

## = The Boat Race 1889 =

The 46th Boat Race took place on 30 March 1889 . The Boat Race is an annual side @-@ by @-@ side rowing race between crews from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge along the River Thames . For the first time in the history of the event , all eight rowers in the Cambridge crew had rowed the previous year . Cambridge won by three lengths in a time of 20 minutes 14 seconds , their fourth consecutive victory which took the overall record in the event to 23 ? 22 in Oxford 's favour .

## = = 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 " ) . First held in 1829 , the race takes place on the 4 @. @ 2 miles ( 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 previous year 's race by seven lengths , while Oxford held the overall lead , with 23 victories to Cambridge 's 21 ( excluding the " dead heat " of 1877 ) .

Cambridge 's coaches were Fraser Emilie Churchill ( who had rowed for the Light Blues in the 1883 , 1884 and 1885 races ) , Charles William Moore ( who represented Cambridge in the 1881 , 1882 , 1883 and 1884 races ) , Frederick Islay Pitman ( who rowed in 1884 , 1885 and 1886 ) , Herbert Edward Rhodes ( who rowed in the 1873 , 1874 , 1875 and 1876 races ) and Henry Tudor Trevor @-@ Jones . Oxford were coached by Tom Cottingham Edwards @-@ Moss ( who rowed for the Dark Blues four times between the 1875 and the 1878 races ) and William Grenfell ( who rowed for Oxford in 1877 , 1878 and was non @-@ rowing boat club president in 1879 ) .

The umpire for the race was Frank Willan who won the event four consecutive times , rowing for Oxford in the 1866 , 1867 , 1868 and 1869 races .

## = = Crews = =

The Oxford crew weighed an average of 12 st 3 @. @ 5 lb ( 77 @. @ 6 kg ) , 3 @. @ 25 pounds ( 1 @. @ 5 kg ) per rower more than their opponents . For the only time in the history of the event , every rower from the Cambridge crew had taken part in the previous year 's race , with Stanley Muttlebury making his fourth consecutive appearance . As a result of the availability of the former Blues , there was little competition in the trial eights , and the Cambridge crew were considered to be " not nearly as fast " as they had been in 1888 . Only the cox Thomas Welby Northmore was new to the event . Oxford 's crew contained three former Blues , including H. R. Parker who was rowing in his third Boat Race . All of the competitors were registered as British .

## = = Race = =

Cambridge won the toss and elected to start from the Surrey station , handing the Middlesex side of the river to Oxford . Commencing at 1.15pm , at a high stroke rate Cambridge took an early lead , before settling down to a " long , steady and tremendously powerful stroke " . By the Crab Tree pub , they were almost clear and despite a spurt from the Dark Blues , Cambridge were a length @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half ahead by Hammersmith Bridge . They continued to pull away at Chiswick and despite the " tremendous sea raised by the wind above Barnes " , extended their lead further to win by three lengths in a time of 20 minutes 14 seconds . It was Cambridge 's fourth consecutive victory and their fifth in six years , with the fastest winning time since Oxford 's victory in the 1882 race . The victory took the overall record to 23 ? 22 in Oxford 's favour .