

Risk Assessment

Regattas at Spring Hill site under the auspices of Lea Rowing Club

Instructions for competitors, officials, visitors and coaches are all available online at www.learc.org.uk, along with important documents such as Safety plan, circulation pattern, location of facilities etc.

<u>Hazard</u>	<u>Probability of accident occurring</u>	<u>Potential harm if accident occurs</u>	<u>Risk Level</u>	<u>Measures to reduce risk</u>	<u>Overall risk</u>
Person in water - spectator, competitor or official	Moderate (1)	Drowning	Moderate	There will be a safety launch with outboard motor and radio contact with marshals and umpires. Umpires are equipped with throw lines and thermal blankets. Competitors advice is to “stay with the boat”	Moderate
Collision of boats, including stake boats	Low (2)	Injury to rowers or other occupants and/or damage to boats	Moderate	Boats are launched for one 'division' and sent up to a marshalling area upstream of the start. Only when a division's racing has been concluded are the marshalled competitors for the next division allowed to launch their craft and proceed upstream. Stake boats are only held in place by weights. Any poorly moored narrowboats or boats that pose a problem for racing crews will be asked to move prior to the regatta. There are marshals downstream of the finish and upstream of the start to assure orderly navigation in both areas. All racing is carried out under British Rowing Rules of Racing and in compliance with Row Safe. Bank marshals along the course will advise boats to move if there is a safety issue. Reliance on competency of crews and coaches and compliance with RowSafe	Moderate

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Difficulties with spectators	Low None at this regatta	Injury	Tolerable	We work to be sure the event does not generate antipathy. Most of the spectators are known to many of the others.	Low
Severe weather including lightning	Low	Severe injury, death or damage to equipment	Moderate	If there is danger of thunderstorm activity, all participants will be summoned ashore, and the regatta may be called off or truncated.	Low
Fog	Low	Visibility can make navigation unsafe	moderate	If visibility is inadequate, the regatta will be delayed until conditions improve or called off.	
Long wait in marshalling area	Low	Hypothermia/sunstroke	Low	Crews are sent to the start in divisions of not more than seven races. Reliance on competency of crews to use adequate clothing, sunscreen and have water with them	Low
Wildlife in marshalling area	Low	Swans attack if provoked	moderate	Athletes are advised to avoid swans with cygnets.	Low
Trip hazard due to items being left on landing stage	Moderate	Injury to rowers, spectators and/or damage to boats	Moderate	Boating marshals instructed to minimise time crew equipment is left on the landing stage and shoes to be cleared from area	Low

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Fall hazard while unloading boats	Low	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Moderate	Reliance on competency of crews, coaches and drivers. British Rowing provides guidelines on towing and trailers	Low/moderate
Collision between trailers, cars and boats and objects in the environment	Low	Injury to rowers, rugby registration attendees and/or damage to boats	Moderate	Car park marshals to ensure trailers are parked to allow sufficient space to manoeuvre crews and boats. Two banks persons to be supplied by the visiting club to escort each trailer through the gate and to parking position.	Low/moderate
Damage to ground	Moderate	Financial penalty	Moderate	Car park marshals to ensure trailers are parked on hardcore at far side of pitches if weather is very wet. No vehicles are to drive over the rugby pitches whatever the weather.	Moderate
Water-borne disease	Low	Illness, especially leptospirosis	Low	Bathers are always urged to shower thoroughly after swimming. Furthermore, in accordance with RowSafe, they will be urged to consult their doctor should any symptoms develop.	Low

Notes

- (1) *The sides of the river are vertical for the entire course; so we are very keen to have all the provisions in place, even though we have never needed to use anything besides the safety launch, and that only to expedite recovery. Scullers are well-versed in dealing with this eventuality, but spectators are less so and not so lightly clothed.*
- (2) *Because the stretch of river is narrow, it will not comfortably accommodate more than two boats abreast. Our procedure therefore is the only practicable way to run the marshalling at our regatta. Other regattas have more room and send competitors to the start during racing, and in that process, collisions are not unheard-of.*
- (3) *Access by emergency vehicles to the river bank is either at the boathouse (N 51.573166 W 0.058976) or the foot of Watermint Quay (N 51.575254 W 0.060264).*