

## = The Boat Race 1930 =

The 82nd Boat Race took place on 12 April 1930 . 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 . In a race umpired by former Oxford rower Charles Burnell , Cambridge won by two lengths in a time of 19 minutes 9 seconds . Their seventh consecutive victory , it took the overall record to 41 ? 40 in their favour , the first time for 68 years that they held the lead in the event .

## = = 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 1929 race by ten lengths , with the overall record tied on 40 victories each ( excluding the " dead heat " of 1877 ) .

Cambridge were coached by Francis Escombe , J. C. Holcroft , J. A. MacNabb ( who had rowed in the 1924 race ) and P. H. Thomas ( a four @-@ time Blue between 1902 and 1905 ) . Oxford 's coaches were Stanley Garton ( who had rowed three times between 1909 and 1911 ) , P. C. Mallam ( a Dark Blue from 1921 to 1924 inclusive ) and Arthur Wiggins ( who had rowed for Oxford in the 1912 , 1913 and 1914 races ) . For the fourth consecutive year the umpire was Charles Burnell who had rowed for Oxford in the 1895 , 1896 , 1897 and 1898 races . Charles Kent , who rowed for Oxford in the 1891 race , was the finishing judge for the third consecutive year .

According to the rowing correspondent for The Times , the " Cambridge Trial Eights ... were certainly not comparable with those of the past four years . " Conversely , Oxford " had better Trial Eights than for many years past " . They performed well in their practice rows during the build @-@ up to the race : they broke the record to the Mile Post by four seconds . Cambridge were considered " slightly the faster " but Oxford were " coming on " . Both crews rowed in boats built by Sims brothers of Putney , and used Aylings oars .

## = = Crews = =

The Cambridge crew weighed an average of 12 st 8 lb ( 79 @. @ 6 kg ) , 1 @. @ 5 pounds ( 0 @. @ 7 kg ) per rower more than their opponents . Oxford saw two rowers return in Hugh Edwards and D. E. Tinne . Cambridge 's boat contained three participants with Boat Race experience , including Olympic gold medallist Michael Warriner and J. B. Collins , both of whom were making their third consecutive appearance . Just one participant in the race was registered as non @-@ British in Cambridge 's American cox Robert Egerton Swartwout .

## = = Race = =

Oxford won the toss and elected to start from the Surrey station , handing the Middlesex side of the river to Cambridge . In an " unpleasant drizzle " , the umpire Burnell started the race at 12 : 30 p.m. The Light Blues made a " smoother start " but were marginally out @-@ rated by Oxford who held a one @-@ third length lead after a minute . They extended their lead to two @-@ thirds of a length by Craven Steps but the bend in the river favoured Cambridge , and their lead was halved . By the Mile Post , the Dark Blues led by the length of a canvas .

Oxford 's stroke Martineau responded to a push from Cambridge and were nearly a length ahead as both crews passed the Harrods Furniture Depository . Another spurt from the Light Blues saw the lead reduced to one @-@ third of a length by the time the crews passed below Hammersmith Bridge in a record time . Reducing the stroke rate to cope with the rough water , Oxford had

increased their lead to three @-@ quarters of a length by Chiswick Eyot , yet were back to a half @-@ length lead by Chiswick Steps as the Light Blues coped better in the conditions . Along Duke 's Meadows Cambridge closed the gap and " the crews raced stroke for stroke " , with the Light Blues taking the lead . The crews passed below Barnes Bridge with Cambridge holding a length 's advantage and out @-@ rated their opponents , who kept rowing to the end . Cambridge won by two lengths in a time of 19 minutes 9 seconds , their seventh consecutive victory and the eleventh in the previous twelve years . It was the fastest winning time since the 1924 race , and the fifth @-@ fastest time in the history of the event .

The rowing correspondent for The Times suggested that " this year was one of the exceptional years by which the vast crowds who swarm on the towpath are more than rewarded for the years of waiting , and moreover Cambridge men as well as Oxford will rejoice to see so fine a courage and skill once more animating a losing crew " . During the course of the race , a spectator boat became waterlogged , resulting in eight people being taken to hospital .