

The Hampton Heads Risk Assessment and Safety Plan

The Hampton Small Boats Head is usually raced in late November or early December, the Hampton Fours and Eights Head in late January or early February. Both are processional races over approximately 3000m from Sunbury Lock to Hurst Park, East Molesey on the River Thames.

Hampton 4s & 8s Head. Saturday 6 Feb 2016.

Event Organisers: A. Crawford, N. Double, C. Greenaway, Hampton School Boat Club.

Safety Plan.

1. The events are run according to the British Rowing Rules of Racing and British Rowing's Row Safe: A Guide to Good Practice in Rowing ("Row Safe") as well as the navigation and competition rules of the Environment Agency.
2. Competitors are responsible for their own safety, ensuring that their boats are safe and are prepared to the standards required by the "Row Safe" and the British Rowing Rules of Racing. Any boat that fails to meet the standard may be excluded from the race Rule 2-3-8).
3. Competing clubs and coaches are responsible for deciding whether their crews are competent to race in the prevailing weather conditions.
4. The organisers will decide before the event, or on the day, whether to allow the event to proceed depending on the river and weather conditions, and the advice of the Environment Agency.
5. Competitors must read and understand the competitors' instructions and examine the map of the course. They must be aware of the main local hazards and navigation directions, and must respond to the instructions of the race officials and umpires.

Accident Plan.

6. In the event of an accident or incident, the nearest race official will take steps to rescue any endangered individual(s), to coordinate the assistance of other marshals or officials, to summon first aid assistance or an ambulance (see map) and to prevent any further accidents.

Grid references

Hurst Park

TQ 142 692

Ferry Road

TQ 134 690

Sunbury Court

TQ 113 688

Hampton Sailing club

TQ 141 694

7. If necessary, a race official at the scene of the accident should contact the Chief Umpire to request that the race be stopped.

8. All officials afloat must ensure that they have equipment in their launch to assist with a rescue (i.e. throw line, lifejacket, thermal blanket).

4. Any accident or incident must be reported to the Chief Umpire and Safety Officer and recorded in the Incident/Accident Report Log held at the Millennium Boathouse. Reportable incidents will be notified to the Regional Water Safety Adviser and copied to British Rowing. Near-miss incidents will also be reported to the Regional Water Safety Advisor.

5. All officials involved in the organisation of the event will have access to a mobile telephone and a list of relevant numbers; key officials will have radios.

Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment Matrix

Probability of Accidents	Severity of Outcome		
	Slightly (Low)	harmful (Medium)	Extremely (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.

Risks to Competitors at the Hampton Heads and their management:

Hazard:	Probability H / M / L	Severity H / M / L	Risk Level:	Action to control risk.:
Collision between crews marshalling.	Medium	Low	Tolerable	Crews issued with circulation map, marshals to monitor and direct crews.
Collision involving racing crews.	Medium	Medium	Moderate	Racing lanes marked by buoys. Racing course monitored by marshals.
Collision between crews and fixed hazards.	Low	Medium	Tolerable	Local hazards marked on map. Course monitored by marshals.
Damage or injury resulting from collision.	Low	Medium	Tolerable	Competitors responsible for condition of boats, checked by control commission. First aiders on site. Nurse at Hurst Park. Ambulance access points at Sunbury Park, Millennium Boathouse and Hurst Park.
Capsize or swamping.	Low	Medium	Tolerable	Course monitored by at least 6 launches. Marshals have loudhailers, radios and telephones to summon assistance. Life jackets may be checked by control commission.
Obstruction to racing crews by crews warming up or cooling down	Low	Low	Trivial	Course monitored by marshals and race monitors/umpires. Circulation pattern for boating/finish area issued.
Sudden bad weather causing dangerous rowing conditions.	Low	Medium	Tolerable	Chief Umpire will stop racing, stewards will halt boating, marshals will assist crews in returning to boating area.
High rate of river	Medium	Medium	Moderate	Weather forecast and Environment Agency advice

flow.				consulted before event. Conditions leading up to event monitored. Racing for the youngest crews may be suspended. Event may be cancelled.
Collapse of athlete on land.	Low	Medium	Tolerable	On Surrey side, boating marshal or other official summon Nurse by mobile telephone or radio. At Millennium Boathouse summon first-aider or call ambulance.
Collapse of athlete in boat.	Low	High	Moderate	Nearest marshal to facilitate movement of crew to nearest landing point, Sunbury Park, Millennium Boathouse or Hurst Park. At Hurst Park, summon Nurse by mobile telephone or radio. At other points, first-aider should make an assessment and call ambulance if necessary.
Danger from other river traffic (no river closure)	Medium	High	Substantial	River traffic diversion signs in place. Buoys mark racing course. Suspend racing if a boat presents a clear collision danger.
Danger from other river traffic (river closed).	Low	High	Moderate	Look out for any traffic movements. Attempt to enforce closure notice. Suspend racing if a boat presents a clear collision danger.

River conditions and other factors affecting the race will be assessed over the five days prior to the race. A marshals' meeting, attended by the Chief Umpire, is held on the Friday, one day before the race, and a decision made to proceed. The event organiser will make a final assessment and decision on the morning of the race. Once the race has started, the Chief Umpire will be responsible for any decision to suspend or cease racing.