

Risk Assessment Document			Event: MAIDSTONE SMALL BOATS HEAD						
Location:			The River Medway at Maidstone and the MIRC Boathouse						
Date of Completion:			01/05/2019: reviewed 01/08/2019, 02/01/2020, 31/08/2021, 20/01/2022, 12/08/22, 12/01/23, 04/09/23, 8/1/24, 5/9/24, 03/01/25, 07/09/25						
Assessed by:			Suzanne Davies : Event Rowing Safety Advisor						
			Review date: Prior to each race						
No.	Hazard	Consequences	Risk Assessment			Actions to reduce likelihood of risk occurring		Residual risk	Actions to minimise residual risk
			Severity (1-4)	Likelihood (1-4)	Risk score	Actions taken to reduce risk	Further actions		
			1 = No perceived risk 2 = Risk of minor injury 3 = Risk of serious injury 4 = Risk to life	1 = Very unlikely 2 = Unlikely 3 = Likely 4 = Very likely	1 - 2 = No perceived risk 3 - 5 = Moderate risk 6 - 8 = High risk 9 + = Very high risk			Very Low Low Moderate High	Any incident involving injury, illness or damage to equipment should be reported to BR via the online reporting system.
1	Weather conditions. High winds.	Dangerous for towing trailers to event. Damage to boats on trestles. Higher risk of collision or swamping on water.	3	2	6	Conditions will be monitored prior to the event. If deemed too unsafe, race will be cancelled. If wind gust exceeding 15mph the event should be reviewed. If gusts exceed 40mph and there is a yellow wind warning from the Met Office then the event should not take place.	Race officials will continue to keep the course under inspection and report unsafe conditions to the ERSA or RCC.	Low	Officials will be briefed on what to do if event is cancelled/suspended while it is running. Crews will be asked to return to the clubhouse as safely as possible, launches will accompany boats to ensure safe return. First aider available at the club. Telephone available at Race Registration to summon emergency assistance.
1	Weather conditions. Cold temperature.	Danger of ice on land. On water danger of hypothermia.	2	2	4	Conditions will be monitored prior to the event. If deemed too unsafe, race will be cancelled. If air temperature at or below 4 degrees C the event should be reviewed. Wind chill should be allowed for. If necessary water temperature should be monitored and the following temperatures used to determine whether to withdraw certain entrants or cancel. Below 5 degrees recommend to clubs that their less confident novice singles/doubles should withdraw. Below 3 degrees event to be cancelled. If ice on the river then event should be cancelled.	Race officials will continue to keep the course under inspection and report unsafe conditions to the ERSA or RCC.	Low	Officials will be briefed on what to do if event is cancelled/suspended while it is running. Crews will be asked to return to the clubhouse as safely as possible, launches will accompany boats to ensure safe return. First aider available at the club. Telephone available at Race Registration to summon emergency assistance.
1	Weather conditions. Heavy Rain or snow.	Dangerous for towing trailers to event. Danger of slippery conditions on land. Poor visibility on water.	3	2	6	Conditions will be monitored prior to the event. If deemed too unsafe, race will be cancelled or younger juniors withdrawn.	Race officials will continue to keep the course under inspection and report unsafe conditions to the ERSA or RCC.	Low	Officials will be briefed on what to do if event is cancelled/suspended while it is running. Crews will be asked to return to the clubhouse as safely as possible, launches will accompany boats to ensure safe return. First aider available at the club. Telephone available at Race Registration to summon emergency assistance.
1	Weather conditions. River level high and strong steam	Increased hazard for boating crews and increased likelihood of accidents on the water.	3	2	6	Conditions will be monitored prior to the event. If deemed too unsafe, race will be cancelled or younger juniors withdrawn. If river under RED conditions from EA then event to be cancelled in full. If river under AMBER from EA then conditions to be assessed in consultation with the EA. If flow rate is a concern then use data from the EA monitoring station at Castle Quay. Normal flow rate is 5 cubic m/s or below. A flow rate of 27 cubic m/s or above and the race should be cancelled. A flow rate of between 18 cubic m/s and 27 cubic m/s (normally means an AMBER state is in force) and the race should be assessed with less experienced crews and younger juniors withdrawn if felt necessary. In the event that the data from the monitoring station is not available then use the 'Pooh stick' test at the club. If timing from end to end of the club steps is less than 1min 25secs then cancel. If timing is between this and 2mins then assess whether event should be cancelled or less competent competitors pulled out. Acceptable flow rate at the Teston monitoring station is 11.50 cubic meters per second and decreasing .	Race officials will continue to keep the course under inspection and report unsafe conditions to the ERSA or RCC.	Low	Officials will be briefed on what to do if event is cancelled/suspended while it is running. Crews will be asked to return to the clubhouse as safely as possible, launches will accompany boats to ensure safe return. First aider available at the club. Telephone available at Race Registration to summon emergency assistance.
3	Car and trailer parking	Minor/Major damage to boats and potential injuries to bystanders.	2	2	4	Marshalls will guide all vehicle drivers to ensure safe parking and places for competitors to move freely and safely.	Marshalls will continue to monitor vehicles and trailers when moving around the car parking area and oversee care of boats and competitors	Low	First aider available at the club. Telephone available at race registration to summon emergency assistance if required.

	Crews going afloat and coming off the water	Damage to equipment and injury to competitors, marshals, bystanders and members of the public using the path	2	2	4	Marshals in position to limit number of boats on landing stage and to direct operations. Notices posted on the path to warn members of the public.		Low	First aider available at the club. Telephone available at race registration to summon emergency assistance if required.
4	Collision with other rowing boats or pleasure craft	Damage to boats and equipment, potentially serious injuries and capsizes. Risk to life if capsizes.	4	2	8	Locations of moored craft on safety plan and in safety briefing. Race officials briefed as to how to deal with an emergency. Safety boats positioned along the course to respond as necessary. First aider stationed at club and able to respond to incident if required.	Race officials will be on duty throughout the race to deal with an emergency	Moderate	First aider available at the club and additional spare clothing. Telephone available at race registration to summon emergency assistance if required.
5	Capsizes	Potential for serious injury/loss of life.	4	2	8	Race officials briefed as to what to do in the event of a capsizes. Safety Launches will be positioned along the course to be able to recover any competitors. First aider stationed at club and able to respond to incident if required.	Race officials on the bank and in launches will continue to monitor all competitors along the course and be available as required	Moderate	First aider available at the club and additional spare clothing. Telephone available at race registration to summon emergency assistance if required.
7	Crews marshalling at the start and finish	Damage to equipment and minor injuries caused by collision while boats manoeuvring.	2	2	4	Circulation plans to be published with safety plan. Crews prohibited from firm pressure rowing in marshalling areas. Marshalls will be present to manage the marshalling process and to ensure crew safety. Safety boat will be stationed nearby to provide assistance if required.		Low	A safety launch will be on hand to organize crews to land and to Marshall safely at the finish line. First aider available at the club and additional spare clothing. Telephone available at race registration to summon emergency assistance if required.
1	Preparation of food on Barbeque at club. Gas and electricity used. Knives used to cut up food.	Minor injury caused by knives. Potential for more major injury caused by burns. Potential for catastrophic injury caused by gas leak.	4	1	4	Food preparation and sale overseen by person with food hygiene qualification. Minimal cutting up of food to be required. Electricity supply to be safeguarded with a circuit breaker. Gas bottle supply for the BBQ to be stored as far from flame as practicable. Extinguisher and fire blanket to be available.	All members are made aware that it is their responsibility to take care and attention of the environment	Low	First aider available at the club. Telephone available at race registration to summon emergency assistance if required.
2	Injury through use of MIRC gym equipment (ergos and weights).	Potential for strain injuries on ergos and more serious injuries on free weights.	3	1	3	No free weights to be used on the day of the race by MIRC or visiting clubs. Ergos available for warming up. It can be assumed that all athletes will be accustomed to how to correctly use this equipment.	Notices to be displayed advising people not to use the free weights and if using the ergos that they should only do so if they have received training. All MIRC members to be made aware that no free weights may be used during the period of the race.	Very Low	First aider available at the club. Telephone available at race registration to summon emergency assistance if required.
3	Slips, trips etc	Minor injury	2	2	4	Walkways to be kept clear of obstacles.	Marshals instructed to monitor housekeeping and keep walkways clear.	Very Low	First aider available at the club. Telephone available at race registration to summon emergency assistance if required.
The full MIRC club risk assessment which includes non event specific risks should also be taken into account. This assessment is available on the club website at http://maidstoneinvicta.co.uk/safety/									