

New course record at Fuller's Head of the River Fours

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source: Liz Wray

Near perfect racing conditions and some high quality international standard crews resulted in a new course record being set at the 52nd Fuller's Head of the River Fours on Saturday.

The record time of 17 minutes 21 seconds, over the famous four and 1/4 mile Championship course from Chiswick to Putney, was set by the Tideway Scullers Quadruple scull containing current world champion, New Zealander Mahe Drysdale; Olympic Gold medallist, Slovenian Iztok Cop and GB internationals, Alan Campbell and Mike Hennessy.

The Tideway Scullers quad, who started second, battled with last year's winners Leander over the first half of the course, finally overtaking them near Hammersmith Bridge and going on to win by an impressive eleven seconds.

Thousands of rowers in a total of 509 crews from across the UK and Europe descended on the river Thames raced to race in the event, each competing for one of the twenty available pennants.

A Cambridge University coxed four (Keiran West, Sebastian Schulte, Thorsen Engelman, Tom James, cox Denis Casey) was the fastest non-sculling crew, beating a Leander four which contained, Steve Williams, Alex Partridge and Peter Reed, three members of the world champion GB coxless four.

Fuller's brewery has been associated with the race for the last 27 years and the prize giving will take place in the Hock cellar at their Griffin Road Brewery in December.



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