

## Risk Assessment

Competition		Loughborough Boat Club Soar Head			Date:		Mar-25							
Author		Stuart Ward			Rev:		1 3							
No:	Hazard	Reduce probability a Hazard causing a Hazardous Event		Hazardous Event	Reduce the Severity of Harm		Harm	Severity (1-5)	Probability (A-E)	Level of Risk (U/W/S/I)	Action Owners			
		Barriers	Action to maintain barriers		Controls	Action to maintain controls					Event Committee	Event RSA	Umpires & Marshalls	Control Committee
Weather & Water Conditions														
1	Dangerous conditions on the river due to high water levels and /or a fast stream together with high winds or freezing temperatures	Organisers maintain a watch on the state of the river together with the weather forecasts	Two days before the event the organising committee meet to decide on actions to take	capsize,,collision	Decide on actions - cancel the event, reduce the entry to seniors , no small boats no beginners	Inform clubs of decision	Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	3	C	Moderate	X	X		
2	Sudden bad weather	Race Committee and Safety Adviser meet to make a decision	Cancel division, no small boats, no beginners	capsize,collision	Control or prevent boating	Communicate decision to Monitors and course officials to enforce the action	Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	3	C	Moderate	X	X	X	
3	Thunder & Lightning	Follow the BR 30-30 rule and have action plan for the event	Inform all competitors and spectators how to seek shelter	Injury from lightning	Those on land seek shelter in buildings or cars Those on the water return to landing stages	Communicate decision to Monitors and course officials to enforce the action	Electrical burns, shock	3	B	Low	X	X	X	
4	Wet & Cold Conditions	Competitors expected to wear suitable clothing for the conditions	Instructions to competitors that they will not be allowed to boat unless properly dressed for the conditions	Hypothermia	Warm-up loop available for competitors between the start and Soar lane	Any competitor at the start who is suffering from the conditions can be extracted and passed to the first aid car at the start.	Hypothermia	3	C	Moderate	X		X	X
Collisions														
5	Collision in boating area	Crews boat from designate landing stages	Crews allocated a boating time	Damage to equipment or injury	marshals on stagings helping crews boat	crews directed to only row downstream and marshalls set off crews when clear	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X			
6	Collision between crews rowing to the start	crew not allowed to turn back unless under the supervision of monitors	Monitors and safety boats in place to direct and warn crews	Damage to equipment or injury	monitors and safety launches in place prior to crews boating to give warnings	monitors and safety launches are placed to have full sight of the course between them	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X		X	
7	Collision between crews racing	crews are set off in order of speed as far as possible	Crews instructed on overtaking	Damage to equipment or injury	monitors and safety launches in place prior to crews boating to give warnings	monitors and safety launches are placed to have full sight of the course between them	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X		X	
8	collision with barges and pleasure craft	All rowers made aware of what to do in the event of other craft on the course	Marshalls situated at each lock to ask craft to delay or if not possible what action to take to avoid collision	Damage to equipment or injury	monitors and safety launches in place prior to crews boating to give warnings and action to take	monitors and safety launches are placed to have full sight of the course between them	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X		X	
9	Collision with floating debris	course inspection carried out day before the race	Course inspection carried out prior to racing	Damage to equipment or capsise	Monitors to keep an eye out for floating debris before and during the race	safety launches to remove debris	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X	X		
10	Collision in the marshalling area	Instructions to competitors provide marshalling positions	Start marshalls help crews to their positions	Damage to equipment or injury	Start marshalls give warnings to avoid collision	Marshalls provided with marshalling plan and boat manoeuvring to the start line	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X		X	
11	Collision during the race	Instructions to competitors on overtaking	Any crew considered a hazard due to inexperience or disregard for the safety of others will be taken out of the race prior to the start	Damage to equipment or injury	Monitors between them have full view of the course and give warnings to avoid collision	Monitors and safety launches are in radio contact to inform each other of problems and action to take	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	3	B	Low	X		X	
12	Collision after the finish line	Instructions to competitors to keep moving after the finish	Marshall at the finish to instruct crews	Damage to equipment or injury	Crews stay in line to the landing stages	Marshall to keep control of movement	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X			X
Capsize or injury														
13	Capsize or injury during the race	clubs are expected to have provided capsise training for their crews	Any crew considered a hazard due to inexperience or disregard for the safety of others will be taken out of the race prior to the start	Danger of person in water and stationary boat in contact with racing crews	Monitors between them have full view of the course and give warnings to avoid collision	Monitors and safety launches are in radio contact to inform each other of problems and action to take	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X		X	
14	Capsize at the start	Clubs are expected to have provided capsise training for their crews	Start marshalls provided with throw bags and safety launch at the start	Injury or hypothermia	First aider and transport at the start	First aider to have up-to-date certificate, fully stocked firstaid kit and blankets.	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X		X	
15	Capsize during the race	Clubs are expected to have provided capsise training for their crews	Monitors are issued with throwbags and radios to summon safety launches	Injury or hypothermia	Monitors between them have full view of the course and give warnings to avoid collision with person in water.	Safety launches situated along the course to provide assistance quickly	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	3	B	Low	X		X	
Risks associated with the course														
16	Competitors navigating the course and bends	Detail areas of the course likely to cause steering problems	Provide competitors with a plan of the course	Collision with the bank	Monitors placed at strategic points around the bends to give warnings	Safety launches situated along the course to provide assistance quickly	Rowers caught in bank (minor inconvenience, no damage)	2	C	Low	X		X	
17	Overhanging Trees	The course cleared of branches etc. weeks before the race	Course checked week before competition	Collision with overhanging branches	Course checked on day of competition and markers placed to highlight notable obstructions	Monitors and safety launches in place to alert crews	Rowers entangled in tree (minor inconvenience, no damage)	2	C	Low	X	X	X	



										#N/A			
<b>Faulty, incorrectly set and poorly maintained equipment</b>													
	Boat needs to stop during the race and cause an obstruction	Crews and coaches responsible for checking equipment	Crews are called at their allotted time and pass through Control Commission for checks	Collision, capsize, injury	Faults found at Control Commission sent to rectify problems and present again	Boats still not fit to race are not allowed on the water	Causing obstruction	3	B	Low	X	X	
18	Safety Launch malfunction	All launches serviced prior to the event	Launch stays in position and monitors race	Launch breaks down whilst crews are proceeding to start or are racing	Spare launch available	Ensure that launch drivers and Umpires are appropriately briefed.	Possible increase in time to provide assistance if safety launch required using other launches.	3	B	Low	X	X	
<b>OTHER RISKS</b>													
19	Floating pontoon and landing stage slippery due to wet or ice	Sand & salt used on affected surfaces	Stage Marshalls to maintain good surface by regularly sweeping the stages	Slips and falls	Stage Marshalls to warn and help crews on the landing stages	Stage Marshalls to continue monitoring and helping crews	Injury	3	C	Moderate	X	X	
20	Trailer collision with narrow bridge	Drivers informed of narrow bridge also used by pedestrians	Trailer Marshalls to guide drivers	Collision with bridge rails	Role to allocate marshalls to bridge	Marshalls at bridge to remain until all expected trailers have arrived	Damage to trailers/bridge	2	C	Low	X		
21	Person Falling out of launch	All persons on a launch to wear a PFD	All Drivers to issue PFD to those joining the launch	Hypothermia	All Drivers to be certified to RYA Level 2 and able to manoeuvre to pick up person in the water	Launch box to contain space blankets and person taken to Club ASAP	Injury or cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	3	C	Moderate	X		
22	Road traffic awareness at entrance in dark conditions	Instructions to competitors make drivers aware	Signs and hazard beacons placed on road leading to the entrance	RTA	Marshalls wearing high viz in attendance at entrance	Marshalls to remain until all expected trailers have arrived	Damage to vehicles or trailers and boats	3	B	Low	X	X	X
23	Waterborne diseases	Clubs should respond to RowSafe make their rowers aware of waterborne diseases	Clubs to tell their members to consult a doctor if symptoms	Infection	Competitor Consults Doctor if suspected waterborne disease	Medical treatment	Illness	4	A	Low			X
24	Ability of young competitors to cope in wet and cold conditions and racing the Head Course	No J13 Events offered	J14 events in coxed quads only and J15 and above in double sculls or coxed quads. Only 16, 17 and 18 in single sculls	Hypothermia and unable to cope with the conditions	Clubs asked not to enter J13 above age group	Any competitor unable to cope with the conditions taken out of the race before the start	Hypothermia	3	C	Moderate	X	X	X
25	Invasive water species	Instructions to all clubs to clean, dry and check their boats and blades before going on to their waters	Reminder on the day to clean, dry and check. Direct to CRT website on information to clubs	Spread of invasive water species to various waterways	Visiting Clubs to ensure clean, dry and check routine is followed	On site facilities for cleaning boats and equipment	Increase in waterways becoming clogged with invasive species	3	C	Moderate			
<b>Pre-existing health conditions and low levels of fitness</b>													
26	Pre-existing health conditions	Clubs to be aware of any declared condition	Clubs to advise competitors and inform competition	Collapse of athlete on landing stages (e.g., asthma attack or serious fall)	Monitor contacts Race Control, who summons assistance and alerts Medical Officer and First Aid by radio.	Ensure that Monitors are properly briefed and equipped and that there are competent, well equipped first aiders, etc.	Serious health implications for competitor	3	B	Low	X		X
27	Pre-existing health conditions	Clubs to be aware of any declared condition	Clubs to advise competitors and inform competition	Collapse of athlete during a race (e.g., asthma attack)	Monitor contacts Race Control, who summons assistance and alerts Medical Officer and First Aid by radio.	Ensure that Monitors are properly briefed and equipped and that there are competent, well equipped first aiders, etc.	Serious health implications for competitor	3	C	Moderate	X		X
<b>Welfare and Safeguarding</b>													
28	Welfare issues for both Adults and Children	Welfare plan and statement produced	All officials and volunteers to be given a copy of the Plan	Inappropriate behaviour	Welfare officers on site	Competitors and visitors aware of the Welfare Plan and how to make contact with the Welfare Officers	Possible psychological and/or physical harm	4	A	Low	X	X	X
29	Person Injured or with medical condition unable to be moved back to the Clubhouse for medical attention	Emergency access along the course for ambulance/paramedics to be identified	Plan of the course identifying emergency access	Serious injury or medical condition	Identify emergency access with 'What Three Words' to give to emergency services	All Officials given course plan and briefed on emergency action	Serious health implications for competitor any race official or passing member of the public	4	B	Low	X	X	X
30	Anti-social behaviour	The course monitored by ten officials giving complete sight of activity	All officials and monitors in radio contact to summon event	Actions of outside persons intent on disrupting the race activities	Chief Marshall to receive information on any anti-social behaviour and take appropriate action	Briefing for all officials on action to take in the event of anti-social behaviour	Harm to those racing or damage to equipment	3	A	Low	X	X	X

#### NOTES

1. Safety Briefing for all Umpires, Monitors and Safety Launch Drivers prior to boats on the water - re-enforcing instructions provided earlier.
2. Briefings for individual volunteers on requirements of their job day before competition and confirm timetable
3. Registration to confirm all boats are licenced & Insured - Note - all competitors have individual insurance as part of their racing licence provided by British Rowing.
4. Competition to take place during fishing close season (15th March to 15th June)
5. Public Liability Insurance provided by British Rowing as compulsory requirement to hold competition
6. Officials and monitors have only hand held equipment (radio, loudhailer and clipboard) and stand on the riverbank footpath which should not cause an obstruction
7. The event is run under British Rowing Rules of Racing which requires the whole of the course to be visually monitored along with start and finish umpires and signs indicating the start and finish.