

# Kerala Tourism

THE HINDU

## Champions Boat League from Sept. 4

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# Champions Boat League from Sept. 4

Second edition will conclude with President's Trophy Race on November 26

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
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The second edition of the Champions Boat League (CBL) that features Kerala's iconic snakeboats will be held from September 4 to November 26 in 12 venues across five districts in Kerala, Minister for Tourism P.A. Mohamed Riyas said at a curtain-raiser here on Saturday.

The inaugural leg of the snakeboat races that are organised by Kerala Tourism will be held at Punnamada Lake in Alappuzha, alongside the Nehru Trophy Boat Race on September 4. It will conclude with the President's Trophy Race at Ashtamudi Lake in Kollam on November 26.

Besides, there will be a competition of small boats at the Chaliyar river in Kozhikode, said Mr. Riyas, who also unveiled the new jerseys of nine CBL teams. This is aimed at popularising snakeboat races in the Malabar region as well.

The CBL-2 races will be held as consecutive weekend events. Like its first edition in 2019, held on the lines of the Indian Premier League



**The race is on:** Kerala Tourism Principal Secretary K.S. Srinivas and Director P.B. Nooh with the representatives of the nine teams taking part in the upcoming IPL-model Champions Boat League in Kochi on Saturday. ■KSL

in cricket, there will be five races in Alappuzha district, two each in Kollam and Ernakulam districts and one each in Thrissur and Kottayam districts.

### Venues

The venues in Alappuzha will be Pulinkunnu, Kainakary, Karuvatta, Pandanadu (Chengannur) and Kayamkulam, besides at the district headquarters. Piravom and Marine Drive in Ernakulam, Kollam town and Kallada, Thazhathangadi (in Kot-

tayam) and Kottapuram (near Kodungalloor in Thrissur district) are the other venues.

Principal Secretary of Kerala Tourism K.S. Srinivas and the Director of Tourism P.B. Nooh too were present at the curtain-raiser. Mr Nooh said Kerala, which has over 600 km of coastline and 44 rivers, has immense potential to host more water-based events, especially since the daily life and regional festivals are closely linked with the waterbodies.

The debut CBL edition, which was flagged off by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan in the presence of cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar in August 2019, featured nine teams and carried prize money of ₹5.86 crore. Tropical Titans (traditionally Pallathuruthy Boat Club) who scored 173 points was the winner and bagged ₹1.31 crore prize money, followed by Raging Rowers (Karichal) and Mighty Oars (NCDC Devas), who got ₹82 lakh and ₹69 lakh respectively.