

Staines Amateur Regatta Risk Assessment.

2008



Instructions for Competitors & Coaches and a Map of the course are available on the Staines Amateur Regatta Website www.stainesregatta.com.

Visiting officials will be sent electronic copies and hard copies will be supplied on the day of arrival at Staines Amateur Regatta.

All movements of boats in connection with Staines Regatta are covered by the Amateur Rowing Association '[Guide to Safe Practice in Rowing](#)'. This applies to all participants whether competitors, officials or others involved in the regatta, who are responsible for self-policing against the guide. No participation will be allowed without affiliation to the ARA. An ARA membership card will be required.

Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk Assessment follows pattern set out in ARA's model in the ARA '[Guide to Safe Practice in Rowing](#)'.

Probability of Accidents	Severity of Outcome		
	Slightly harmful (Low)	Harmful (Medium)	Extremely harmful (High)
Highly unlikely (Low)	Trivial Risk	Tolerable Risk	Moderate Risk
Unlikely (Medium)	Tolerable Risk	Moderate Risk	Substantial Risk
Likely (High)	Moderate Risk	Substantial Risk	Intolerable Risk

Risks and Actions

RISK LEVEL

ACTION AND TIMESCALE

Trivial	No action required.
Tolerable	No additional controls are required. Consideration may be given to a more effective solution or improvement.
Moderate	Efforts should be made to reduce the risk. Risk reduction measures should be implemented within a defined time period. Where the moderate risk is associated with harmful/serious consequences further assessment may be necessary to establish more precisely the likelihood of harm as a basis for determining the need for improved control measures.
Substantial	The activity should not be started until the risk has been reduced. Considerable resources may have to be allocated to reduce the risk. Where the risk involves activity already in progress, urgent action should be taken.
Intolerable	Activity should not be started or continued until the risk has been reduced. If it is not possible to reduce risk even with unlimited resources, activity has to remain prohibited.

Hazard	Potential Outcome	Likelihood	Severity of Outcome	Measures to reduce risk	Overall risk
Vehicles & cycle movements and use:					
• Fall hazard while unloading boats	Injury to rowers. Damage to boats	Low	High	Reliance on competency of crews. The ARA provides guidelines on trailers and towing.	Low / Moderate
• Minor injuries during rigging	Cuts and bruises	Low	Low	St Johns Ambulance on site next to boating area.	Low
• Collision hazard due to trailers, boats and cars	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Moderate	Low	Car park marshals to ensure trailers and cars are parked to allow adequate space to manoeuvre boats & people. No spectator cars are allowed into the boating area car parks. Parking on Silvery Sands under marshal supervision on arrival.	Low
• Collision hazard on roads and paths due to cars and cycles	Injury to rowers, spectators and/or damage to boats	Moderate	Medium	Car movements marshalled on arrival on Silvery Sands. Bicycles are restricted to the paths, recommended that cyclists observing the regatta dismount along the course. Tow path is a public right of way so all involved in the regatta to be aware some cyclists may continue to cycle. Recommended all cyclists dismount in the boating area.	Low / Moderate
• Electrical Equipment, Radio PA, Computers, Cabling	Potential for Fire	Very Low	Low	All wiring will be checked the morning of the regatta.	Very Low

All Boat Movements on the Water are covered by the Amateur Rowing Association [Guide to Safe Practice in Rowing](#).

<http://www.oara-rowing.org/render.aspx?siteID=1&navIDs=1,249>

This applies to all participants, who are responsible for following the guide. Further more, coaches, marshals, umpires and all regatta officials endeavour to apply the practice based on random inspections and observation.

Failure to comply with any part of the guide in relation to equipment or behaviour will lead to the crew or participants not being able to go afloat and / or race.

General Water Safety:

Safety Launch patrol the main 500m course, with a second launch stationed in the navigation channel herding swans out of the course of crews and off the course. All safety launches are in radio contact with launch umpires and relevant regatta officials.

There will be three Umpire Launches in operation, all equipped with radios and rescue equipment.

Races are followed by Umpires in launches with a driver, who can either summon assistance from the Safety launches or provide assistance themselves if necessary.

Hazard	Potential Outcome	Likelihood	Severity of Outcome	Measures to reduce risk	Overall risk
Landing stages / Getting Afloat					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trip hazard due to items being left on the landing stages & in the boating area 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats. Trips & falls.	Moderate	Low	<p>Raft marshals instructed to minimise time crew equipment is left on staging or in boating area.</p> <p>An area for blades is provided to the side of the temporary landing platforms.</p>	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dropping Boat 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Moderate	Low	Damage to boat, to be checked for river worthiness and rechecked by marshals prior to going on the water.	Low
Proceeding to the Start. Returning after Racing					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collision with other boats (including non-regatta traffic) on way to start, in marshalling area, returning to land after racing. 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Moderate	Medium	<p>On water safety cover provided from 30 min prior to start.</p> <p>Reliance on competency of crews & coaches, and compliance with Rules of Racing and Guide to Safe Practice in Rowing, a map of the course detailing circulation patterns, warm up and warm down areas, navigation, safety launch patrol areas and emergency aid positions is supplied with the draw. This is to be adhered to with the instructions to competitors.</p> <p>Navigation Channel is buoyed, competitors may row for 150m below the finish line for warm down purposes.</p> <p>Circulation patterns circulated to athletes prior to the event, maps of the circulation pattern will be displayed at the registration tent.</p> <p>Start Marshals have full view up to Staines Railway bridge and are equipped with loud hailers.</p> <p>Marshal stationed around regatta boating area. Good visibility. Regatta Zone and Navigation channel clearly marked for non-regatta river traffic.</p>	Low / Moderate

Hazard	Potential Outcome	Likelihood	Severity of Outcome	Measures to reduce risk	Overall risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long wait in marshalling area prior to start 	Potential for hypothermia / sunstroke	Low, varies according to July weather.	Low	<p>Reliance on competency of crews and coaches supported by Amateur Rowing Association Coach education programme.</p> <p>Boating marshals to advise crews thought to have inadequate protection for the current conditions.</p> <p>Start umpires adjust race order if observed all participants present and earlier race awaiting crew.</p> <p>Crews to be reminded at registration that they may need to take extra water due to temperature on the day.</p>	Low
Safety and Umpire Launches					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and Umpire Launches 				<p>Safety Launch manned with Trained life savers, boat equipped for water rescue and will have radios.</p> <p>Umpire launches equipped with loud hailers and radios.</p> <p>All radios able to contact race control and summon aid.</p>	
During race					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incidents involving other racing crews 	Injury to rowers and/ or damage to boats	Low	Low	<p>All racing is carried out under ARA Rules of Racing and in compliance with the ARA Guide to Safe Practice in Rowing.</p> <p>Umpire following race will advise boats to move or stop as necessary if there is a safety issue.</p> <p>No warm upon the course, warm down restricted to 150m below the finish line. All competitors are advised.</p> <p>Warm up between Staines town bridge and start line, Circulation pattern reversed and as show on circulation diagram.</p>	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collision with non-regatta river traffic 	Injury to rowers and/ or damage to boats. Damage to non-	Medium	Medium	<p>Racing course buoyed off from navigation channel. Regatta Zone demarked by entry and exit yellow signs</p>	Low

Hazard	Potential Outcome	Likelihood	Severity of Outcome	Measures to reduce risk	Overall risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swans Capsize 	<p>regatta boats.</p> <p>Injury to rowers. Damage to boats. Racing impeded.</p> <p>Potential hypothermia, Drowning</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Low</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>to all river traffic.</p> <p>No firm pressure or starts allowed by rowing crews in navigation channel in 'Regatta Zone'.</p> <p>Two Safety boats patrolling Regatta Zone. Three Umpires Launches vigilant.</p> <p>Swans will be herded into a netted area prior to racing and efforts will be made to keep them in this area by feeding them throughout the regatta</p> <p>Umpires can summon safety boats. See also Guide to Safe Practice in Rowing and Coach education programme.</p>	<p>Low</p> <p>Low / Moderate</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure of engine on powered vessel 	Launch paddling off course or out of navigation channel	Very Low	Low	Radio and verbal warnings given to all crews and motor boats in the vicinity. Any boat on course, racing will be suspended until cleared.	Very Low
Environmental					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunder storms & Lightning 	Severe injury, death or damage to equipment and structures.	Low	High	<p>Race Committee to apply 30 second / 30 minute rule. When gap between visible lightning and thunder is 30 seconds or less, racing to be stopped, water to be cleared. All tents are to be evacuated, and all spectators to be advised to get into vehicles, to close doors and windows. Then to await all clear.</p> <p>All clear when lightning gap / thunder exceeds 30 seconds for 30 minutes. Weather forecast to be checked night before Regatta</p>	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Conditions 	Stream excessive and/or unfair.	Low	Medium	Ref ARA RofR 2-2-2, Event Safety Adviser and Chairman of Race Committee to monitor water conditions throughout the period of the Regatta with reference to ARA RofR 2-2-1 and act accordingly.	Low