

### Barking and Dagenham Canoe Club Passage Plan and Event Activity Plan

Event Name: Barking Winter Series Race 2024

Race Date: Sunday, 15/12/2024

### **Pre-Event Activity:**

### **Approximately Two Weeks Before the Event:**

- The event organiser will conduct a **course check**. This will coincide with the expected tide conditions on race day.
- The purpose of this check is to:
  - Inspect the course for hazards.
  - Ensure the safety of participants by familiarising drivers with the course.
  - o Confirm the correct operation of all boats and safety equipment.
  - o Conduct a communication check using radios and mobile phones.

### Saturday, 30th November:

- A motorcraft, along with canoes, will perform an initial course and communications check.
- This check will be conducted under conditions expected for race day to ensure accurate preparedness.

### Saturday, 14th December:

- A final course and communications check will be conducted with one motorcraft and canoes.
- This will serve as the final pre-race check to ensure all conditions, equipment, and procedures are in place for race day.



### **Race Day Activity:**

### **Safety Craft Deployment and Coordination:**

- 1 Motor Craft and 4 Safety Canoes will be deployed for the race.
  - Each will be crewed by two individuals and stationed at the designated points (refer to Winter Series Race 2024 - Safety and Rescue Boats).
  - o **Turn Officials** will be responsible for:
    - Monitoring river traffic and other craft movement.
    - Reporting any approaching vessels to race control via VHF radio.
    - If another craft enters the event area, race control will contact the PLA to ensure safe passage and decide whether to continue, suspend, or abandon the race.
  - Safety craft must remain at their designated stations unless directed by the race coordinator or in response to an emergency.

### **Safety Boat Protocol:**

- **Turn Officials** will only leave their station once the last competitor has made the final turn.
  - They will then follow the last competitor back to the finish point, ensuring all participants are safe.
  - Safety boats will hold their position until advised by the race coordinator.
  - No safety craft will leave the water until the last competitor has exited, and permission is given by the race coordinator.

### Communication with the PLA:

- Pre-Event: Permission to launch safety craft will be sought from the PLA by calling 0208 855 0315.
- **Post-Event:** Once the event concludes and all craft have left the water, the PLA will be informed.



### **Race Day Timings:**

- 1. **09:00** Pre-event call to the PLA to confirm permission for the event to proceed.
- 2. **09:40** Launch safety craft to conduct a final **course check** and position safety boats and turn officials.
- 3. **09:45 Competitor briefing**.
- 4. **10:00** Competitors allowed on the water for warm-up.
- 5. **10:50** Competitors muster towards the start line.
- 6. **11:00** Race start.
- 7. **13:45** Expected race completion.
- 8. **14:00** All safety craft leave the water.
- 9. **14:15** Post-event call to the PLA to confirm that all craft are clear of the water.

### **Abandonment Protocol:**

- In the event of an incident requiring the race to be stopped or abandoned:
  - 1. The race coordinator will immediately communicate with all safety craft via radio.
  - 2. Safety craft will instruct competitors to **raft up** and stop racing or **return to the start/finish point**.
  - 3. All safety boats will hold their positions until advised to move.
  - 4. A sweep of the course will be conducted, and a headcount taken to ensure all participants have exited the water.
  - 5. The PLA will be notified of any incidents, and further instructions or advice will be sought if necessary.

This procedure will be briefed to all event staff and competitors before any boats are launched.



### **Course Details:**

- Start/Finish: Adjacent to Town Quay.
- Rescue Boat and Safety Boat Positions:
  - Rescue Boats 1 and 2: Positioned at the start and remain on station until all starts are completed.
  - After the last start, Rescue Boat 2 will move to the second station just south of the A13 flyover.
  - Rescue Boats 3 and 4: Positioned further down the course (refer to Winter Series Race 2024 - Safety and Rescue Boats).
  - **Safety Boat**: Stationed upstream of the bottom turn.

### **Competitor and Staff Numbers:**

- Historically, the event attracts around **130 competitors**, with a maximum capacity of **150**.
- 10 staff members will be present on the water, operating the safety craft.

### **Contact Information:**

• Race Control: 07539881059

PLA Contact Number: 0203 260 7711
Event Organiser: Scott Leblanche