 minutes 27 seconds . It was their fourth consecutive victory , the largest winning margin since the 1914 race and the fastest winning time since the 1911 race . The win took the overall record in the event to 39 ? 34 in Oxford 's favour .