

## Tyne Rowing Club for NRC

### Risk Assessment for Tyne LDS head race 10.30am 05-11-11

Location: Tyne Rowing Club, Tyne United Rowing Club, NUBC downstream to Scotswood

	Potential source of risk	Risk Identified	Who/what at risk	Seriousness	Probability	Acceptable risk ?	Action to address risk
				Extreme, high, moderate or slight	Very likely, likely, unlikely or very unlikely	Very low, low, medium, high or very high *	
<b>1</b>	<b>Prior to race day</b>						
1.1	Outdoor weather and river conditions	Bad weather forecast (high winds, storms, snow, ice)	All participants and also trailer drivers	Moderate	Moderately likely in winter less likely in autumn	High	Have means to cancel event and communicate the day before if severe weather is forecast, so crews and trailers do not travel abortively.
1.2		Unsuitable or deteriorating weather on day	All participants and spectators especially competitors, marshals, launch crews	High	Likely	High	Regularly check weather forecasts and inspect water conditions; have means of cancelling if necessary in day.
1.3	Entries	Too few entries	NRC	Slight	Very unlikely	Low	Agree a minimum entry in advance. Cancel the event a week before if necessary.
1.4		Too many entries, particularly inexperienced crews	All participants	Moderate	Unlikely	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.

1.5	River conditions	Unsuitable river/current/tidal conditions	All participants	High	Likely	High	Check tide tables before setting date. Check wind direction and recent rainfall levels. Inspect water conditions regularly from day before.
1.6		Excessive amounts of debris in river, of a size likely to damage boats	Boats, blades	High	Very unlikely	Medium	Monitor river conditions from day before and cancel event if necessary.
1.7	Clubhouse and facilities	Clubhouse facilities or steps not fit for use	All participants and spectators	High to extreme	Unlikely	Medium	In good state of repair, secure and clean, kitchen and toilets, heating and lighting in working order in advance of event.
1.8	Organisation	Too few volunteers to help on the day	All participants	Moderate	Likely	Medium	Ensure sufficient assistance is signed up and confirmed at least 2 days in advance
<b>2</b>	<b>On land pre race</b>						
2.1	Portaloos	Blocked and/or insufficient for numbers attending	All participants	Slight to moderate	Unlikely	Medium	Ensure sufficient provision, in place day before event and order from reputable supplier
2.2	Club houses and other buildings	Bumps/slips/falls/trips	All participants	Slight	Likely	Medium	First aid kit available. St John Ambulance in attendance. Tidy up premises in advance. Warning signs if necessary
2.3	Club grounds & car park, trailer parking area, boat trailers and boats	Bumps/slips/falls/trips	All participants plus members of public	Slight	Likely	Medium	Notices, directions to safe paths for Hadrian's Way users. Warnings if very slippery. 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	Slow or inexperienced crews on steps	Bumps/slips/falls/trips	Competitors			Medium	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	Boating steps	Bumps/slips/falls/trips	Competitors, helpers, marshalls	Slight	Low	Medium	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	Unsafe boats	Capsize, collision, loss of blades, loss damage to boat or boat parts, injury or water immersion	Competitors	Slight to moderate	Likely	Medium	Race official to check boat safety. Unsafe boats and/or crews with inadequate clothing/footwear not to be allowed to boat unless made safe.
2.7	Unaccompanied and inexperienced juniors	Collisions and other mishaps if permitted in boats. Race management delays/difficulties, harm to participants.	Competitors, Tyne RC, race officials, Tyne Members, juniors	Moderate; high at low tide.	Likely	High	Parental guidance to be issued in advance. Unaccompanied juniors to be referred to Club Welfare officer to be escorted from the premises to a place of safety.
2.8	Kitchen	Slips, falls, burns, scalds, contamination of foods, fire, gas escape. Theft/loss of takings.	Kitchen users including juniors	Moderate	Very likely	Very high	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 16s to help or have access to the kitchen. Check fire extinguishers and fire blanket before start of event.
2.9	Newburn Bridge and Road	Accident with vehicle/cycle. Obstruction of traffic.	Spectators, members of the public, motorists	Low to moderate	Unlikely	Low	Marshall present on bridge during races. Race warning signs. Police notified in advance.

2.10	Launches and other craft	Going adrift. Capsize. Engine failure, damage to steps, muscular injury.	Launch crews, boats	Slight to moderate	Unlikely	Low	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	All same as pre-race with following additions						
3.2		Theft/vandalism	All participants, vehicles, belongings	Slight	Unlikely	Low	Ensure vigilance during the event.
<b>4</b>	<b>On land after race</b>						
4.1	All same as same as above with following additions:						
4.2	Effects of racing/attending the race	Tiredness	competitors	Slight	Likely; weather dependant	Medium	Indoor seating with warm food and drinks
4.3	Effects of racing/attending the race	Coldness/hypothermia	Competitors, marshalls, launch crews, spectators	Slight	Likely to very likely, but depends 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	Effects of racing/attending the race	Race injury	Competitors	Moderate	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	Overcrowding in clubhouse	Slips, falls, burns, scalds	All participants within club house	Moderate	Likely		Ditto
4.6	race impacts	Damage to boats	Boats	Slight to moderate	Likely	Medium	Ensure assistance to place damaged craft on trailers or safe location.

<b>5</b>	<b>On water before race</b>						
5.1	Crews adjusting feet etc	Collisions with other craft, bridges, banks, obstacles. Damage to boats, blades, crews.	Competitors, boats	Moderate to high, depending on water conditions	Likely	Medium	Ensure vigilant marshalling and sufficient launches.
5.2	Crews warming up	Ditto	Competitors, boats	Moderate to high	Likely	Medium	Keep waiting time to a minimum and indicate warm-up area on river plan.
5.3	Boats drifting	Ditto	Competitors, boats	Moderate to high	Likely	Medium	Active marshalling
5.4	Inexperienced crews and coxes	Ditto	Competitors, boats	Moderate	likely	High	Marshalls to give clear instructions, direct to crew if necessary.
<b>6</b>	<b>On river between boathouse and race start area</b>						
6.1	Waiting at start	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 standard launch bags or better.
6.2	Deterioration in weather/tidal flow/current	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
6.3	Boat not watertight	Swamping/sinking	Competitors	Moderate	Unlikely		See above re safety checks. Rescue launch available.
6.4	Jetskiers/other motor craft, including race launches	Wash causing swamping. Collisions	Competitors , boats, blades	Slight	Unlikely	Low	Pre race instructions to notify of this. Launches to control wash and deflected wash except in more extreme emergency.
6.5	Cold weather	Chill/hypothermia	Competitors	Moderate	Very likely		See above. Race instructions to insist competitors dress for the wintry conditions.

6.6	Collisions and other incidents	Injury to competitor	Competitors	Slight	Likely	Low	Red Seal and club safety launches deployed
6.7	Collisions and other incidents	Illness of competitor	Competitors	Slight	Unlikely	Low	Backed up by St Johns Ambulance.
6.8	Collisions and other incidents	Collision with obstruction in the river	Competitors	Moderate	Unlikely	Medium	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 if possible.
6.9	Collisions and other incidents	Breakdown of launch	Launch crew, other participants, delay to race timetable	Moderate	Unlikely	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.
6.10	Collisions and other incidents	Mud/shingle banks	Competitors	Moderate	Unlikely	Medium	Pre-race briefings and include in race information. Launches and marshalls to warn crews
<b>7</b>	<b>On water during race</b>						
7.1	Same as above with following additions:						
7.2	Racing incidents	Collision between racing crews, through bad overtaking, bad steering, not allowing opponent sufficient water etc	Competitors, boats	Moderate	Likely	Medium to high	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.
7.3	Racing incidents	Stopping on finish line	Competitors, boats	Moderate	Unlikely	Medium	Safety launch at finish to push crews through and well beyond the finish line. Clear race instructions.
7.4	Racing incidents		Competitors, boats	High	Likely	High	Sufficient launches and marshals to prevent unauthorised movement and crossings. Instructions about crossing points in race information.

7.5	Failure of radio communications		All participants				Check equipment before hand. Have spares and mobile phones, preset with necessary numbers. issue instructions where possible
<b>8</b>	<b>On water after race</b>						
8.1	Crossing path of crews still racing to reach NUBC and TURC steps	Turning/crossing path of racing craft		Moderate	Likely	High	Clear instructions on circulation landing and boating. Marshall in launch controlling crossing.
8.2	Queue for landing at steps	Chill/hypothermia, tiredness, lack of concentration	Competitors, boats	Moderate	Likely	High	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	Litter	Full bin bags, litter blowing, health hazard if left.	Public, members, visiting crews, pets, wildlife.	Slight	Unlikely	Low	Have a task group to clear up during and after the event.
9.2	Kitchen	Dirty equipment and cooking facilities, dish cloths/towels, leftover food,	members	Slight	Unlikely	Low	Kitchen users to leave in clean condition. Sufficient helpers in kitchen.
9.3	Clubhouse	Dirty conditions, fire risk, toilets blocked/fouled	Members,	Moderate	Likely	Medium	Have task force to clear up after event
9.4	Car park	Overcrowding, theft/vandalism, bumps, scrapes	Members, visitors, cars	Slight	Likely	Medium	Race information to advise on parking locations. Members only in club car park.
9.5	Trailer parking	Mud, rutted surface, trailers bogged down.	Visiting crews, boats	Moderate	Likely	Medium	Have helpers to push trailers. Grit/gravel to use if necessary
9.6	Boat loading	Slips, trips, bumps scrapes, poorly secured boats.	People, passers by, boats, blades	Slight	Unlikely	Low	Ensure no blades, clothes or other equipment left on steps, grounds. Warnings to public path users. Ensure racing ends well before darkness.

9.7	Launches and engines	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	Ensure all launches and engines not left unattended and safely put away after use. Engines to be correctly handled and stored after use.
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**\* Further comment on risk column:**

Very low or low risk - no action needed

Medium risk - reduce if practicable

High or very high risk - needs action to reduce