

# Chiswick Amateur Regatta 2023 – Safety Plan

## **ACCIDENTS**

### **ON WATER, STAY WITH YOUR BOAT AND WAIT FOR THE SAFETY LAUNCH**

#### **During a Race:**

- Crews must stop racing immediately if instructed to do so by the Umpire
- The Umpire's first duty will be to the competitors or persons in difficulty
- The Umpire will summon the Safety Launch and inform Race Control
- Racing will be suspended until the course is cleared
- Race Control will alert the land based First Aid Post if advised to do so by the Safety Launch
- All non-essential radio conversation will cease until the Safety Launch stands down

#### **Outside a Race:**

- The nearest Radio Contact (Umpire, Marshal, Spotter) will summon the Safety Launch and inform Race Control
- If necessary, the nearest Umpire's or Marshal's launch will provide immediate assistance
- All non-essential radio conversation will cease until the Safety Launch stands-down
- If the incident is on the course, racing will be suspended until the course is cleared

#### **In both situations above:**

- Race Control will alert the land based First Aid Post
- Race Control may summon the RNLI Lifeboat by initiating a 999 to 'Coastguard' should the incident require assistance beyond the scope of the resources which are available on the Regatta site

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## **ON LAND, CONTACT THE NEAREST OFFICIAL**

- The nearest official will inform Race Control
- Race Control will alert the land based First Aid Post
- The land based First Aid Post will assess what further action is needed
- Race Control may initiate a 999 call should the incident require assistance beyond the scope of the resources which are available on the Regatta site

## **KEY PERSONNEL**

- Regatta Secretary: Rebekah Edgar 07793532372
- Chairman of the Race Committee: Luke Howells 07773 849505
- Safety Adviser: Adrian Ballardie 07710 799886
- Entries Secretary: Malcolm Cook
- Regatta HQ/Race Control is situated downstream of the Quintin Boat Club in the Gym.

## **SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

- First Aid: A paramedic ambulance is situated in the carpark between Quintin Boathouse and Regatta HQ
- Safety Launch cover will be provided during racing. The Safety Launch will be situated on the course
- The RNLi lifeboat station at Chiswick has been informed of the event
- Hospitals: Charing Cross Hospital is the nearest hospital
- The Port of London Authority (PLA) has been informed of the event

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## COMMUNICATIONS

- All waterborne Officials, the Safety Launch & Marshals are in radio contact with Regatta HQ
- All key regatta officials have mobile telephones

## PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Regatta Committee will endeavour to provide a safe racing environment. This does not replace an individual's responsibility to themselves, fellow competitors, spectators and other river users to conduct themselves in a safe and responsible manner throughout the event.

- Equipment:** All boats must comply with the British Rowing Rules of Racing and Row Safe. If your boat does not comply with the safety rules you will not be allowed to boat until the fault is rectified. If your boat cannot be made safe you will not be allowed to compete
- Competitors:** The foreshore in the boating area can have **sharp objects** on it. Thus walking over it without shoes or boots can lead to injury.
- Coxswains, bow steers and scullers:** Please read and make yourself familiar with the Information for Competitors and the Course Maps
- Lifejackets:** It is accepted national practice that rowers do not wear lifejackets/buoyancy aids unless individual club safety advisors have specifically identified a need. This practice is in line with BR 'Row Safe' published guidance. Individual crewmembers will have satisfied their club membership requirement regarding their swimming ability. All race officials, i.e., umpires, marshals and drivers will be wearing lifejackets/buoyancy aids. Officials will provide a line-of-sight coverage along whole course and any alarm will be raised by them or another member of the crew, e.g., the driver
- Coxswains:** are required to wear life jackets/buoyancy aids, which will be reviewed by control commission. As a reminder all coxswains of bow loaded fours **must** only wear manually operated lifejackets

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- **Start Marshal/Start Manager:** The Start Marshal/Start Manager will be at the start of the course. Please obey their instructions
- **Other River Users:** The Regatta is being held on a Bank Holiday weekend and the river may be busy. Competitors should understand that the river will be open to other traffic and that private motor boats/launches may not take appropriate action to reduce their speed. Competitors should make due allowance for this.
- **PLA:** The PLA has ultimate authority over navigation. If the PLA Harbourmaster's Boat gives instructions to competitors, please listen and obey them.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

In the event of poor/worsening weather, please listen to announcements from Race Control, who will advise whether racing will be temporarily suspended.

In the event of lightning all competitors and officials are to come ashore as soon as practicable and take shelter in the Boathouses.

**Note:** You should be sure that your crew is competent to cope with the prevailing conditions before you allow them to boat.

### **PLA RED FLAG.**

If the PLA "Red Flag" the Tideway, racing will not be allowed on the ebb tide, and it will only be allowed on the flood tide at the discretion of the Safety Advisor and Chief Umpire.

**THE CHISWICK REGATTA COMMITTEE WISHES COMPETITORS SAFE AND ENJOYABLE RACING**