



Introduction

Concept2's ErgRace Online provides a way to run races through the internet.

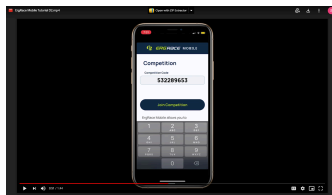
Feedback on this product may be sent to virtualracing@concept2.com.

This is a guide for race organizers.

Please note: ErgRace Online and ErgRace Mobile are new products and still under active development.

For Participants

A short [video](#) for participants:



Those participating in the race itself will need:

- A Competition Code—find out more about that in the “Organizing a race” section
- A Concept2 RowErg, BikeErg, or SkiErg with a PM5
- [The latest firmware for their PM5](#)
- A phone or tablet running iOS or Android
- ErgRace Mobile app from the app store.

ErgRace Online is only compatible with the PM5. You can retrofit a PM5 to all Concept2 ergs.

Links to the “ErgRace Mobile App” are provided below:

iPhone/iPad

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/ergrace-mobile/id1509799588>

Android

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=concept2.ergRaceMobile.Release>

<https://tinyurl.com/yxfp8k9n>

Or scan code with your iPhone camera app:



<https://tinyurl.com/y2cnud8w>

Or try to scan with your Android Camera app or QR Reader App



Participants should ensure the batteries in their PM5 are good (above 30%) and their phone is well-charged before participating.

Organizing a race:

The basic steps to organize a race are:

- Use [Google Chrome](#) browser and go to admin.ergrace.com
- Login with your Concept2 Logbook account
- Create a competition
- Alert participants of the “Competition Code”, time, and date
- Click on the competition name to start ErgRace.
- Create races
- Run races
- View results

A “Competition” should be considered a “Days worth of racing”. If you have 2 days of racing, Concept2 suggests setting up a different competition for each day. When you create a competition, “a new competition code” is generated.

You can only have one race running at a time. To run more than one race at the same time, you will need to set up a separate competition.

After you create your competition, send the “Competition Code” to the participants. Concept2 suggests publishing this link to assist participants: www.concept2.com/ergracemobile.

You can either run an “informal” race without registrations or a more “formal” race with athletes organized in advance. We suggest reading both sections to understand how they work.

You may want to set up a video chat room or similar service to keep in contact with the participants to advise them of schedule changes, technical issues or to provide them with connection help. It is not currently possible to contact participants through ErgRace.

Competitions are ‘suspended’ after several hours of non-use. If you refresh your browser page and is not behaving properly, go back to admin.egrace.com and click through the competition again. In less than a minute, the competition should be available again.

Informal Individual Races.

Informal races are best for publishing an 'open' race where anyone who has the competition code can join in. You do not have to know who is going to show up in advance, but you can pick and choose who is "in" the race after everyone has connected.

Steps:

1. Click on the name of the competition.
2. Click "Create Race"
3. Give the race a name (Required)
4. Choose the type and length of the race. There are helpful tips on screen.
5. Click Save.
6. Create more races if you want.
7. On the "Race List", click on "Run Race"
8. Wait for participants to arrive and show "OK" under the "Athletes connected but not registered for this race".
9. Click "Add" or "Add all" to add them to the race.
10. When everyone has joined click "Close Entries".
11. Be patient while the system sets up everyone's PM5 monitor.
12. If everything goes OK, click the "Prepare" and then "Start" button.
13. At the end, you can review results. Then click "Close Results"

Formal Individual Races.

When participants and their LogBook ID are known in advance this can make managing large groups of people and series of races a lot easier. When participants join the competition on ErgRace Mobile, they will be automatically entered into their race file if it is created in advance.

Steps:

1. Click "Create Race"
2. Give the race a name (Required)
3. Choose the type and length of the race. There are helpful tips on screen.
4. Click "Add Boat". (Yes, we know, if this is a SkiErg or BikeErg then 'boat' does not make sense, but it's the best terminology we can use for now...)
5. Add the participant's name and their Logbook ID.
6. Optionally enter "Affiliation" and "Class". Please [see below](#) for more information on what these mean.
7. You can also paste entrants from a spreadsheet. See the section below on [Copying From A Spreadsheet](#).
8. Click "Save".

Note: During January and February 2021, Team Racing has not been tested and may not operate properly -- Concept2 suggests only using Time, Distance, and Calorie races for now.

9. On the "Race List", click on "Run Race"
10. Wait for participants to arrive -- when they are properly connected they will show "OK"
11. When everyone has joined click "Close Entries". Anyone not connected or having problems will be removed from the race.
12. Be patient while the system sets up everyone's PM5 monitor.
13. If everything goes OK, click the "Prepare" and then "Start" button.
14. At the end, you can review results.

Participants can find their LogBook ID in ErgRace Mobile on the Profile page, or log into the Online Logbook and find it.

If you do not have your participant's logbook ID, you can still manage a race, but you will have to manually add them into the race either as a 'new' participant, or by matching them with an existing participant in the race. If they are added as a new participant, you can enter Affiliation and Class.

Formal Team Races

Team Races are races where scores of 2-8 participants contribute to the movement of a 'boat' and a 'team score'.

⚠ Team racing online is still in experimental stages and Concept2 expects there to be bugs and problems. Use at own risk!

Informal Team Races (where participants are added manually) is not supported.

Team races have some unique requirements:

- 1) All race data **MUST** be filled in, including Team Names, Participant Names, and the LogBook IDs for each participant.
- 2) All boats must have all participants connected or the entire boat will be dropped at the time of “Close Entries”.
- 3) All participants must have a good connection or they will be dropped at the time of “Close Entries”



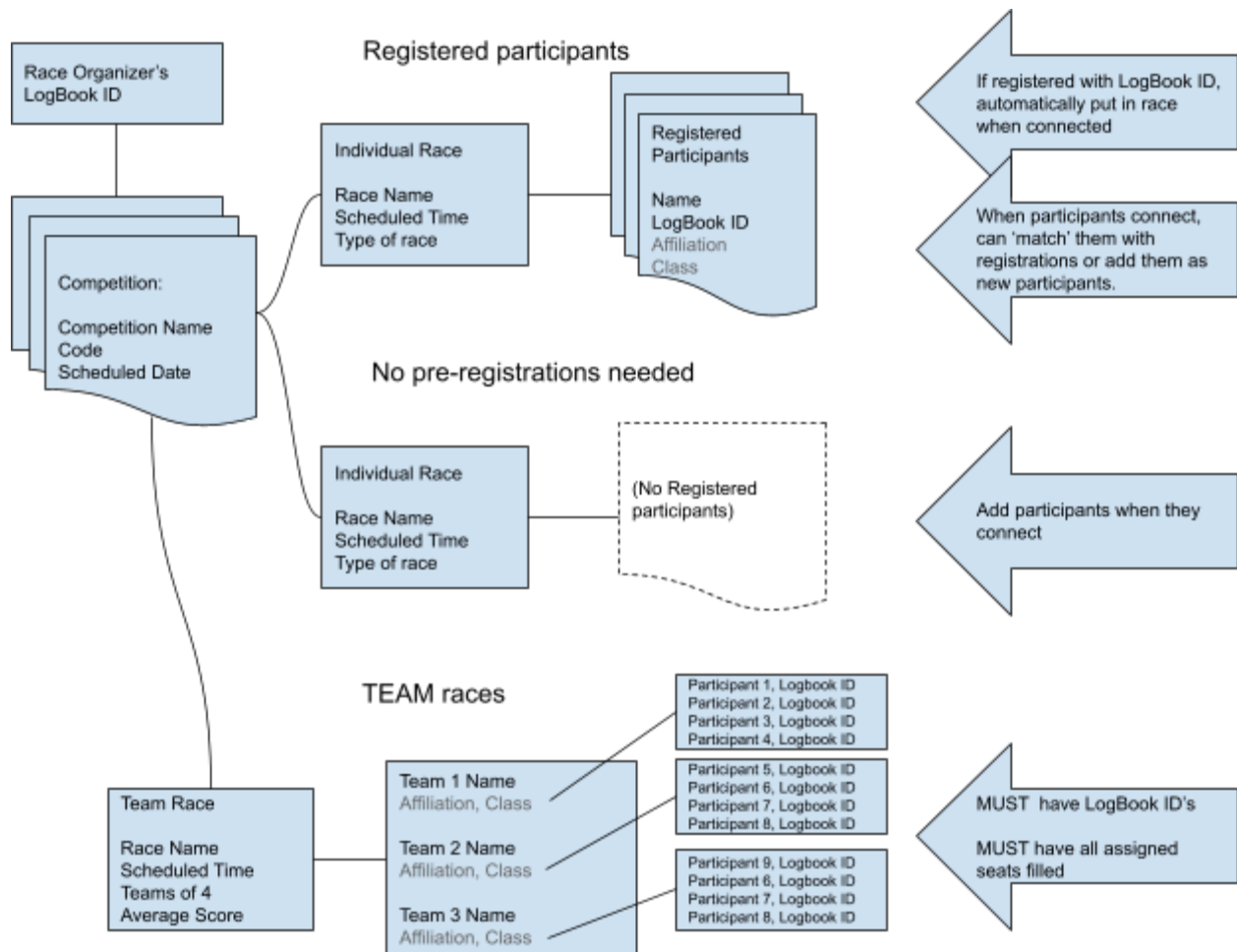
#	Team Name	Affiliation	Class	Athlete Name	Logbook ID	
1	My Team			Mike	123	
				Dave	456	
2	Their Team			Joe	789	
				Fred	011	
<div>ADD BOAT</div> <div>COPY TABLE TO CLIPBOARD</div>						

Diagram of how **Competition -- Races -- Participants** are organized:



Copying from a spreadsheet

Instead of typing, try entering a few names and then click “Copy Table to Clipboard”. Open up your favorite spreadsheet program (such as Excel, Google Sheets, etc) and click “Paste” in cell A1. You will see the participants and header pasted into your sheet.

Next, modify the sheet as you desire, copying data from registrations you’ve received.

When satisfied, skip the title row but click on the first name, then shift-click the last Logbook ID. This should highlight the block of participants. Use Edit > Copy, or Ctrl+C to copy them to the clipboard. Now, go back to the admin.egrace.com web site and click in the first row under name. Press Ctrl+V to paste the data in. Fix any issues, and click “Save”

Please respect the limits: please do not try to have lots of people in one race. The trouble you encounter might be the computer, but it may also be the number of participants you are trying to manage...

Class

Class refers to the race class, or category, of each athlete, e.g. “Men’s.Open”, “Juniors”, “Women’s 40+ Lwt” etc. If there is only going to be one winner in this race, you can either leave this blank or set it to be the same such as “Juniors”. If there is more than one class (for example “Juniors” and “Seniors”) then there will be multiple first place winners, for example a winner in the Juniors category, and another in the Seniors category. The “Live View” in the app will show the different classes in different colors.

#	Name	Affiliation	Class	Logbook ID	
1	D Ambrose		Seniors	1431810	
2	S Hamilton		Seniors	1430614	
3	K Stevensen		Seniors	750540	
4	A Dombek		Juniors	402935	
5	T Dwight		Juniors	1128171	
6	K Smith		Juniors	1113490	
7	M Lyon		Juniors	100576	
8	A Dunne		Juniors	176380	
9	D Hart		Juniors	6839	
10	G Hammond		Juniors	1872	

Affiliation

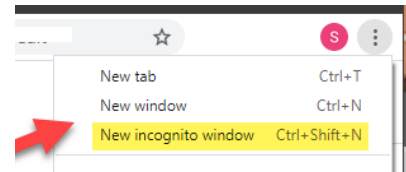
Affiliation is a field for adding a country, club, or school designation. It is limited to a maximum of four characters. The affiliation will show up in the “Live View” and in results.

Organizer Trouble?

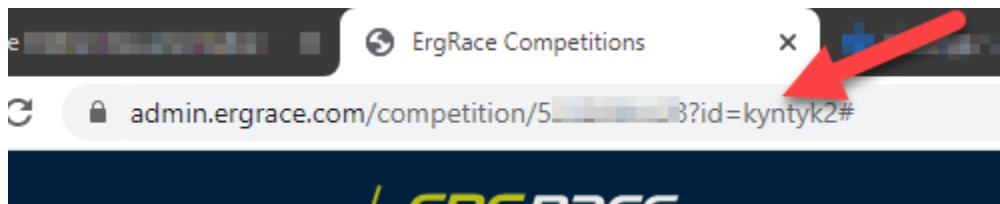
During January and February 2021, ErgRace Online and ErgRace Mobile will be under active development, debugging, and periodic updates. All participants should check they are running the most up-to-date version of the ErgRace Mobile app before each competition.

If the admin.egrace.com web site gives you trouble, a few things you can try:

- Use Google Chrome. Edge may work OK. Firefox and Safari have known issues: do not use!
- Open up a “private” or “incognito” window
- There are some ‘advanced’ functions by using CTRL-SPACE and entering ‘stay fit’ to the login prompt. Concept2 does not recommend using this except as a last resort, there are functions included that could cause more trouble than expected.



If you are having any difficulty with participant connections, please check your browser's URL and ensure it has an ?ID_XXXXXX as shown below. If it is not present, try F5, CTL-F5, or the “Refresh” button on your browser.



As an administrator of a race, please note:

- Use the Chrome Browser, don't try to use Safari (Mac users take note!)
- Be patient after creating a new competition, it takes a minute for it to get set up.
- Be patient with “Close Entries”. It takes a while.
- While you may try to edit races from a different computer or browser, the changed races may not show up immediately on the other computer.
- Do not try to RUN races from 2 different computers or browsers.
- Ensure that everyone that connects has their own Logbook ID and account, no duplicates!
- You cannot have 2 people in the same race with the same logbook ID.
- Anyone with a poor connection may be dropped from the race if they have a poor connection, old firmware on their PM5, or other adverse conditions.

Limitations:

- We do not recommend more than 30 people in a race at this time.

Participant Trouble?

One of the biggest troubles with racing through the internet is poor internet connection. It's not just speed, but latency and reliability. Here are some things to check:

- If you are using WiFi, try a different WiFi connection or try Cellular data.
- If you are using Cellular, try WiFi.
- Try running a speed test that shows your latency. It should be less than 600mS to have a good experience.
- Try moving to another room
- Try to race when you or others are not streaming video (Zoom, Netflix etc.) on your network.

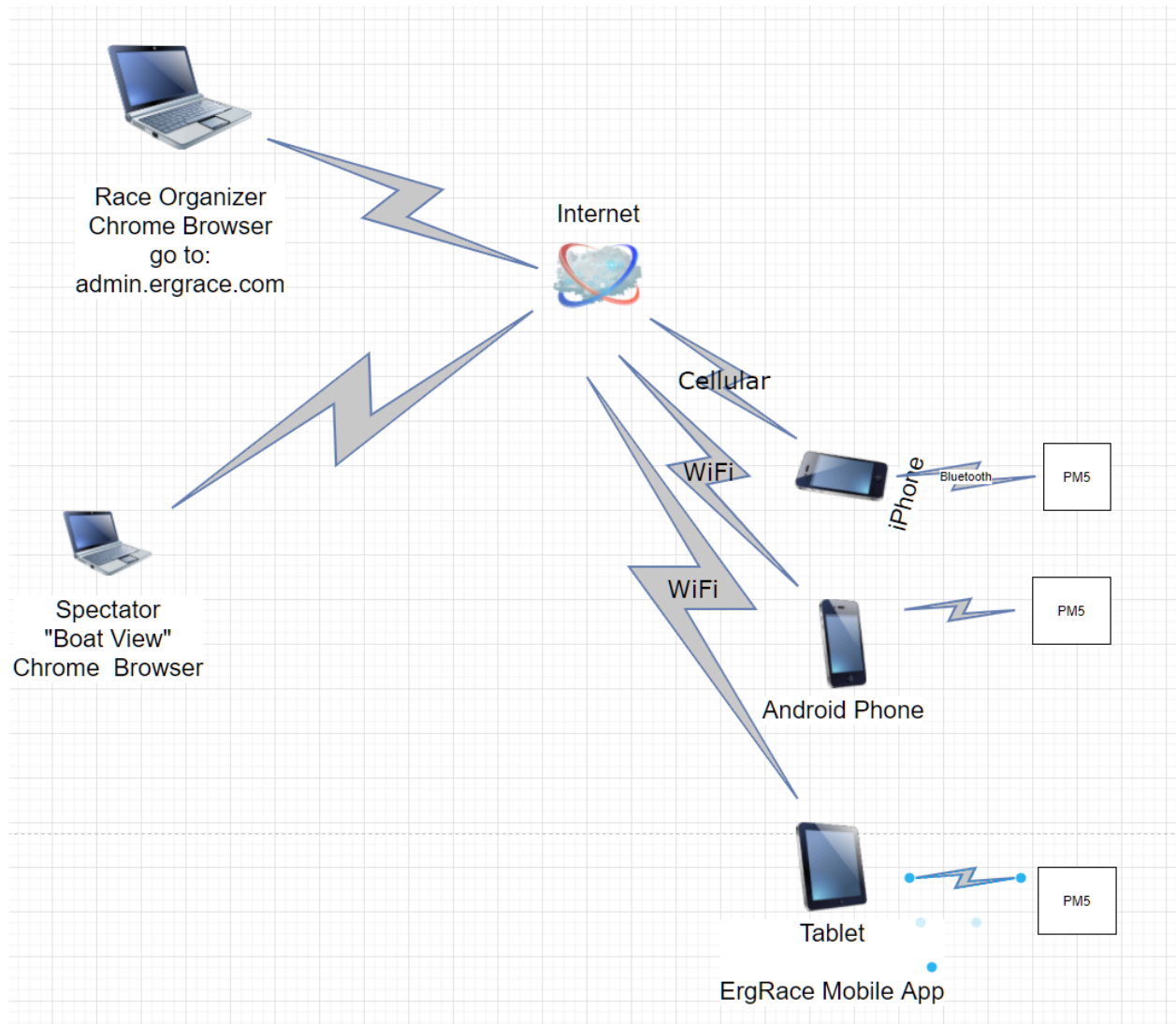
If you are having any problems connecting the PM5 or your PM5 gets “hung up” on anything:

- Ensure your PM5 has the latest firmware available
- Take the batteries out for a few minutes, put them back in and reconnect
- Ensure the batteries are good. They should be at 40% or greater

How does this all work?

Concept2 hosts an “ErgRace” server in the cloud instead of using your laptop.

Here's a diagram overview:



Alternatives For Larger Events

If the event you are planning will have / need:

- A larger number of participants
- Formally organized
- Formal and/or paid registration system
- Requirement to support PM3 and PM4, or PM5 with older firmware
- Live tech support

Then Concept2 recommends you consider a fee based services such as www.time-team.nl or www.herenow.com. Also consider contacting RegattaCentral, Regattamaster. Feel free to contact Concept2 to discuss your options.

