

**BLENHEIM PALACE
JUNIOR REGATTA
SATURDAY 8 JUNE 2019**

**A SERIES OF RACES IN VARIOUS CLASSES ROWED UNDER BRITISH
ROWING RULES
ON THE LAKE AT BLENHEIM PALACE**

SAFETY PLAN

EVENT ORGANISER :

BLENHEIM PALACE REGATTA COMMITTEE

Race Committee Chairman:

Dave Hancock – on site radio net

Safety Advisor:

Axel Dickinson – 07957186729

Race Control:

Alice Vine - on site radio net

Welfare Officer:

Tania Baird – 07985353310

Other Contacts:

Thames Valley Police:

0845 8 505 505 (non-emergency)

Ambulance Service (off site):

01865 740 100

On site First Aid:

On site radio net

John Radcliffe Hospital:

01865 741 166

ASSESSMENT OF RISK TO HEALTH AND OR SAFETY TO THOSE PERSONS:

1. ON THE LAKE; OR

**2. BY THE LAKE OR GENERALLY IN THE PALACE GROUNDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE EVENT
(being the car and trailer park, footpath to, and spectator and boating areas)**

THEY MAY BE CATEGORISED AS FOLLOWS:

A. THOSE PERSONS COMPETING IN THE RACE (CREWS);

B. EVENT OFFICIALS SUPERVISING THE RACE;

C. CREWS PROCEEDING TO AND FROM THE RACE;

D. OTHERS ASSISTING THE ORGANISERS;

**E. OTHERS USING THE LAKESIDE BANKS AND PALACE GROUND ASSOCIATED WITH
THE EVENT**

The Overarching Safety Plan:

All competitors, coaches, officials and all those assisting the organisers shall:

- a) except when the Race Rules state otherwise, observe the general conduct rules of
Blenheim Palace;**

- b) implement the provisions of the British Rowing's Rules for the Conduct of Regattas and Races and Row Safe – A Guide to Good Practice in Rowing ("Row Safe");**
- c) be observant and aware of the risks related to use of the lake for the purpose of competitive racing and of the need to prevent accidents at all times;**
- d) comply with all requests and instructions issued by the Race Committee and its officials and/or Blenheim Palace officers, designed to prevent accident, injury and/or ensure the safety and welfare of those involved with or affected by the conduct of the race.**
- e) ensure as best they may that each person taking part has been assessed and trained to the level of competency required by British Rowing and the race to enable them to safely compete in the race or to undertake the supervision of those taking part in the race.**

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ASSESSMENT OF RISK

This assessment forms part of the safety management of the event and is submitted by the Safety Advisor appointed by the Organising Committee to assist them to plan the event and to conduct it safely, in accordance with British Rowing's "Row Safe".

Because of the changing nature of the lake and its environment, the quantification of risk identified in this assessment is to be regarded as dynamic and a direct factor of those conditions prevailing both at the start of the race and during each part of it.

It should be examined by the Race Committee, together with the Safety Advisor, on the morning of the race to permit the most immediate assessment of each risk to be determined and make possible the identification of others evident at that time.

The examination by the Race committee should be repeated before the commencement of racing in each subsequent division and take account of any incident that may have occurred previously.

Agencies and others affected by the conduct of the Race:

- 1. British Rowing;**
- 2. Blenheim Palace;**
- 3. Thames Valley Police;**
- 4. Metropolitan Police;**
- 5. Oxfordshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust;**

Related documents:

- 1. Blenheim Palace Regatta –Risk Assessment–Appendix: Hazard/Control Description**
- 2. The Health and Safety at Work and provision of Welfare at Work Act 1974 and the relevant Regulations made thereunder;**
- 3. The British Rowing's "Row Safe";**
- 4. The Race Rules, Notices and Instructions issued to Team Managers and Coaches**
- 5. The instructions to Athletes**
- 6. The Map of the Course and Site identifying hazards, circulating patterns etc.;**
- 7. Regatta Welfare Policy**

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Risks Identified and *Safety Response*

ON LAND:

- Risks between people vehicle movements in trailer and car park: *Area to be marshalled and all traffic guided to set parking areas. Chief Marshal in car park and trailer park to have radio contact with race control and first aid provision.*
- Preparation of boats in trailer park, loading of boats on trailer. *In accordance with instructions to team managers and coaches, at all times handling of boats to be supervised by at least two adults. Trailer only to be managed by trailer management team.*
- Risks between people vehicle movements on path / road between trailer park and boat storage area: *Trailer towing vehicle to be driven by Blenheim Palace Staff and driven in accordance with Palace rules relating to vehicle movements. Pedestrians and vehicles to be kept separate by marshals wherever possible*
- Storage and movement of boats in boat storage area by lake and movement of boats to and from boating pontoon: *In accordance with instructions to team managers and coaches, at all times handling of boats to be supervised by at least two adults. NB this rule must be observed at all times.*
- Interaction between spectators, competitors, officials and equipment: *Wherever possible spectators to be kept clear of boat storage area and pontoons. In **NO** circumstances are persons not authorised by Regatta Committee or crew coaches / team managers to access the pontoons. This area will be strongly supervised by Regatta Marshalls with full authority to impose this rule.*
- Bad weather including lightening: *Regatta Committee to alter or suspend racing in event of bad weather including high winds; in addition, see lightning plan below. Provision for shelter to be provided in event of rain or high sun / heat. Drinking water to be available throughout the day.*
- Medical Provision: *Qualified First Aid available all day at First Aid point and in radio contact with Event officials.*
- Specific medical condition (on land and / or water): *Hypothermia / heat exhaustion / dehydration / sunburn – event officials to ensure appropriate kit is worn by athletes; Asthma attack; Asthma sufferers advised to have inhalers with them at all times. In all instances treat as medical emergency and call first aid.*

ON WATER:

Competitors, Officials and Safety Craft

- *There will, for a period of 30 min before racing until after all competitors have left the water at the end of the day, always be two manned safety craft on the water. In addition, there will be a minimum of three, and usually four, Umpires launches on the water which are able to offer short term safety cover. All safety craft, Umpires launches, race control and First Aid will be in radio contact on the same channel on the day of the event.*
- *Avoidance of collisions: All official and safety craft to be driven by qualified and experienced drivers, all competitors to be supervised by Race Officials at all times and all competitors to follow instructions to Athletes as issued in advance of the event. All parties to follow published circulation pattern at all times. All Race Officials, Safety Teams and Race Control to be in radio contact.*
- *Capsize: It is a requirement of British Rowing to ensure that all athletes competing are aware and practiced in capsize drill. The event requires coaches and team managers to ensure that athletes are so qualified. In event of capsize:*
 - *nearest launch to call for safety launch,*
 - *if marshalling and closest launch, to require crews being supervised stop whilst attending capsize move to capsized boat*
 - *If racing use discretion either to ask alternative race official to take over race whilst you attend or direct safety and nearest race official to attend capsized boat.*
- *Lightening: See lightning Plan below.*

Recovery from Water:

- *In the event that an Athlete, Race Official or other person should need recovery from the water and return to bank the emergency landing point will be the launching pontoon. Safety should require radio silence from all parties apart from them, first aid and Chairman of Race Ctte until such time as person or persons are safely landed. Safe landing should be broadcast over radio net.*

Adverse Environmental Conditions:

- Reduced visibility e.g. Fog, Glare, Haze, Mist, Snow, Rainfall, Darkness
- Localised extreme weather e.g. lightning strikes,
- Wind conditions e.g. Squalls, affecting steering, boat stability
- Water or stream conditions affecting steering, boat stability
- Temperature, inducing rapid hypothermic conditions
- *Chairman of Race Ctte, Safety Advisor and Race Control together to have ability to alter, suspend or abandon race programme as appropriate. Such decisions to be communicated clearly to all competitors, officials, team managers and coaches, spectators*

Medical conditions associated with accidents/activities on or by rivers

- Drowning
- Hyperthermia

- Cardiac arrest
 - Concussion
 - Infection - Leptospirosis (Weil's Disease)
 - Infection – Pathogens
 - Injury from trip or fall
 - Lacerations
 - Abrasions
 - Skeletal/spinal injury
 - Muscular Strain
 - Burning or Scalding (resulting from use of outdoor cooking equipment)
 - A predisposition **or medical condition adverse to athletic exercise**
- *In all such circumstances First Aid to be advised and they to make decisions on treatment. Report incidents to Chairman of Race Cttee.*

Lightning Plan

In the event of **lightning**, the Safety Advisor and or the Chairman of the Race Committee will measure the length of the period of time which elapses between each successive visible lightning strike and the sound of its associated thunder; and,

- Immediately this period is found to be less than 30 seconds, Racing will be suspended completely and all persons advised to take cover away from trees and to hold rowing equipment (e.g. blades) in the horizontal position.
- The Race Committee may consider resuming the Race once the length of the period of time between a visible lightning strike and the sound of it's associated thunder has lengthened to over 30 seconds, and has either maintained at period for at least 30 minutes or has ceased altogether, and all other conditions permit.

**Blenheim Palace Junior Regatta
May 2019**