

Appendix A: OURCs Torpids Rowing On Risk Assessment: 19/02/2016 or 21/02/2016

Last updated 28th January 2016 - YW, DL, RQ, JW

Hazard	Risk	Control measures in place	Person(s) responsible	Risk
River Based				
Collision with another racing boat	Injury to rowers, Damage to equipment Can also cause immersion or capsize (see below)	<p>OUCS-registered coxes only. Coxes to have attended a pre-event Coxing Briefing</p> <p>Circulation pattern available on the OURCs website for at least 1 week before the event.</p> <p>Circulation pattern outlined to marshals at a pre-event briefing, and repeated at briefings on the day.</p> <p>Adherence to the event circulation pattern during river closure enforced by marshals aided by megaphones.</p> <p>Senior Umpire determines the gaps between crews at the start, adjusting them according to the expected speed of adjacent crews.</p> <p>Marshals instructed to klaxon a race if the river becomes blocked.</p> <p>All marshals issued with klaxons and radios.</p> <p>All marshals and race officials issued and radios.</p> <p>Bow balls fitted. Boats checked by marshals.</p> <p>At least one safety launch available, which can be summoned by radio.</p> <p>Launches are equipped with British Rowing standard safety bags.</p> <p>Launch drivers to hold at least RYA Powerboat level 2 or equivalent qualification.</p> <p>Qualified First Aid cover employed with dedicated launch.</p> <p>Emergency vehicle access secured.</p> <p>There will be no use of boats without backstays</p>	<p>Senior Umpire, Race Committee, Crews, Captain, Coach, Cox.</p> <p>Crews are responsible for making their boatmen aware of repairs needed on boats.</p>	Low

Hazard	Risk	Control measures in place	Person(s) responsible	Risk
Collision with river traffic (or any object in the river)	<p>Injury to rowers, Damage to equipment</p> <p>Can also cause immersion or capsize (see below)</p>	<p>Pre-event contact made with other river users alerting them to the event.</p> <p>Signs displayed at entry points onto the course.</p> <p>Senior Umpire to check river is clear using marshals.</p> <p>Head marshal and the most downstream marshal briefed to liaise with river traffic entering the course.</p> <p>Marshals briefed to make sure crews stick to the sides of the river, as shown by the circulation pattern leaving the centre free. Also briefed not to allow crews to spin in front of cruisers.</p> <p>Equipped with megaphones to hail crews.</p> <p>Holding points exist to moor cruisers up at when a race is about to go off.</p> <p>Coxes briefed to observe the circulation pattern and not to spin in front of cruisers.</p> <p>Launch and medical cover as above.</p> <p>Move any small object in the river that can cause an obstruction, using the launches if necessary. Protect the crews from larger, immovable, objects or suspend racing while it is moved.</p>	<p>Senior Umpire, Race Committee, Captain, Coach, Cox</p>	<p>Low</p>
Immersion	<p>Infection, Hypothermia, Drowning</p>	<p>All competitors must have passed an Oxford University standard swim test unless given unequivocal permission to compete by OURCs and the Sports Safety Officer.</p> <p>Marshals instructed to klaxon the race if someone is in danger in the water. All marshals issued with klaxons.</p> <p>Launch and medical cover as above.</p> <p>Blankets available on rescue launches and at boathouses. Rowers educated about river-borne diseases.</p>	<p>Race Committee, Captain, Coach</p>	<p>Low</p>
Capsize	<p>Becoming trapped in boat, Immersion (see above)</p>	<p>Crew: Heel restraints fitted. Boats checked by marshals. Crews will be using stern-coxed boats only.</p>	<p>Crews, Cox, Captain, Race Committee</p>	<p>Low</p>

Hazard	Risk	Control measures in place	Person(s) responsible	Risk
Over-exertion	Hyperventilation, pulled muscles, cramp, back injury.	Rowers should warm up on land before races and warm down and stretch as appropriate. Coaches and captains to take into account medical history when selecting crews. Rowers should not compete if they feel unwell or are injured.	Coach , Captain, Crew	Low
Use of Safety launches	Capsize	Stable launch to be used. Launch drivers to be qualified to RYA level 2 or equivalent.	Captain , Coach	Low
	Falling Out	Proper seating to be fitted, and launch not to be overloaded. Kill cords to be fitted and used at all times. Lifejackets to be worn at all times by all crew.	Captain , Boat Owner, Launch Crew	Low-Med
	Failure of engine due to fouling of propeller.	Crew to clear river of debris as appropriate. Launch to carry British Rowing recommended safety equipment, including a knife, paddle and radio while in use.	Captain , Launch Crew	Low
	Mechanical failure	Launch to be serviced regularly.	Boat Owner	Low

Hazard	Risk	Control measures in place	Person(s) responsible	Risk
Lightning	Craft struck by lightning on river. Race officials caught in the open during racing.	Race officials will monitor weather conditions. Distance of storm to be assessed using "30-30" system.	Senior Umpire, Race Committee	Low
High stream and/or high wind	Being swept onto obstacles, including bridges, bank, debris, or weirs. Swamping.	If blue flag is flying, only coxes and crews of appropriate experience will be allowed on the water. If Amber or Red flag is flying, then rowing on will be postponed or cancelled as outlined in the event plan. Weather and stream to be monitored and consultation taken with EA. Cancellation if appropriate.	Senior Umpire, Race Committee, Coach, Cox, Captain, Crew	Low-High, (depending on combination of conditions)
Low Visibility	Collision with other craft or the bank	If visibility is reduced to less than 100m on any part of the racing course then racing is suspended or cancelled.	Senior Umpire, Race Committee, Crew, Captain, Coach	Low-Med, (depending on conditions)
Ice on the water	Damage to Boats	Race officials and marshals to monitor weather conditions. Safety launches used to clear small quantities of ice from the racing course. Racing cancelled if launches cannot sufficiently clear the race course of ice.	Senior Umpire, Race Committee	Low-High, (depending on conditions)

Hazard	Risk	Control measures in place	Person(s) responsible	Risk
Land Based				
Collision involving accompanying cyclists	Injury to cyclists and pedestrians, possibly immersion.	<p>Notices posted at entry points onto the towpath that a regatta is in progress.</p> <p>Marshals to wear high visibility yellow bibs and warn pedestrians of oncoming races.</p> <p>Marshals briefed to warn Race Desk if there is a large density of members of the public on the towpath in their area.</p> <p>Marshals briefed to report dangerous behaviour on the part of following cyclists.</p> <p>All bikes used by bank riders and umpires should be suitably equipped with lights, if light conditions should worsen.</p> <p>Bank riders will also be advised that they should not undertake any filming whilst cycling.</p> <p>Cyclists limited to one per crew unless exemption has been granted. Extra cyclists will incur fines.</p> <p>An optional Bike Marshal to precede each division, warning members of the public that cyclists are approaching.</p> <p>First aid presence as above.</p> <p>Race Committee briefed on emergency procedures.</p>	Marshals, Race Committee, Coach	Med
Collision between boats or blades and spectator	Injury to bystanders, immersion.	<p>Captains aware of responsibilities for any supporters and spectators.</p> <p>Marshals available at boathouses with radios.</p> <p>First aid presence as above.</p> <p>Race Committee briefed on emergency procedures.</p>	Captain, Crew	Low
Ice on Towpath	Injury to bystanders or cyclists, possibly immersion	Senior Umpire and Race Secretary will discuss measures to make racing safe, which may include removing bank riders and crews that need them.	Race Committee, Senior Umpire	Low-High (depending on conditions)