

## SRC Annual Regatta – 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2024 – Water Safety Risk Assessment

Date of risk assessment: 28 April 2024  
Location: Friars Meadow, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 2GT  
Assessor's name: Dominique Young

	Description of hazard	Who might be harmed?	Description of what is already being done to deal with the hazard and what is required	Risk Rating (High / Medium / Low)	Person(s) responsible for implementing actions
1.	Launching and landing competing boats – risk of handling incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Competitors</li> <li>● Marshals</li> <li>● Public</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Competitors move boats under direction of Boat Marshal.</li> <li>● Boat trailers located close to landing stages to facilitate access.</li> <li>● Landing stages constructed to give safe water access from meadow.</li> <li>● Competitors advised to exercise caution on and around landing stages.</li> </ul>	Low	Boat Marshal Competitors
2.	Boats in unsafe condition before and during launch – risk of incident on water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Competitors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Competitors reminded it remains their responsibility to ensure their boat is safe to use.</li> <li>● Competitors asked to check condition before moving to launch boat.</li> <li>● A sample of boats checked by Umpire to ensure they are safe [buoyancy, bow balls, heel restraints).</li> </ul>	Low	Boat Marshal Umpire Competitors
3.	Boats assemble for Divisions – risk of collision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Competitors in assembling boats</li> <li>● Crews of Safety boat and stake boats.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Boats assemble upstream of finish under Boat Marshal control.</li> <li>● Boats instructed to not proceed downstream in Divisions until the previous Division races are complete.</li> <li>● Division boats assemble downstream of the start under Start Marshal direction.</li> <li>● Circulation pattern provided to ensure separation of crews heading in opposite directions.</li> <li>● All to follow the one way boating and de-boating system.</li> </ul>	Low	Boat Marshal Start Marshal Competitors

4.	Movement of boats in a confined and busy waterway – risk of collision and capsize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Competitors</li> <li>● Any boat crew</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Competing boats assemble and proceed to start line together as a Division under direction of Boat Marshal.</li> <li>● Competing boats arrange themselves behind start line under direction of the Start Marshal.</li> <li>● Races are separately started and observed by Umpires on the course.</li> <li>● Competitors are segregated by buoyed lanes during racing.</li> <li>● Competitors and crew of Safety boat reminded of their responsibility to be aware of neighbouring boats and avoid collision.</li> <li>● Radio communication between start line, finish line, Safety boat and course Umpires.</li> <li>● Safety boat in attendance with first aid kit and throw line.</li> <li>● Automatic engine cut-outs on safety boat.</li> <li>● Provision and use of buoyancy aids by rescue boat users and competitor coxes.</li> <li>● First Aid tent and personnel on Meadow site.</li> <li>● Throw lines available to Umpires.</li> <li>● Racing suspended by race officials if non-race craft or wildlife (swans) are present in the race area.</li> </ul>	Low	Boat Marshal Start Marshal Umpires Competitors Boat crew
5.	Presence of other river users – risk of (inadvertent) intrusion into race area during a race.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Users of vessels on the river, or individuals on the river bank</li> <li>● Competitors</li> <li>● Safety boat crew</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Local Angling Club, Stour Trust, Canoe Club, Sea Scouts advised of Regatta date in advance by Regatta Secretary.</li> <li>● Non-race craft - canoes, kayaks or other boats - are controlled during Divisions and given passage to pass through at agreed times.</li> </ul>	Low	Regatta Secretary Boat Marshal Start Marshal Umpires
6.	Individual becomes unwell whilst on water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Competitors</li> <li>● Safety boat and Stake boat crews</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Safety boat on hand to access individual.</li> <li>● Umpires and Start and Finish officials provided with radio communication.</li> <li>● Stake boat Juniors and Safety boat crew provided with food and drink, appropriately clothed, protected from the sun and rotated in shifts.</li> <li>● First Aid tent and personnel on Meadow site.</li> <li>● Defibrillator available in First Aid tent and another in SRC club grounds.</li> </ul>	Low	Start Marshal Finish Marshal Umpires

7.	Contaminated water – risk of later developing a waterborne disease.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competitors</li> <li>Crew of Safety boat and Stake boats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EA and other reports on water quality regularly monitored. Attendees will be warned in advance of significant issues.</li> <li>Competitors and boat crews advised to follow latest BR advice on rowing when water quality is poor.</li> <li>Regatta Safety and stake boat crews, Umpires, Boat and Start Marshals equipped with hand sanitiser.</li> <li>Hot showers are available in the SRC Club house in the event of a capsized. Hand gel available along the Meadow.</li> <li>First Aid tent and personnel sited on the Meadow for initial advice if needed.</li> <li>Competitors and race personnel advised to monitor for relevant symptoms following the Regatta and to inform SRC if they do subsequently develop symptoms.</li> </ul>	Low	Competitors Safety and Stake boat crews Umpires Boat Marshal Start Marshal
8.	Umpires outside for large periods of time – risk of exposure to heat/rain/cold.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Umpires</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of gazebos for weather protection</li> <li>Provision of water and food and refreshments.</li> <li>Umpires provided with radio communication.</li> <li>First Aid tent and personnel on Meadow site.</li> </ul>	Low	Regatta Secretary
9.	Extreme weather – thunderstorms, high wind, heavy rain – risk of injuries ranging from minor to serious.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competitors on the water</li> <li>Crew of Safety and other Boats</li> <li>Umpires on the river bank</li> <li>Spectators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range of weather forecasts checked daily in the days before Regatta.</li> <li>If extreme weather approaches, event suspended (or cancelled) under the decision of Race Control.</li> <li>Umpires, Safety boat and stake boat crews advised to return to Meadows and disembark.</li> <li>Public address system available to alert spectators.</li> <li>Competitors and spectators advised to take shelter from thunderstorms in their vehicles or to move inside the regatta Marquees.</li> </ul>	Low	Chair of Race Committee Race Control Regatta Secretary Safety Advisor Umpires
10.	Large numbers of people adjacent to the riverbank – risk of falling into water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spectators</li> <li>Competitors or race individuals on riverbank.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life rings and throw-lines sited along Friars Meadow.</li> <li>Observation of Meadow from Regatta Finish point.</li> <li>Safety launch in attendance.</li> <li>Radio communication between safety launch and race officials on river bank.</li> <li>First Aid tent and personnel on Meadow site.</li> <li>What 3 Words precise location for emergency services: <b><u>Craziest.flask.falls</u></b></li> </ul>	Low	Chair of Race Committee Race Control Regatta Secretary Safety Adviser Umpires