

<b>Tyne Rowing Club</b>							
<b>Risk Assessment for Head Races on the River Tyne</b>							
Tyne Long Distance Sculls - Autumn							
Tyne Head - Winter							
Rutherford Head of River Race - Winter							
Location: Tyne Rowing Club, The Boathouse, Water Row, Newburn, Newcastle upon Tyne							Revised 16 October 2009
	<b>Potential source of risk</b>	<b>Risk Identified</b>	<b>Who/what at risk</b>	<b>Seriousness</b>	<b>Probability (Very unlikely, unlikely, likely, very likely)</b>	<b>Acceptable risk ?</b>	<b>Action to address risk</b>
				(extreme, high, moderate or slight)	(Very likely, likely, unlikely, very unlikely)	(very low or low risk - no action needed. Medium risk - reduce if practicable, high/very high risk - needs action to reduce.)	
<b>1</b>	<b>Prior to race day</b>						
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Outdoor weather and river conditions</b>	Unsuitable / deteriorating weather	All participants and spectators especially competitors, marshals, launch crews	high	likely	high-no	Regularly check weather forecasts and inspect water conditions

1.2		Bad weather forecast (high winds, storms, snow, ice)	All incl trailer drivers and trailers/boats	Medium	moderately likely in winter less likely in autumn of year	high-no	Cancel event the day before if severe weather is forecast, so crews and trailers do not travel abortively.
1.3	<b>Entries</b>	Too few entries	Tyne RC	slight	very unlikley	low-yes	Agree a minimum entry in advance.Cancel the event a week before if necessary.
1.4		Too many entries, particularly inexperienced crews	Tyne RC, Competitors	moderate	unlikley	medium	Agree maximum entry per category in advance.Ensure sufficient assistance available to boat. Include warnings about competence in race information. Marshals to refuse to let incompetent crews boat if they consider they will be a danger to others..
1.5	<b>River conditions</b>	Unsuitable river/current/tidal conditions	competitors	high	unlikely	medium-no	Check tide tables before event. Check wind direction and recent rainfall levels. Inspect water conditions regularly.
1.6		Excessive amounts of debris in river, of a size likely to damage boats	Boats, blades	high	very unlikley	medium-no	Monitor river conditions and cancel event if necessary
1.7	<b>Clubhouse and facilities</b>	Clubhouse facilities or steps not fit for use	All participants and spectators	high to extreme	unlikely	medium-no	in good state of repair, secure and clean, kitchen and toilets, heating and lighting in working order in advance of event.
1.8	<b>Organisation</b>	Too few volunteers to help on the day	Competitors, marshals, Tyne RC	moderate	likely	medium - no	Ensure sufficient assistance is signed up and confirmed at least 2 days in advance
2	<b>On land pre race</b>						

2.1	<b>Portaloos</b>	Blocked and/or insufficient for numbers attending	All participants	slight to moderate	unlikely	medium-no	Ensure sufficient provision, in place day before event and order from reputable supplier
			Tyne RC				
2.2	<b>Club House, including entrances, stairs and storage areas, boat houses.</b>	bumps/slips/falls/trips	All participants	slight	likely	medium-no	First aid kit available. St John Ambulance in attendance. Tidy up premises in advance. Warning signs if necessary
2.3	<b>Club grounds &amp; car park, trailer parking area, boat trailers and boats</b>	bumps/slips/falls/trips	ditto plus members of public	ditto	ditto	ditto	Notices, directions to safe paths for Hadrian's Way users. Warnings if very slippery. Use salt/grit if necessary. Marshals to instruct crews to keep Public Right of Way clear of trailers and boats and blades etc. equipment and blades to be stored in safe locations clear of steps and access ways
2.4	<b>Slow/inexperienced crews on steps</b>	bumps/slips/falls/trips	Competitors, race timetabling, Tyne RC				Marshals to direct prompt boating and turn back crews if necessary. Set boating times with agreed tolerance and time penalties. No crews to boat beyond stated tolerances or after race start time. All crews to wear boots or other suitable footwear and adjust feet on the water. Warnings/instructions to be included in race information.
2.5	<b>Boating steps</b>	bumps/slips/falls/trips	Competitors, helpers, marshalls	ditto	low		Sufficient marshals present to assist at boating times. Marshals to be briefed before event. Steps to be kept clear of blades and other items.

2.6	<b>Newcastle University steps and grounds</b>	ditto	ditto	moderate; high at low tide.	low		Ditto and marshals to caution extreme care on slippery steps
2.7	<b>Tyne United steps and grounds</b>	ditto	ditto	slight	likely		Ditto
2.8	<b>Unsafe boats</b>	drowning, capsize, collision, loss of blades, loss damage to boat or boat parts	competitors	slight to moderate	likely	medium - no	Race official to check basic boat safety (Bowball, shoe restraints, ) Unsafe boats and/or crews with inadequate clothing/footwear not to be allowed to boat unless made safe.
2.9	<b>Unaccompanied and inexperienced juniors</b>	Collisions and other mishaps if permitted in boats. Race management delays/difficulties, harm to participants . Inability to carry out allotted task because having to ensure care of junior.	Competitors, Tyne RC, race officials, Tyne Members, juniors	moderate; high at low tide.	likely	high-no	Parental guidance to be issued in advance. Coaches to ensure event day sessions are advertised as cancelled by written notices in club and verbal /email/text warnings. Juniors in senior boats only with parental and coach consent. Unaccompanied juniors to be referred to Club Welfare officer to be escorted from the premises to a place of safety.
2.1	<b>Kitchen</b>	Slips, falls, burns, scalds, contamination of foods, fire, gas escape. Theft/loss of takings.	Kitchen users including juniors	Moderate	very likely	very high - no	Kitchen helpers to be co-ordinated and no more than 6 people in kitchen. Participants not allowed access to kitchen. Water etc for bottles to be available outside the kitchen, No under 14s to help or have access to the kitchen. Check fire extinguishers and fire blanket before start of event.
2.11	<b>Newburn Bridge and Road</b>	Accident with vehicle/cycle. Obstruction of traffic flow.	spectators, members of the public, motorists	low to medium	low		Marshall present on bridge during races. Race warning signs. Police notified in advance

2.12	<b>Launches and other craft</b>	Going adrift. Capsize. Engine failure, damage to steps, muscular injury	Launch crews, boats	ditto	ditto		Tie up launches securely especially on rising tide. Check equipment before event. Ensure sufficient assistance to carry launches without dragging over steps. Ensure proper outboard handling and storage during event.
<b>3</b>	<b>On land during race</b>						
3.1		<b>All same as pre-race except less people are located at the Club so risk is less</b>					Ensure working communication with race officials and emergency services and support services
3.2		Theft/vandalism	All participants, vehicles, belongings	slight	unlikely		Ensure vigilance during the event.
<b>4</b>	<b>On Land after race</b>						
4.1		<b>same as above with following additons:</b>					
4.2	<b>Effects of racing/attending the race</b>	tiredness	competitors	slight	weather dependant	medium	Indoor seating with warm food and drinks
4.3		coldness/hypothermia	Competitors/marshalls. Launch crews/spectators	slight	medium according to outdoor temperatures	low	Ensure crews and other participants have warm clothing. Include warnings in race instructions. Clubhouse to be kept warm. Warm showers, warm food and drinks, spare clothing available. Keep waiting times before and after race to a minimum, especially for junior crews. Adjust start times as necessary well before event.

4.4		race injury	Competitors	medium	likely		Ditto plus First aid kit, stretcher, fleece and space blankets available. St Johns Ambulance personnel to hand if needed. Call emergency services if serious.
4.5	<b>Overcrowding in clubhouse</b>	Slips, falls, burns, scalds	All participants within club house	medium	likely		Ditto
4.6	<b>race impacts</b>	Damage to boats	Boats	slight/moderate	likely	medium	Ensure assistance to place damaged craft on trailers or safe location.
5	<b>On water before race</b>						
5.1	<b>Crews adjusting feet etc</b>	Collisions with other craft, bridges, banks, obstacles. Damage to boats, blades, crews.	Competitors	medium to high, depending on water conditions			Ensure vigilant marshalling and sufficient launches.
5.2	<b>Crews warming up</b>		Boats and equipment				Keep waiting time to a minimum and indicate warm-up area on river plan.
5.3	<b>Boats drifting</b>						
5.4	<b>Inexperienced crews and coxes</b>	See above.	Ditto plus delays to race start.	moderate	likely	high	Marshalls to give clear instructions, direct to crew if necessary.
5.5	<b>Late/slow boating</b>	See above.					
6	<b>On river between boathouse and race start area</b>						

6.1	<b>Waiting at start</b>	capsize, swamping of boat	competitors	moderate to extreme	low but weather dependent (see above) unless conditions change after boating		Rescue and marshalling launches and Red Seal rescue deployed and in position well before start of boating. Regular checks on weather and water conditions. Launch crews to report back to race control. Launches to have emergency kit: throw lines, first aid, space blankets, life jackets in launch safety bag.
6.2	<b>Deterioration in weather/tidal flow/current</b>	Ditto plus panic	competitors, other participants	moderate	unlikely	medium	Instructions issued to launch crews to postpone starts and or return competitors to club house. Have an emergency action plan ready for marshalls/officials/launch crews in event of cancellation or postponement
							with competitors to Club house
6.3	<b>boat not watertight</b>	swamping/sinking	competitors	moderate	unlikely		See above re safety checks. Rescue launch available.
6.4	<b>jetskiers/other motor craft, including rescue/race launches</b>	Wash causing swamping. Collisions	Competitors , boats, blades	low	low	low-yes	Pre race instructions to notify of this. Launches to control wash and deflected wash except in more extreme emergency.
6.5	<b>Cold weather</b>	Chill/hypothermia	competitors	moderate	very likely		See above. Race instructions to insist competitors dress for the wintry conditions.
6.6	<b>Collisions and other incidents</b>	injury to competitor	competitors	low	low		Red Seal and club safety launches deployed
6.7		illness of competitor	ditto	low	low		backed up by St Johns Ambulance.

6.8		collision with another boat or obstruction in the river	competitors	moderate	unlikely		coxes/steersman to be made aware of hazards in pre-race information, also local navigation rules. Launches to check for river debris and warn race control if necessary, remove debris if possible.
6.9		breakdown of launch	launch crew, other participants, delay to race timetable	moderate	low to medium		Ensure that all launches, fuel and engines are checked before event day to ensure they work/are sufficient. Provide for back-up launch /engine.
7	<b>On water during race</b>						
7.1	<b>Mud/shingle banks</b>	same as above with following additions					Pre-race briefings and include in race information. Launches and marshalls to warn crews
7.2	<b>Obstacles in/near edges of river</b>						Ditto
7.3	<b>Boats in trouble (swamping or capsize etc)</b>	Collision between racing crews, through bad overtaking, bad steering, not allowing opponent sufficient water etc	Competitors				Pre race instructions issued to crews. Rescue launches at regular points on course. Radio contact with marshals/launches/race control. Call emergency services if large numbers of competitors involved, serious injuries, very cold conditions, far from boathouse.
7.4	<b>Failure of radio communications</b>		All participants				Check equipment before hand. Have spares and mobile phones, preset with necessary numbers. issue instructions where possible
7.5	<b>Other collisions, causing obstruction forcing crews to halt.</b>	bad coxing	Competitors, boats				Launches available. Race instructions.

7.6		stopping on finish line	Competitors, boats	moderate	unlikely	medium - no	Safety launch at finish to push crews through and well beyond the finish line. Clear race instructions.
7.7		turning/crossing path of racing craft	Competitors, boats	high	likely	high - no	Sufficient launches and marshals to prevent unauthorised movement and crossings. Instructions about crossing points in race information.
<b>8</b>	<b>On water after race</b>						
	Crossing path of crews still racing to reach newcastle & TURC steps	As above					Clear instructions on circulation landing and boating
	Queue for landing at steps	Chill/hypothermia, tiredness, lack of concentration	Competitors, boats	moderate	likely	high - no	launch and marshals on the bank to monitor and instruct progress. Advise crews to put on warm clothes and feet out of shoes in readiness.
<b>9</b>	<b>After the event</b>						
9.1	<b>litter</b>	Full bin bags, litter blowing, health hazard if left.	Public, members, visiting crews, pets, wildlife.	low	unlikely	low-yes	Have a task group to clear up during and after the event.
9.2	<b>kitchen</b>	Dirty equipment and cooking facilities, dish cloths/towels, leftover food,	members	low	unlikely	low - yes	kitchen users to leave in clean condition. Sufficient helpers in kitchen.
9.3	<b>clubhouse</b>	Dirty conditions, fire risk, toilets blocked/fouled	Members,	moderate	likely	medium-no	have task force to clear up after event
9.4	<b>car park</b>	Overcrowding, theft/vandalism, bumps, scrapes	members, visitors, cars	slight	likely	medium - no	race information to advise on parking locations. Members only in club car park.
9.5	<b>trailer parking</b>	Mud, rutted surface, trailers bogged down.	Visiting crews, boats	moderate	likely	medium - no	Have helpers to push trailers. Grit/gravel to use if necessary

<b>9.6</b>	<b>boat loading</b>	slips, trips, bumps scrapes, poorly secured boats.	People, passers by, boats, blades	slight	unlikely	low-yes	Ensure no blades, clothes or other equipment left on steps, grounds. Warnings to public path users. Ensure racing ends well before darkness.
<b>9.7</b>	<b>launches and engines</b>	left on steps, going adrift. trespass by members of public, theft, dropping engines, fuel/oil leaks, water in engine.	boats, engines, equipment	slight	unlikely	low - yes	Ensure all launches and engines not left unattended and safely put away after use. Engines to be correctly handled and stored after use.