

## Risk Assessment for the Champion of the Thames Rowing Club Junior Sculls Head, Sunday 19 March 2022.

|  |                   | <i>Probability of accident</i> |                  |                  |
|--|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|  |                   | Highly unlikely                | Unlikely         | Likely           |
| <i>Se<br/>ve<br/>rit<br/>y<br/>of<br/>ou<br/>tc<br/>o<br/>me</i> | Slightly Harmful  | Trivial risk                   | Tolerable risk   | Moderate risk    |
|  | Harmful           | Tolerable risk                 | Moderate risk    | Substantial risk |
|  | Extremely Harmful | Moderate risk                  | Substantial risk | Intolerable risk |

| Hazard   | Potential Outcome   | Likelihood | Severity of outcome | Measures to reduce risk  | Likelihood after measures | Severity of outcome |
|--|---|------------|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------|
| <b><i>On Land</i></b>  |   |            |                     |  |                           |                     |
| Fall hazard when unloading/moving boats  | Injury to rowers / damage to equipment                    | Unlikely   | Harmful             | - Reliance on competency of crews & coaches. British Rowing provide guidelines on the use of trailers/towing.<br>- Marshals will be stationed around trailer unloading areas to ensure trailers are parked sensibly. | Highly unlikely           | Tolerable           |
| Collision hazard on towpath between cycling spectators/coaches and members of the public | Injury to spectators / bank parties / members of public   | Unlikely   | Harmful             | - Signs placed along towpath, together with the presence of marshals and at either end warning the public an event is in progress.<br>- Marshals to intervene if they observe unsafe use of the towpath              | Highly unlikely           | Tolerable           |
| <b><i>Prior to race start</i></b>  |   |            |                     |  |                           |                     |
| Navigation through Green Dragon Bridge   | Restricted visibility on corner – potential for collision | Likely     | Extremely Harmful   | - Extra marshals in vicinity of bridge.<br>- River closure for non-racing crews to reduce the number of other vessels on the water   | Highly unlikely           | Moderate            |

| <b>Hazard</b>   | <b>Potential Outcome</b>  | <b>Likelihood</b> | <b>Severity of outcome</b> | <b>Measures to reduce risk</b>  | <b>Likelihood after measures</b> | <b>Severity of outcome</b> |
|---|---|-------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Collision with other boats on the way to the start or in marshalling area | Potential for serious injury to rowers and/or damage to equipment; possibility of capsize | Unlikely          | Extremely Harmful          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Boating will begin only when directed by designated marshals at Combined, Clare/Emmanuel, and outside City/99s.</li> <li>- Marshals in position along course before boating begins</li> <li>- River Closure in place, plus Cambridge Clubs will be asked to ensure their non-competing boats (e.g.: senior VIIIs) are off the water in advance of boating beginning.</li> <li>- Reliance on competency of crews and compliance with <i>Row Safe: A Guide to Good Practice in Rowing</i></li> <li>- Spot checks on boat safety will be carried out prior to crews boating</li> <li>- In event of reduced visibility, crews will be instructed not to boat</li> <li>- crews are required to have a bank party</li> </ul> | Highly unlikely                  | Moderate                   |
| Long wait in marshalling area prior to start                              | Potential for hypothermia   | Likely            | Harmful                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Competitors advised in advance of likelihood of inclement weather and the need to wear adequate clothing.</li> <li>- Marshals to advise crews thought to have inadequate protection for conditions on the day.</li> <li>- Marshals will carry thermal blankets and be extra vigilant if weather is cold.</li> <li>- Marshals to ensure prompt marshalling of boats at the start; Chief Marshal (at P&amp;E) will turn boats back if they arrive too late compete.</li> <li>- Reliance on competence of crews and coaches to be properly equipped.</li> <li>- Spot checks on boat safety will be carried out prior to crews boating</li> </ul>  | Unlikely                         | Moderate                   |
| Capsize whilst waiting at the start                                       | Potential for hypothermia   | Unlikely          | Harmful                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Start crew and marshals will carry throw-lines and thermal blankets</li> <li>- Designated marshal i/c pre-start marshalling will be equipped with hot drink and extra blankets/ clothing</li> </ul>  | Highly unlikely                  | Tolerable                  |

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|---|--|-------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b><i>During Race</i></b>   |  |                   |                            |   |                                  |                            |
| Collision between racing crews  | Possibility of serious injury to competitors/damage to equipment, possibility of capsize | Unlikely          | Extremely Harmful          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crews to be started at sensible intervals to avoid the need for overtaking where possible.</li> <li>- Boat classes to be started in correct order.</li> <li>- Marshals can observe the entire course and will intervene if necessary</li> <li>- Racing carried out under guidance of BR water safety code.</li> <li>- Spot checks on boat safety will be carried out prior to crews boating</li> <li>- Crews are required to have a bank party</li> <li>- Racing to be stopped in event of a capsize on course.</li> </ul> | Highly unlikely                  | Moderate                   |
| Collision between racing crew and static object, e.g.: bank or moored powerboat | Possibility of serious injury to competitors/damage to equipment, possibility of capsize | Unlikely          | Extremely Harmful          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Marshals at key locations on course (especially Ditton Corner and the willow tree), and will intervene as needed.</li> <li>- Spot checks on boat safety will be carried out prior to crews boating</li> <li>- Crews are required to have a bank party</li> </ul>   | Highly unlikely                  | Moderate                   |
| Collision at finish area  | Possibility of serious injury to competitors/damage to equipment, possibility of capsize | Unlikely          | Extremely Harmful          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Marshals at finish will instruct crews to keep moving after course completed</li> <li>- Spot checks on boat safety will be carried out prior to crews boating</li> <li>- Crews are required to have a bank party</li> </ul>  | Highly unlikely                  | Moderate                   |
| <b><i>Inclement Weather</i></b>   |  |                   |                            |   |                                  |                            |
| Thunderstorms   | Possibility of severe injury/death; damage to equipment                                  | Highly Unlikely   | Extremely Harmful          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Race committee/Chief Marshal to apply 30-second/10-minute rule. When gap between visible lightning and thunder is 30 seconds or less racing to be stopped and water to be cleared as fast as is safely possible.</li> </ul>  | Highly unlikely                  | Moderate                   |
| Squalls, heavy rain, sleet, snow, strong crosswind,etc                          | Possibility of severe injury, death or damage to equipment                               | Unlikely          | Extremely Harmful          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Race committee check forecast via Met. Office website, and inspects river 24 hours prior to the race.</li> <li>- Race committee to assess conditions and agree time delay(s), cancellation of all racing or cancellation of crew classes felt to be at particular risk in the conditions.</li> <li>- Participants to be advised by marshals and at race control.</li> </ul>  | Highly unlikely                  | Moderate                   |

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|--|---|-------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fog significantly reducing visibility  | Possibility of severe injury, death or damage to equipment  | Unlikely          | Extremely Harmful          | - Race committee to assess conditions and agree time delay(s) or cancellation of all racing.<br>- Participants to be advised by marshals and at race control.   | Highly unlikely                  | Moderate                   |
| Floods / strong stream   | Strong stream increasing possibility of collision/ swamping / making safe navigation difficult            | Unlikely          | Extremely Harmful          | - Race committee to cancel all racing if they consider conditions dangerous or if the Conservators of the River Cam so advise.<br>- River levels to be monitored via the Environment Agency website   | Highly unlikely                  | Moderate                   |
| <b><i>General events</i></b>   |   |                   |                            |   |                                  |                            |
| Worsening of existing condition in competitor or spectator: e.g. asthma attack | Severe illness / fatality   | Highly Unlikely   | Extremely Harmful          | - Reliance on crews to know of existing conditions and required treatment.<br>- Marshal to summon emergency services by mobile phone.<br>Marshals hold GPS/Postcode lists for all access points to the river to guide emergency services.<br>St John Ambulance will provide first aid as needed   | Highly unlikely                  | Moderate                   |
| Transgression of powered craft on course                                       | Collision with possibility of severe injury, death or damage to equipment                                 | Highly Unlikely   | Extremely Harmful          | - Event advertised in advance to local boating community and with the conservators of the river Cam.<br>- Marshal at lock will warn boats arriving at the lock that the river is closed for racing.<br>- Marshals at Green Dragon / railings will warn boats moving downstream well before the finish.<br>If boats should fail to stop all marshals will be informed by radio and the racing will be stopped. | Highly unlikely                  | Moderate                   |
| Infection contracted from contact with river water                             | Weils Disease (Leptospirosis), or unspecified gastro enteric infections causing diarrhoea and/or vomiting | Unlikely          | Harmful                    | Instructions issued in advance to competitors highlight these risks. Competitors are advised to cover open cuts prior to boating, wash any cuts sustained during the race immediately afterwards, and to keep water bottles in waterproof plastic bags.   | Highly unlikely                  | Tolerable                  |

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|---------------|--|-------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Covid-19      | Spread of covid-19 between competitors, coaches, supporters, organising club members, and others | Likely            | Harmful                    | Instructions issued in advance to competitors highlight these risks. Event held largely outside which is less of a risk; in indoor areas and whilst on the hards, mask-wearing is mandatory (masks can be removed when competitors are in boats). Anyone who should be isolating with covid-19 (e.g.: after a positive test), or who is displaying symptoms of covid-19 should not travel to the event. Competitors, coaches, and marshals are all asked to take a lateral flow test in the 24 hours before the event and only attend if this is negative. All rowers boating under their own club COVID19 risk assessment. | Unlikely                         | Moderate                   |

S O Venn, 16 Feb 2022