



Sean Ladyman (Guildford), Oliver Walters (Aquinas), Patrick Mahony (Christ Church), Johnson Daubney (Hale), Matthew Moore (Scotch), Alex Rossi (Trinity), Jonathon Allard (Wesley). Picture: Patrick Boere

Christ Church hot race favourites

RUSSELL REID

Complacency won't be an issue for favourites Christ Church Grammar in today's PSA Head of the River at Champion Lakes.

Christ Church have won all five lead-up regattas and were first across the line last weekend by almost 6sec. ahead of Scotch College.

Teacher in charge of rowing Justin Forbes said previous form counted for little. He said there was plenty of work ahead if the Christ Church first eight was to clinch the title for the first time since 2014.

"I guess it counts for a bit of form and if there is a favoured lane we will be able to pick that on the day," Forbes said.

"But throughout all those races there are a lot of highly skilled crews and ultimately when they line up at the start on Head of the River day, it doesn't count for anything.

"I guess like in footy it's a grand final and one team will win ... that's the end of it.

"That's who everyone will remember and what was done before that won't really matter."

Forbes said Christ Church would not get ahead of them-

selves despite winning the lead-up regattas comfortably.

Rating Scotch, Trinity College and Hale School as the crews to beat, Forbes said Christ Church were looking to improve after finishing runners-up behind Hale last year.

While winning the Head of the River was a priority, Forbes said Christ Church were also keen to defend the Hamer Trophy for best performed school overall.

"To win that (Head of the River) is one thing and that would be awesome for the school and crew. We also have an eye on the Hamer Cup as well," he said.