

Staines Amateur Regatta Risk Assessment.

2011



Instructions for Competitors & Coaches, including a Safety Plan and a Map of the Course are available on the 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 the regatta are covered by the British Rowing Row Safe Guide (a 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 British Rowing. A British Rowing membership card will be required.

Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk Assessment follows the pattern set out in British Rowing's model in their Row Safe Guide.

<u>Likelihood of Harm</u>	<u>Severity of Harm</u>		
	Slight Harm	Moderate Harm	Extreme Harm
Very Unlikely	<i>Very Low Risk</i>	<i>Low Risk</i>	<i>Low Risk</i>
Unlikely	<i>Low Risk</i>	<i>Medium Risk</i>	<i>Medium Risk</i>
Likely	<i>Medium Risk</i>	<i>Medium Risk</i>	<i>High Risk</i>
Very Likely	<i>Medium Risk</i>	<i>High Risk</i>	<i>Very High Risk</i>

Risks and Actions

Category of Risk

Action and Timescale

<i>Very Low</i>	No action required.
<i>Low</i>	No additional controls are required. Consideration may be given to a more effective solution or improvement.
<i>Medium</i>	Efforts should be made to reduce the risk. Risk reduction measures should be implemented within a defined time period. Where the medium 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.
<i>High</i>	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.
<i>Very High</i>	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 Harm	Measures to Reduce Risk	Overall Risk
Vehicles & Cycle Movements and Use:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall hazard while unloading boats. 	Injury to rowers. Damage to boats.	Unlikely	Moderate	Reliance on competency of crews. British Rowing provides guidelines on trailers and towing.	Low - Medium
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor injuries during rigging. 	Cuts and bruises.	Unlikely	Slight	First Aid Service / Medical Cover on site next to boating area.	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collision hazard due to trailers, boats and cars. 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats.	Unlikely	Moderate	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 - Medium
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collision hazard on roads and paths due to cars and cycles. 	Injury to rowers, spectators and/or damage to boats.	Unlikely	Moderate	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. Recommend all cyclists dismount in the boating area.	Low - Medium
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electrical Equipment, Radio PA, Computers, Cabling. 	Potential for Fire.	Very Unlikely	Slight	All wiring will be checked the morning of the regatta.	Very Low

All Boat Movements on the Water are covered by the British Rowing Row Safe Guide

This applies to all participants, who are responsible for following the guide. Furthermore, 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:

A Safety Launch patrols 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 manned with trained life savers, are equipped for water rescue and are in radio contact with launch umpires and relevant regatta officials.

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

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 Harm	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.	Unlikely	Slight	Raft marshals instructed to minimise time crew equipment is left on staging or in boating area. An area for blades is provided to the side of the temporary landing platforms.	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dropping Boat. 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats.	Unlikely	Slight	Damage to boat - to be checked for river worthiness and rechecked by marshals prior to going on the water.	Low

Hazard	Potential Outcome	Likelihood	Severity of Harm	Measures to Reduce Risk	Overall Risk
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.	Unlikely	Moderate	<p>On water safety cover provided from 30 min prior to start.</p> <p>Reliance on competency of crews & coaches, and compliance with the Rules of Racing and Row Safe. 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. Marshal stationed around regatta boating area. Good visibility. Regatta Zone and Navigation channel clearly marked for non-regatta river traffic.</p>	Low - Medium

Hazard	Potential Outcome	Likelihood	Severity of Harm	Measures to Reduce Risk	Overall Risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long wait in marshalling area prior to start. 	Potential for hypothermia / sunstroke.	Unlikely, but varies according to July weather	Moderate	<p>Reliance on competency of crews and coaches supported by British Rowing 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 - Medium
During Race					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incidents involving other racing crews. 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats.	Very Unlikely	Moderate	<p>All racing is carried out under British Rowing Rules of Racing and in compliance with the British Rowing Row Safe Guide.</p> <p>Umpire following race will advise boats to move or stop as necessary if there is a safety issue.</p> <p>No warm up on 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 shown 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-regatta boats.	Unlikely	Moderate	<p>Racing course buoyed off from navigation channel. Regatta Zone demarked by entry and exit yellow signs 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>	Low - Medium

Hazard	Potential Outcome	Likelihood	Severity of Harm	Measures to Reduce Risk	Overall Risk
• Swans.	Injury to rowers. Damage to boats. Racing impeded.	Unlikely	Slight	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. This service will be provided by the Swan Lifeline.	Low
• Capsize.	Potential hypothermia. Drowning.	Unlikely	Moderate	Umpires can summon safety boats. See also Row Safe and Coach Education Programme.	Low - Medium
• Failure of engine on powered vessel.	Vessel paddling off course or out of navigation channel.	Very Unlikely	Slight	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					
• Thunder storms & Lightning.	Severe injury, death or damage to equipment and structures.	Very Unlikely	Extreme	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. All clear when lightning gap / thunder exceeds 30 seconds for 30 minutes. Weather forecast to be checked night before Regatta.	Low
• River Conditions.	Stream excessive and/or unfair.	Very Unlikely	Moderate	Ref. Rules of Racing 2-2-2, Event Safety Adviser and Chairman of Race Committee to monitor water conditions throughout the period of the Regatta with reference to Rules of Racing 2-1-1 and act accordingly.	Low
• Fire.	Harmful.	Very Unlikely	Moderate	None needed, BBQ is contained, gazebo for finish has open sides, water available.	Low