



# Hasler Final 2022

## Risk Assessment

Hosted by Wey Kayak Club & Addlestone Canoe Club

Runnymede Pleasure Ground - TW20 0AE

25<sup>th</sup> September 2022

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed?	Likelihood	Consequences	Score 3 X 4	Is the risk adequately controlled and how?	What further action is necessary to control the risk?	Review comments / Review date
Vehicle traffic accessing the site causing injuring to someone	Participants, spectators and public in vehicles or walking near vehicles	1	5	5	Yes. Car park marshals will be in place to guide vehicles into parking space. Parking will be in designated areas. Trailers and large vehicles to be parked in designated area.	Car park signs will be put in place on the evening prior to the race to direct vehicles to the appropriate places.	Review on day if necessary.
Injury caused by collision with competitors carrying boats and kit from car park and across the path to access the river.	Public, participants, marshals and spectators	1	3	3	Yes. All parking will be in easy access of the river – no roads to be crossed. Care to be taken crossing the public path from the car park and field of play.	Car Park marshals will be present and will supervise this activity and advise if required Restrict number of access and crossing points Marshalls can operate a traffic light system between canoeists and public if needed	Review on day if necessary.
Injury caused by litter, debris or hazardous items on or near the competitor area or Race Start.	All	2	3	6	Pre Race clean up of site and then inspection by race organiser at start of the set up on Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2022. Litter	bin liners to be positioned around site and removed by organisers at end of event.	Review on day if necessary.

					pickers and cleaner marshals appointed.		
Injury caused by collision with competitors whilst running with boats at portages	Public, participants, marshals and spectators	1	2	2	Nominated marshals will be positioned at the portage to control the passage of people. The portage area will be sectioned off from the public space using solid barriers.	Marshals to supervise passing members of the public to avoid congestion during races.	Review on day if necessary.
Competitors being injured by running barefoot at portages	Participants	1	2	2	Debris on the ground and in the water next to the portage will be cleared the day before the race and checked the morning of the race. Race briefing will include recommendation that all paddler wear appropriate protective footwear throughout the event to avoid damage and injury. There are qualified First Aiders available to assist if required	the bank side will have protective matting installed to protect feet from injury as well as to help mitigate trips and slips. All competitors are requested to wear protective footwear.	Review on day if necessary.
Hazards due to the level of river and speed of flow	Participants	1	3	3	The organizers will monitor river conditions and the weather forecast in the days prior to the race. They will also check the advisory notices from the	FRCC/BDCC considers the ISIS Flag system <a href="http://www.ourcs.org.uk/safety/rcond">http://www.ourcs.org.uk/safety/rcond</a> & the Environment Agency Thames conditions	PFD's ?

					Environment Agency. Prevailing weather conditions make this risk negligible.	<a href="http://riverconditions.environment-agency.gov.uk/">http://riverconditions.environment-agency.gov.uk/</a> and if the level of the river is judged to be too high or flow too strong, the race will be cancelled.	
Hazards due to weather conditions	Participants, marshals and organizers	1	3	3	The Race Organisers will monitor the weather forecast in the days prior to the race. They will also check the advisory notices from the Environment Agency. Prevailing weather conditions make this risk negligible.	FRCC/BDCC considers the ISIS Flag system <a href="http://www.ourcs.org.uk/safety/rcond">http://www.ourcs.org.uk/safety/rcond</a> & the Environment Agency Thames conditions <a href="http://riverconditions.environment-agency.gov.uk/">http://riverconditions.environment-agency.gov.uk/</a> In addition if the weather is so inclement (thunder / hail etc) the race organisers will make a decision to either postpone or cancel the race	
Hazard due to difficult access to river bank by marshals	Participants and marshals	1	2	2	Yes. There is a footpath along the majority of river, allowing good access to the riverbank. Water based marshals will be stationed in canoes on the river at designated points where access is restricted. Furthermore, There will be land	There will be safety boats on the water to help swimmers out of the water and marshals on the tow path (some on bikes). All Marshals will be carrying appropriate safety equipment.	

					based marshals in place positioned at along the river and at regular intervals throughout the course.		
Difficulty of paddler being able to access an easy point on the river bank to get out of the water	Participants and marshals	2	2	4	Yes. There are a few places where it can be difficult to climb out of the river these locations will be supported by marshals either water based or land based.	Marshals will be available to support paddlers in difficulty.	
Problems caused by poor ability of paddlers/ inexperienced paddlers	Participants	1	2	2	Yes. Pre-race information states that “Team Leaders are responsible for ensuring that paddlers are properly equipped having taken into account the paddler’s health, fitness, capability, the course, the prevailing conditions and other risks associated with this race”.  Safety boats will be on the water especially for the Geoff Saunders competition and Divisions 7,8,9 races. In addition there will be a “boat control area” checking for adequate buoyancy to ensure	There will be safety boats on the water at the turns to help swimmers out of the water. Also the marshalling team will have appropriate safety equipment. A marshalled craft will follow the lightning paddlers around the course acting as sweeper.	

					that every boat competing is in a fit and proper state as required in the 2022 Racing Clubs Handbook.		
Hazard due to poor fitness or medical condition of paddlers	Participants	1	5	5	Yes. (see above) It is the responsibility of individual paddlers and team leaders to determine if they are fit to race. Marshals on the course will monitor for any problems with paddlers and take appropriate action	In addition to safety boats on the water and marshals on the bank there will be First Aid qualified officials contactable by mobile phone (phone number is on race organisers' contact list). Team Leaders of paddlers with pre-existing medical conditions that will make organisers aware. It is the responsibility of team leaders to do this.	No one with covid symptoms or who have recently tested positive to covid will attend the event until they have had 2 negative Lateral flow tests.
Hazard due to paddlers not wearing buoyancy aids	Participants	1	5	5	Yes. Pre-race information states that "Buoyancy aids are compulsory for all Geoff Saunders races as well as Division 7, 8 and 9 paddlers whether they are racing in those divisions or higher divisions" And that	The Race Organiser will insist on paddlers wearing buoyancy aids if deemed necessary due to river conditions. Entry will be refused for anyone not wearing one. There will be safety boats on the water to help swimmers	Review on day if necessary

					“Team Leaders are responsible for ensuring that paddlers are properly equipped having taken into account the paddler’s health, fitness, capability, the course, the prevailing conditions and other risks associated with this race”.	out of the water. Also the marshalling team will have appropriate safety equipment.	
Paddlers requiring rescue (from capsize etc)	Participants	2	2	4	Yes. There will be safety boats on the water to help swimmers out of the water.	There will be safety boats on the water at the turns and at other strategic points to assist any swimmers. Safety boats will follow the Geoff Saunders paddler’s around the course acting as sweeper. Also the marshalling team will have appropriate safety equipment.	
Taking care of stragglers who are not in the main racing group	Participants	2	2	4	Yes. There will be a safety boat on the water to act as a sweeper at the back of the Geoff Saunders race, there will be marshals at regular intervals along the course.	Marshals will be positioned along the route to assist along side the safety boat as required. Marshals will be located at turn points.	
Hazards due to fallen trees, blockages, debris etc	Participants	2	2	4	There will be a course inspection and clearance one day prior to race and early on race morning.	The Hazard if not removed will be flagged at the race briefing. But if deemed too	Review on day if necessary

						dangerous by the race organisers to the participants then the race will be cancelled or that section of the course will be amended. From recent checks this risk is deemed negligible.	
Risk of hypothermia  Risk of heat exhaustion and dehydration	Participants, marshals and spectators	1	5	5	Yes. If conditions are poor then paddlers will be advised regarding wearing appropriate clothing at the race briefing. Club coaches and paddlers will be required to have suitable spare clothing. Survival blankets will be available at race control. Prevailing weather conditions make this risk negligible.	First Aiders will be available to assist if required. Marshals will have access to a basic first aid kit which will include a survival bag or blanket. Drinking water points will be available on the site.	Review on day if necessary
Collisions with other competitors or crafts (rowers etc)	Participants and public	2	4	8	Yes. Other river users (rowing clubs, kayak clubs, leisure cruisers, Environment Agency, etc) have been informed about the race. Paddlers will be reminded that the rules of the river must be observed at all times.	On the day of the race the marshals will be placed at the locks and other locations. There will be clear signage to warn other river users at regular intervals along the course of the race. Leaflets	Review on day if necessary



						can be handed out to motor launches going through the locks at Staines and Windsor informing them of the event.	
Action of other river or bank users (fishermen, punts, swimmers etc)	Participants, spectators and public	1	3	3	The local fishing community have been informed about the race. The marshals will be in place to help prevent any hazards from other river or bank users	Marshals will be positioned along the route to advise River users of the activities taking place. There will be clear signage to warn other river users at regular intervals along the course of the race.	Review on day if necessary
Hazard due to aggressive swans	Participants on the water	1	2	2	The course will be checked in advance for any aggressive swans. There is no indication of aggressive swans.	If necessary, participants will be briefed on the hazard and marshals will be placed where swans are	
Hazards due to close proximity of locks and weirs	Participants	1	5	5	Yes. All access to weirs and locks are well marked and should be easily avoided by the paddlers. This will be covered in the race briefing.	Some additional signage will be put in position on the day before the race to make sure the route is absolutely clear. This signage will be checked on the morning of the race in case of tampering overnight.	Review on day if necessary

						Marshals will be positioned at the entrance to and exit from each lock area. All locks have easily accessible lifesaving equipment including throw lines and life buoys.	
Overhanging trees	Participants	1	3	3	Yes. Any such obstacles will be dealt with during the course clearance the day before the race.	If the overhang is deemed dangerous to the participants by the race organisers then either hazard tape will be used to mark the overhang or the race will be cancelled or the course amended.	Review on day if necessary
Pollution (including animal and bird waste/excreta)	Participants and Spectators	1	2	2	Yes. Removable debris at portage areas will be cleared the day before the race and assessment of river pollution levels made	If pollution is deemed to be of such a high state or deemed dangerous by the race organisers then the Event will be cancelled. No such hazards have been identified in pre-race checks.  Water and riverbank animal/bird faeces can not realistically be removed.	Review on day if necessary

						Therefore, all briefings will make public announcements advising people to regularly wash their hands prior to touching their face, any food item, any drink or should they touch any waste, excreta, and/or hazardous items.	
Access to Race Control	Participants and spectators	1	2	2	Yes. Access to Race Control will be restricted on the day. Access to race officials only. Check-in will be by Team leaders on the evening or morning of the race.	Access will be limited to race officials only but access will be available in an emergency.	
Provision of Toilets / hygiene	Participants and spectators	1	2	2	Yes. Sufficient porto-loos will be available	Toilets will be clean at the start of the day and checked a number of times during the day.	Review on day if necessary
Marquees and tents (hazards while erecting them)	Participants and spectators	1	2	2	Yes. The organisers will be using tentage that they are familiar with erecting. An appropriate number of people will help to erect the tents on the day prior to the race. These will be checked on race day.	Marshals will be available throughout the day to ensure that all temporary structures are kept safe and all hazards are clearly marked with hazard tape or coned off.	Review on day if necessary

Food poisoning	Participants and spectators	1	3	3	<p>Yes. Food will be prepared in clean and hygienic conditions.</p> <p>Alternative diets will be catered for if known in advance and, in these cases, cross contamination will be avoided (eg nut, dairy or gluten free foods). Dietary specialist foods will be clearly labelled.</p> <p>Catering is being provided by Runnymede Cafe on site, which has a rating of 5 (very good) in food hygiene.</p>	Food hygiene regulations will be strictly adhered to at all times.	To review with cafe on the day and monitor.
Burns/scalds	Participants, organizers and spectators	1	3	3	Hot food provision is being offered by an on site cafe. Any hot food or drink will be given in appropriate packaging.	Qualified First Aiders will be available to assist if required.	Review on day if necessary
Contact details for emergency response	Participants	1	3	3	<p>Yes. The race organiser will have access to the contact details of the emergency services, and all marshals on route.</p> <p>A telephone list will be prepared prior to race.</p>	<p>The Race Organisers will have mobile phones for use if required.</p> <p>Telephone list to be distributed to marshals and officials on day prior to race.</p>	

Access for emergency vehicles	Participants and spectators	1	2	2	Yes. There is access to the event area for emergency vehicles. This will be kept clear. Marshalls will be sent to the entrance when emergency services are called to help them navigate access.	The Emergency Services have in the past gained access to this location and are fully aware of the conditions.	
First Aid coverage	Participants	1	2	2	Yes. An external accredited first aid provider will be present near race control. For the duration of the event. Marshals will have access to basic first aid kits which will include a survival bag or blanket.	First Aiders will be available to assist if required	
Communication between Marshalls	Participants	1	2	2	Yes. One of the organisers has been designated to co-ordinate all the marshals and to make sure all safety issues are communicated between them. A telephone list will be prepared prior to race.	Mobile telephone numbers will be passed between all Marshals & race organisers so full communication between all persons will be available at all times, Mobile phone coverage within the race location is currently of a satisfactory level.	Review on day if necessary

<p>Paddler and Participant Protection: (Child and Vulnerable paddler safeguarding)</p>	<p>All on site.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Both Wey and Addlestone's Child (Paddler) Protection Officer and Junior Coordinator will be on site throughout the event. Marshals will be clearly visible in Hi-Visibility Tabards. The site is small and the 1st Aid tent will be centrally located.</p>	<p>Highlight to Parents and team leaders in pre-race briefings their responsibility to supervised and account for all of their paddlers (and family members).</p>	
<p>Equipment Risks in Race Control (e.g. wires, computer issues etc.)</p>	<p>Marshalls and Race Control team</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Equipment will only be kept with race control, which will have restricted access to only key personnel.</p> <p>Wires will be appropriately laid out and care will be taken when moving around the equipment.</p> <p>Suitable backup of computer equipment will be available.</p>	<p>Appropriate hazard tape and wire covers can be used if needed.</p>	<p>To be reviewed and monitored on the day.</p>

LIKELIHOOD - SCORE 1-5 – the more likely it is that the hazard occurs the higher the score

CONSEQUENCES – SCORE 1-5 – the level of harm that will arise – the more harm the greater the score

Multiply the Likelihood score by the Consequences score to assess whether the risk is acceptable and the level of action required to control the risk.

Total Score = 1-6 low risk activity can take place, 8-15 medium risk put extra measures in place for activity to continue, 16-25 high risk activity should not take place as planned.