



RISK ASSESSMENT 2011

Instructions for Competitors, Officials, Visitors and Coaches are all available on line at www.wallingford-head.rowing.org.uk from a minimum of 14 days prior to the event. Provision is made for supplying hard copies as appropriate. Instructions detail such items as circulation patterns for vehicles and boats, location of facilities etc.

All Boat Movements on the Water are covered by British Rowing Row Safe: A Guide to Good Practice in Rowing ("The Code"). The Code applies to all participants, who are responsible for self-policing the code. Further, coaches, marshals, umpires and all regatta officials enforce the code.

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

Hazard	Potential Outcome	Likelihood	Measures to reduce risk	Overall risk
Vehicle & cycle movements and use:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall hazard while unloading boats 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reliance on competency of crews and coaches. British Rowing provides guidelines on trailers and towing. 	Low / Moderate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collision hazard due to trailers, boats and cars 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Car park marshals to ensure trailers and cars are parked to allow adequate space to manoeuvre boats & people and that no speeding is allowed Traffic to trailer park buildings is restricted to trailers and cars with boats. 	Low

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No spectator cars are allowed into the trailer car parks, but directed to alternative parking under marshal supervision. 	
Landing stages				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slip hazard due to frost / ice on the landing stages 	Injury to rowers and / or damage to boats	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rafts will be gritted and salted if temperatures are close to freezing. Slope down to rafts will be also be treated or covered in straw to reduce chances of slipping. 	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trip hazard due to items being left on the landing stages 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raft marshals instructed to minimise time crew equipment is left on staging. Blade storage is provided at the sandy bank to keep blades off the floating stages. Shoes to be cleared from the stages by coaches and raft marshals. 	Low
Prior to race start				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collision with other boats on way to start or in marshalling area 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On water safety cover provided from 20 min prior to start. Reliance on competency of crews & coaches, and compliance with the Code. Traffic rules are circulated to athletes prior to the event, non-compliance may lead to race penalties being applied. 	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long wait in marshalling area prior to start 	Potential for hypothermia	Low, varies according to November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reliance on competency of crews and coaches supported by BritishRowing Coach Education Programme. 	Low

- weather.
 - Raft marshals to advise crews, especially coxes, thought to have inadequate protection for the current conditions.

During a race

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidents involving other racing crews 	<p>Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All racing is carried out under British Rowing Rules of Racing and in compliance with the Code. All races are observed by marshals at all times. • Bank marshals along the course will advise boats to move as necessary if there is a safety issue. • No warm up on the course, and warming up is restricted to the marshalling area under strict instructions of bank marshals. 	<p>Low</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capsize 	<p>Potential hypothermia</p>	<p>Low</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Umpires & marshals along the course can summon safety boats with emergency blankets. • The water and air temperatures are unlikely to be low enough in late December to cause hypothermia given short exposure times. 	<p>Low</p>

Hazards on the course

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overhanging trees on the race line 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overhanging trees have been cut back to minimise possibility of interference. Marshals to warn boats if safety may be compromised. 	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cruisers, long boats and other river traffic 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lock Keepers at Benson Lock and Cleeve Lock will be given handouts for boats entering the rowing reach and giving advice Marshals will ensure that the bends are clear before start of racing and keep particularly vigilant in guiding cruisers etc in the area of the bends. 	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bends (1km into race) 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra marshals allocated to keep crews visible at all times and advise on safe line. 	Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four-arches Railway Bridge 	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take care going through narrow arches and under control of marshals. 	Low

Thunder storms

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lightning | Severe injury, death or damage to equipment and structures. | Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Race Committee to apply 30 second / 10 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 10 minutes.• In the case of lightning, all blades MUST be put flat on the ground and not held by athletes or coaches. | Very Low |
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Inclement Weather

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Squalls, heavy rain, sleet, snow, fog, severe crosswinds, etc | Severe injury, death or damage to equipment and structures. | Moderate | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Race Committee to assess conditions and agree time delay(s), postponement of racing, cancellation of all racing, or cancellation of classes of crews felt to be at particular risk in the conditions.• Participants will be advised of situation over the public address system. | Low |
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