

Risk Assessment Maidstone Winter Series November 2023

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
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| What are the hazards? | Who might be harmed? | Likelihood | Consequences | Score 3 X 4 | Is the risk adequately controlled and how? | What further action is necessary to control the risk? | Review comments / Review date |
| Hypothermia | Competitors | 1 | 4 | 4 | All competitors will be reminded during the event briefing to wear appropriate clothing. There will be first aiders present during the event | Race organisers/Marshals First aiders | |
| Capsize at start | Paddlers | 3 | 1 | 3 | In the event of adverse or extreme conditions, the event will be postponed or cancelled All participants will be capable of swimming 25 metres with Bouyancy Aids if necessary Help with getting onto the bank will be present Observers on bankside to warn of approaching river traffic | Briefing to warn participants on the day of any potential hazards on the course | |

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| Capsize while racing | Paddlers | 2 | 2 | 4 | <p>As above</p> <p>If no bankside help there is easy access to banks for most of the course In more difficult areas boat crews to be placed to help in rescues</p> <p>Competition rules to apply in that if there are any paddler in distress other racers should stop and help</p> <p>Marshalls in place at portages and turn points</p> <p>Rules demand that the boat is able to support swimmer</p> <p>Safety boats will be in attendance for Lightning Classes</p> | <p>As above</p> <p>Briefing notes</p> <p>Marshals</p> <p>Adequate safety boat crews</p> | |
| Drowning | Paddlers/spectators | 1 | 3 | 3 | <p>Safety throw lines available with Marshals</p> <p>BAs to be worn by younger/inexperienced competitors and all Div 7-9 paddlers</p> | <p>Briefing notes</p> <p>Marshals</p> | |
| Manual handling – putting kayaks on and taking kayaks off the water | Competitors, Spectators, Marshals | 1 | 2 | 2 | <p>Trained first aid officer will be in attendance</p> <p>First Aid Kits available</p> <p>Marshals to landing stage clear of all persons not</p> | <p>Marshal's briefing</p> <p>Competitors briefing</p> <p>Marshals at portages to have phones and first aid kits</p> | |

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| | | | | | required for launching boats Boats to be emptied of water when necessary e.g. after capsize to reduce weight and risk of breakage/injury | | |
| Slipping on landing stage or access stairs | Competitors, helpers Marshals | 2 | 3 | 6 | As above. There is a handrail on the steps and anti-slip surface on the landing stage. | Marshals Participants to be briefed and advised not to carry boats down the five metal steps but to lift them down from bankside when standing on the landing stage. | |
| Vehicles – cars in car park | All attendees | 1 | 4 | 4 | Mobile phone access is available for local services Car parking Marshals to warn competitors and helpers to take car when carrying boats across the car park | Marshals in car park Other car park users to be pre-warned of the race and the amount of boats that will be present | |
| Fire in clubhouse | All attendees | 1 | 2 | 2 | Fire exits are clearly marked. Fire extinguishers available where necessary and fire blanket in kitchen | Advise attendees at briefing | |
| Town section high level bridge to Millennium foot bridge. High banks | Race participants | 2 | 2 | 4 | Competition rules are to go in aid of any paddler in distress | Marshals in boats | |
| East Farleigh Lock Collisions | Competitors Marshals Members of the public | 1 | 2 | 2 | Marshals to control paddlers Warn them of running and of members of the public Warn members of the | Marshals | |

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| | | | | | public | | |
| Slips and trips at portages | Competitors on long course Marshals | 1 | 1 | 1 | Race briefing to inform all of footwear needed. Portage routes to be checked before race | Briefing Marshals at portages | |
| Collision on water | Competitors and other river users | 1 | 1 | 1 | Competitors take racing line ie close to banks on bends(ie away from other craft) or otherwise observing rule of navigation | <p>Briefing Marshals/Race organisers</p> <p>EA to put out Notice to Mariners. Rowing club made aware of the race</p> <p>MRUA to be made aware of the race</p> <p>EA to be made aware of the race</p> <p>Other river users made aware of event as much as is feasibly possible</p> | |
| Awareness of Weils disease | Paddlers | 1 | 3 | 3 | Risk or water born disease is low on the River Medway Paddlers to understand the importance of washing hands and showering | Briefing Race Organisers Provision of showers | |
| Moored boats and other river user traffic | Paddlers | 2 | 3 | 6 | Paddlers advised to keep right of the river Other river users made aware of event as much as is feasibly possible | Briefing Marshals | |

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| first aid | Paddlers/spectators | 1 | 3 | 3 | Several members of the Canoe Club/Marshals are trained in first aid | Club Members/Marshals | |
| Emergency | Paddlers/Spectators/Public | 1 | 4 | 4 | Marshals will have mobile phones Have local knowledge | Marshals/race organisers | |
| Towpath Collisions | Spectators/supporters | 1 | 4 | 4 | Anyone following the race on bicycles to be made aware that they must give way to all other towpath users at all times and keep their speed to a minimum Event notices posted | Marshals/Race organisers Briefing | |

LIKELIHOOD - SCORE 1-5 – the more likely it is that the hazard occurs the higher the score

CONSEQUENCES – SCORE 1-5 – the level of harm that will arise – the more harm the greater the score

Multiply the Likelihood score by the Consequences score to assess whether the risk is acceptable and the level of action required to control the risk.

Total Score = 1-6 low risk activity can take place, 8-15 medium risk put extra measures in place for activity to continue, 16-25 high risk activity should not take place as planned.