

**BLenheim PALACE
JUNIOR REGATTA
SATURDAY 9th JUNE 2018**

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

SAFETY PLAN

EVENT ORGANISOR :

BLenheim PALACE REGATTA COMMITTEE

Race Committee Chairman:

Gary Painter – on site radio net

Safety Advisor:

Megan Glenn - 07979722533

Race Control:

Megan Glenn – on site radio net

Other Contacts:

Thames Valley Police:

101 (non emergency)

Ambulance Service (off site):

01865 740 100

On site First Aid:

On site radio net

John Radcliffe Hospital:

0300 304 7777

In an emergency please call 999 or 112 from your mobile.

John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, OX3 9DU – 25min drive by car.

Risk Assessment to persons on the lake and in the areas of Blenheim Palace associated with the event (including 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 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 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:

- Location of event: *Well sign posted UNESCO World Heritage Site, emergency services on site.*
- 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 coaches. 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 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 coaches, At all times handling of boats to be supervised by coaches. NB this rule must be observed at all times. Extra care needs to be taken if the pontoons are wet.*
- 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 to access the pontoons. This area will be strongly supervised by Regatta Marshals with full authority to impose this rule. Competitors are aged 10-14, and as such must have a competent coach in attendance, est. 500 competitors and 1000 spectators. Venue is 2000 acres of parkland.*
- Bad weather including lightning: *Regatta Committee to alter or suspend racing in event of bad weather including high winds; see also 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. Oxfordshire NHS ambulance also offers traditional 999 services. Other rescue services are available in the Oxfordshire region should they be needed.*
- 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.*
- Catering: *No open flames. Gas and power/generator used by approved vendors. Risk of electrocution and burns minimal.*

ON WATER:

- 500m, three-four lane multi-lane short contained regatta. *Minimum of 2 safety boats and 5 umpire launches. Umpires collect crews for their race off the boating pontoon and guide them to the start before following their race down and guiding back to the boating pontoon.*

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 experienced drivers, all competitors to be supervised by Race Officials at all times and all competitors to follow Instructions to Athletes as issues 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 have completed a capsize drill. The event requires coaches 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.*
- *Lightning: See lightning Plan below.*

Recovery from Water:

- *Lake in Oxfordshire. Pontoon boating area, banks of lake are shallow, many emergency access points. 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 Committee until 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 or hyperthermic conditions

- *Chairman of Race Committee, 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, coaches, spectators*

Medical conditions associated with accidents/activities on or by rivers

- Drowning
- Hyperthermia
- Hypothermia
- Cardiac arrest
- Concussion
- Infection - Leptospirosis (Weil's Disease) or other 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 Committee.*

Lightning Plan

In the event of **lightning**, the Safety Advisor and or the Chief Umpire will measure the period of time which elapses between each successive visible lightning strike and the sound of it's associated thunder; and,

- As soon as this period is 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 resume racing 30minutes after the time between a visible lightning strike and the sound of it's associated thunder is over 30 seconds, and all other conditions permit.

Blenheim Palace Regatta June 2018