

Lincoln Head Risk Assessment
Sunday 12 March 2017

Risk Estimator - Row Safe Guide Modification of the British Standard 8800 2004			
		Severity of Harm	
Likelihood of Harm	Slight Harm	Moderate Harm	Extreme harm
Very unlikely	Very low risk	Low risk	Low risk
Unlikely	Low risk	Medium risk	Medium Risk
Likely	Medium risk	Medium risk	High Risk
Very likely	Medium risk	High risk	Very high risk
Category of risk			Evaluation of acceptability
Very low risk	Acceptable		
Low risk	Risks should be reduced so that they are acceptable if reasonably practical to do so.		
Medium Risk			
High Risk			
Very high risk	Unacceptable		
Risk Level	Acceptability; guidance on necessary action and timescale		
Very low risk	Risks in this category are considered acceptable. No further measures should be taken other than to ensure that the controls are maintained.		

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Low risk	<p>No additional controls are required unless these can be implemented easily (in terms of time, money and effort).</p> <p>Actions which will further reduce these risks are given low priority.</p> <p>Ensure that all controls are maintained.</p>	
Medium Risk	<p>It should be considered whether the risks can be lowered to an acceptable level. However the costs and additional risk of reduction measures should be taken in to account.</p> <p>The risk reduction measures should be implemented within a defined time period.</p> <p>Ensure that all controls are maintained, particularly if the risk levels are associated with harmful consequences.</p>	
High Risk	<p>Substantial efforts should be made to reduce the risk.</p> <p>Risk reduction measures should be put in place immediately within a defined time period and it may be necessary to consider suspending or restricting the activity until this has been completed.</p> <p>Considerable resources may have to be allocated to any additional control measures.</p> <p>Ensure that all controls are maintained, particularly if the risk levels are associated with very harmful or extremely harmful consequences.</p>	
Very high risk	<p>These risks are unacceptable.</p> <p>Substantial improvements to risk control are necessary in order to reduce the risk to a tolerable or acceptable level.</p> <p>The activity should be suspended until risk controls are implemented that will reduce the risk to an acceptable level. If this is not possible then the activity should remain prohibited.</p>	
	<p>Note: Where the risk is associated with extremely harmful consequences, further assessment is necessary to increase confidence in the actual likelihood of harm.</p>	

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POTENTIAL HAZARD	PERSONS AT RISK	PROBABILITY VU/U/L/VL	SEVERITY S / M / E	RISK LEVEL	PLANNED ACTION TO CONTROL HAZARD TO AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL
PRE RACE					
Notification					All River Authorities, Emergency Services & Clubs that use the River Witham informed of the event.
Communication Systems, Safety Equipment and Safety Launches					To be tested the week prior to the event & on the day prior to racing. All launches carrying safety equipment as per the current Row Safe Good Practice Guide, chapter 2.4. All launches to be checked on the day.
Inspect full course of river to identify hazards	Officials	Very likely	Moderate harm	High Risk	Remove floating debris plus overhanging branches.
Course Safety Measures	Officials Safety Competitors	Likely	Moderate harm	Medium Risk	All competitors to be briefed via an email sent to club representatives, advising of course, expected conditions & marked hazards. Marshals, monitors & launch drivers to attend safety meeting prior to racing. All officials to be in position in adequate time with safety equipment & written instructions.

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WEATHER AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS					
Difficult weather or water conditions	Officials & Competitors	Likely	Moderate Harm	Medium Risk	Observation of local Weather Authorities forecasts will be carried out the week prior to the event, with a decision made on the day to run or cancel the event. A higher level of competence may be required in order to compete. Where necessary, a division start may be cancelled or delayed. Smaller boat events may be withdrawn on the day.
Severe storm, thunder and lightening	Officials & Competitors	Very Unlikely	Extreme Harm	Low Risk	Use the 30/30 rule to delay or cancel as advised in the current Row Safe Good Safety guide.
Water borne diseases	Officials Competitors	Unlikely	Moderate Harm	Medium Risk	Cover all broken skin with dressings and seek first aid. Competitors notified of Leptospirosis (Weil's disease) risk and advised to wash hands after competing.
Low water restricting width of river	Officials Competitors	Unlikely	Moderate harm	Low Risk	Race controller to review entry numbers to reduce the size of entry.
Fog	Officials Competitors	Likely	Moderate harm	High Risk	Race controller to decide if race safe to continue with regard to density and visibility. Division start may be delayed or cancelled.

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MOTOR LAUNCHES AND MOTOR MOVEMENT					
Personal safety clothing, Hypothermia	Officials	Very unlikely	Moderate Harm	Low Risk	Safety officials only allowed to go afloat with sufficient clothing for all potential weather conditions. Maintain regular radio contact and check ups with those in launches.
TRANSPORTATION OF BOATS BY MECHANICAL MEANS					
Unsuitable equipment	Officials Competitors	Unlikely	Moderate Harm	Medium Risk	All clubs must supply properly and regularly maintained equipment for their members, following British Rowing guidelines, which is safe and adequate for their members. Random checks as well as visual checks will be taken out.
Competitors clothing	Competitors	Likely	Extreme Harm	High risk	Competitors must dress suitably for the weather conditions, it is the responsibility of the individual to ensure they are adequately dressed.

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					Inappropriately dressed competitors may be refused permission to boat.
Capsize during embarking from steps	Competitors	Likely	Moderate Harm	Medium Risk	Ensure all boats are held on steps by at least one person. Ensure oars are fitted correctly in place with gates locked. Step marshal's and safety launches in place. Multiple LRC helpers available identified by high-visibility vests. Throw lines and buoyancy aids available in boating areas.
Competitors in the water (at all stages)	Competitors	Likely	Moderate Harm	Medium Risk	Under British Rowing guidelines all competitors must be competent swimmers or wear a PFD. Coxswains must wear life jackets that confirm to EN standards, and carry CE mark of approval. Coxswains in a bow loader must wear manually operated life jackets. All monitors issued with throw bags & radios to alert all areas of course. Safety launches positioned strategically along the course.
PROCEEDING TO THE START/START AREA					

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Capsize proceeding to start area/at start area	Competitors	Unlikely	Moderate Harm	Medium Risk	Course monitored throughout its length with safety launches. Vehicle access points identified with hot spots. All chief officials to be informed.
Collisions between competitor boats	Competitors	Likely	Extreme Harm	High Risk	Crews informed of navigation rules. Course monitored throughout its length. Safety launches placed along course. Crews not allowed to row down the course once reached the start prior to the start, unless instructed by marshals to do so, who should then inform the race controller.
Collisions with boats other than those taking part in the Head Race	Competitors & Public	Unlikely	Moderate Harm	Medium Risk	Crews informed of navigation rules. All monitors & safety launches informed of other river traffic on course. Other river users to be informed prior to race day outlining the timetable of the day. Race controller to be informed.
All officials in place	Competitors	Unlikely	Extreme Harm	Medium Risk	All marshal's, monitors, launch drivers to report to race controller stating they are in position and viewed river conditions.

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RACING					
Incident causing blockage of racing course	Officials Competitors Public	Unlikely	Moderate Harm	Medium Risk	Course monitored throughout with radio communication to race controller, who can halt racing through the monitors and safety launches.
Incident through sudden difficult weather of water conditions	Officials Competitors Spectators	Likely	Moderate Risk	High Risk	Weather and water condition assessed and either restrict competitors to higher levels of competence or cancel. Contact between all areas of the course.
Collision with commercial passenger boat during race	Officials Competitors	Unlikely	Moderate Rise	Medium Risk	Negotiation with proprietor to avoid travelling on course during the short period when the crews are racing. Race controller to be informed.
Collisions between racing crews	Competitors	Likely	Slight Harm	Medium Risk	Monitor & safety launch presence increased at difficult bends to give warnings, course maps given to crews prior to event, buoys placed if necessary.
Capsize during the race	Officials Competitors	Unlikely	Moderate Harm	Medium Risk	Course monitored throughout length. Safety launches positioned along course, vehicle access points & hot spots identified. All officials and monitors in radio contact
Crews not completing race due to damage of boat or competitors.	Competitors	Unlikely	Extreme Harm	Medium Risk	Sweeper launch to follow last competitors through the finish. Competitors to pull into the correct side of the river as directed by safety marshals and the course information sent prior to the race.

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Collision with Fish Nursery	Competitors/Officials in Launches	Unlikely	Moderate Harm	Low Risk	Refer to Course Schematic: The fish nurseries are pre-existing small trees that have been cut and flattened up to 2m into the river course and secured by metal cables held in place by metal spikes driven into the bank and river bed. They are clearly marked by warning signs in the river. Marshals are also stationed in their vicinity with throw lines and megaphones.
RACE FINISH					
Capsize at the finish area	Officials Competitors	Unlikely	Moderate Harm	Medium Risk	Finish marshals in place with throw lines and first aid close-by. Safety launch in place.
Collisions/contact between finished crews and racing crews	Competitors	Likely	Slight Harm	Medium Risk	Finish marshal's in place to control boats. Crews not allowed to row back down the course. Finishing circulation patterns to be observed as per finishing area map.
Collisions with commercial passenger boats	Officials Competitors Public	Unlikely	Moderate harm	Medium Risk	Negotiation with proprietor to avoid travelling on finish area.
Collapse of athlete caused by state of health eg asthmatic attack, exhaustion, dehydration.	Competitors	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Call local medical help. Phone numbers on notice board – 999. Safety Officer to be informed to ensure emergency services contacted.
Anti-social behaviour from local or other people	Officials Competitors Public	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	The race controller to be notified who will immediately call the Police and consider whether the race is to be interrupted or cancelled.

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BOAT HANDLING					
Transporting Boats from water, to boat area. Manual handling	Officials Competitors Public	Likely	Moderate harm	Medium Risk	Ensure sufficient personnel to move boat safely. Lift boat using Kinetic Technique. Ensure clear walkway clear from trip hazards. Walk with boats, no running. Marshals to be deployed at steps to control area with signs directing boats if appropriate.
Incorrectly disassemble causing damage or harm	Officials Competitors	Very Unlikely	Moderate harm	Low Risk	Use correct tools and an experienced person to check the boat after it has been dissembled. A clear area is to be maintained.
Loading boats onto trailers and cars	Officials Competitors	Likely	Extreme Harm	High Risk	Safe area to be established (which does not block rights of way). Trailers to be made secure and stable. Sufficient number of people to handle the unloading safely. A look out used to ensure a clear zone. Area to be kept clear from trip hazards.
Blocking of public roads and car parks	Officials Competitors Spectators Public	Likely	Slight Harm	Medium Risk	Trailers to remain in trailer area. Marshals to monitor and keep cycle path clear, pre-race information to state designated parking areas for each club.
Attaching trailer to towing vehicle causing harm	Officials Competitors	Unlikely	Moderate harm	Medium Risk	Towing vehicle to be made safe, only experienced person to couple towing vehicle and use sufficient persons to move trailer.
Injury from moving vehicles	Officials Competitors Public	Unlikely	Extreme Harm	Moderate harm	Vehicle lights to be illuminated and hazard warning lights used. Vehicle to be escorted at walking pace to main road. All escorts to wear high-vis clothing. Must be controlled by a look out.
Hypothermia					

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Hypothermia (non-immersion)	Competitors	Unlikely	Extreme Harm	Medium Risk	Competitors to be appropriately dressed for the conditions. Competitors considered at risk to be withdrawn from event.
Event organisers, officials, marshals and launch drivers	Officials	Unlikely	Extreme Harm	Medium Risk	All persons to be adequately dressed for conditions. Regular radio contact to be maintained and warm areas to be used.
RACE OFFICIALS, MARSHALS AND VOLUNTEERS					
Loss of personnel	Officials & Competitors	Unlikely	Extreme Harm	Medium Risk	All officials to carry a mobile phone with phone number given to race coordinators. All officials to carry a two way radio system. A deployment chart to be used (record name, area deployed, time despatched and returned).

Completed By: Rob Newbutt Signed: _____ Date: 14/02/2017