



## HAMBLE WILD WATER RACE

### ORGANISATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT

*NOTE: Canoe refers to all forms of kayak and canoe (open and closed cockpit) in this document*

#### RISK ASSESSMENT

L=LOW RISK (IF ADVICE FOLLOWED); M=MEDIUM RISK AND H=HIGH RISK

(RACE IS NOT SUITABLE FOR NOVICES)

See also:

- **Emergency Procedures for Hamble race**
- **Hamble WWR Water Safety**
- **Hamble WWR Safety and Coaching tips**
- **River Hamble Canoe Race Key numbers (First Aid etc.)**
- **River Hamble Safety Boat Briefing**
- **Hamble Paddlers Important Information for RAFYC use**

<b>ORGANISATION</b>			
		<p><b>HARBOUR MASTER TO NOTIFY RIVER USERS OF RACE, COURSE AND RACE DURATION DAY OF RACE/BEFORE AS THEY DEEM FIT</b></p> <p><b>If required course changes or race cancellation will be considered and implemented. If Force 5/6 consideration to change course will be considered. If over Force 6 two options will be considered depending on weather severity and paddler safety: Option 1: The course will be changed to run from Lands' End to the M27 Motorway bridge and back to Lands' End with one or two loops to make the race. Safety boats will be positioned at the M27 motorway bridge and Bursledon bridge. Option 2 the race will be cancelled.</b></p>	
<b>INSURANCE</b>			
<b>Race Organiser</b>	<p><b>THE SHARKS CANOE CLUB, Neal Underwood</b>  <b>Mobile: 07951770241</b>  <b>Race Manager Susan Templeton</b>  <b><u>Tel:07771746909</u></b>  <b>Email:</b>  <b>susan13templeton@btinternet.com</b></p>	<p><b>THE SHARKS hold a 5 million pound third party liability insurance</b></p>	
<b>British Canoeing either individual or as a member of a British</b>		<p><b>Hold a 10 million pound third party liability insurance.</b></p>	

<b>Canoeing affiliated club</b>			
<b>Insurance cover checks</b>		<p>All competitors will be checked for insurance cover at race entry as either having:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ British Canoeing membership.</li> <li>▪ Affiliated club British Canoeing membership.</li> <li>▪ British Canoeing membership by buying a day ticket.</li> </ul>	
<b>Welfare Officer and Child Protection</b>		<p>Mandy Combes Club Officer Susan Templeton (to oversee on the day)</p>	<p><b>PARENTS OR PERSON IN “LOCO PARENTIS” MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL CHILDREN UNDER 18 PADDLERS OR SPECTATORS</b></p>
<b>Incident Recording</b>		To be reported and logged with Susan Templeton	<p>Copy to be provided for WWR Executive needs Inform Harbour master by mobile. Then inform race finish.</p>
<b>ENTRY AND ENTRY FEES</b>		<p><b>British Canoeing Members £5 non members £10</b> <b>LATE ENTRY FEE AN ADDITIONAL £1</b> <b>ENTRIES CLOSE 1000</b></p>	

<b>START TIME AND BRIEFING</b>		<b>START TIME 1100</b> <b>BRIEFING ALL TO ATTEND BE IN CANOE KIT READY TO GET ON WATER TO START 1030</b>	
<b>RISK ASSESSMENT</b>			
<b>RISK/HAZARD</b>	<b>RISK TO WHOM</b>	<b>RISK/HAZARD MEASURES,RISK ACTIONS AND ADVICE</b>	<b>REDUCTION AVOIDANCE,</b> <b>RATING IF PRECAUTIONS ETC FOLLOWED</b> <b>L=LOW</b>
<b>SITE SPECIFIC</b>			
<b>PADDLERS AND SPECTATORS</b>	<b>Paddlers and Spectators</b>	<b>START: Toilets, those located at Andark shop are across a busy road it is suggested no paddler under 18 should be allowed to go to the toilets either at Andark shop or the alternative in the Marina nearby on their own (nor be left on their own). FINISH: At RAFYC, see conditions of use of facilities at RAFYC. NO PARKING for race paddlers etc. there.</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>JETTY AT RAFYC</b>	<b>Paddlers and Spectators</b>	<b>Only the finish personnel should be on the jetty and it is suggested buoyancy aids are worn.</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>START AND FINISH NUMBERS</b>			
<b>Competence</b>	<b>Paddlers, parents and persons in “Loco Parentis”</b>	<b>Paddlers are solely responsible for their own competence, medical fitness and issues and welfare undertaking the race in the conditions present on the day.</b>	<b>L</b>

		All entrants will complete an entry form stating competence (see separate form). For Under 18 paddlers, an adult with “Loco Parentis” for them entering and attempting the race and with knowledge of their ability will be required to sign as to their competence to race on the conditions on race day.	
Start and finish numbers matching	Paddlers and Organisers	All paddlers will have a start number and start time allocated. Start and finish numbers will be compared. Paddlers will be briefed on ensuring they do not leave the race area without first reporting their withdrawal. Contact details will be held on entry forms if needed.	L
Last sweep Canoe Marshall	Paddlers and Canoe safety Marshall and Safety Boats	A final sweep canoe Marshall will leave the start approximately 10 minutes after the last paddler they will act as the final race boat and relieve safety boats and/or canoe safety boats as they pass them. If the caught paddlers are not in danger and past Mercury Marina the last boat will continue on leaving the motorised safety boat to escort last paddlers in. NB: Conditions may be too difficult for canoe escort/assistance so the last safety canoe Marshall and/or other paddlers may need to carry on and alert a motorised safety boat if they can or the finish on their arrival (as was the case in the 2014 race).	L
<b>PADDLER PERSONAL SAFETY</b>			L
Safety clothing and	Paddlers	MANDATORY all classes, ages etc.,	

equipment		<p>All paddlers are and will be required to wear buoyancy aids, crash helmets (FOR WWR CLASS PADDLERS) and in canoes with closed cockpits a spray deck which fully covers the canoe cockpit hole.</p> <p>Paddlers are required to ensure their safety clothing and equipment is in accordance with current safety regulations in WWR.</p>	
Canoe flotation	Paddlers	<p>Canoes should be buoyant enough to float even if fully full with water so should act as support to a capsized canoeist if required.</p> <p>Paddlers are required to ensure their canoe is buoyant.</p>	
<b>FIRST AID</b>			
Start and finish	Organisation	<p>Basic first aid kits will be held at the start and finish. Anything other than basic first aid or if in doubt refer to professional medical support.</p> <p>Emergency medical issues via local hospitals and/or via 999.</p> <p><a href="#">See River Hamble Canoe Race Key Numbers</a></p>	L
<b>COLLISIONS</b>			
Canoe with moored boats/pontoons etc.	Paddlers	<p>Paddlers will be briefed on effects of wind and tide and need to avoid proximity of pontoons and moored boats.</p>	L
Canoes with moving boats	Paddlers	<p>There may be some boat traffic on the river especially if a sunny day.</p> <p>Paddlers will be briefed to keep moving boats at a distance and if in doubt give way to other river craft well in advance. Paddlers will be briefed to be</p>	L

		<p>extra vigilant past marina exits.</p> <p>Course avoids main river channel where possible.</p> <p>Advice: Avoid boats and watch out for waves from them. If unsure point your boat directly at the oncoming wave and paddle towards it keeping control in a straight line you will then ride over the wave and can then straighten yourself and get back on course.</p>	
Canoe with safety boat	Paddlers	Safety boats will be briefed on how to work with paddlers and canoes e.g. wash, motors and dealing with capsizes. (See attached guidelines and briefing)	L
<b>GROUNDING</b>			
Banks/shallows	Paddlers	Paddlers will under most circumstances be able to pull themselves off shallows. If required they will be briefed to ask for other paddler support or safety boat	L
Bank edges muddy or soft	Paddlers	Paddlers will be briefed if too muddy to wait for other canoeists to pull to safety or safety boat support	L
<b>CAPSIZE</b>			
Swim	Paddlers and safety boats	<p>Paddlers will be briefed on risks and getting to nearest bank and attracting other paddler or safety boat attention for rescue.</p> <p><b>IN ALL CASES THE PADDLER TAKES PRIORITY OVER SAVING BOAT AND/OR EQUIPMENT</b></p>	L

		<p><b>Safety helmets must be worn by all WWR class paddlers</b></p> <p><b>Swim Paddlers will be briefed on risks and getting to nearest bank and attracting other paddler attention for rescue.</b></p> <p><b>WWR code of conduct requires all paddlers to offer support to other paddlers when requested or if they see someone in potential difficulty with penalty of disqualification for life from competitive canoeing unless at risk/danger themselves.</b></p> <p><b>The paddler should get to the bank as quickly as possible with their canoe and paddle if they can. If they need help they MUST stop the next paddlers by calling for help from them or attract the attention of a safety boat if they see it. The water, current and tide may be strong and some paddlers may have difficulty in swimming against this. The finished paddlers must be alert to the paddlers on the race course and go to help immediately. Experienced paddlers will be asked to stay on the water (if they agree) to assist with safety in addition to the two finish paddlers on standby.</b></p> <p><b>For the WWR race safety cover is by two motorised safety boats in two locations, other locations by paddlers racing and you must ask for help or any paddler seeing another who is or may be in difficulty should render assistance if they do not they face a potential life ban from the sport.</b></p>	
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		<p>For the WWR race paddlers must wait on until the next two paddlers have finished there must always be two paddlers at the bottom of the race acting as safety.</p> <p>NB: If a boat is lost downstream then let control Susan Templeton know so the River Hamble Harbour master can be notified so they do not search for a person in vain.</p>	
<b>EQUIPMENT DAMAGE OR LOSS</b>			
Paddle loss	Paddlers	<p>May result in capsizes. Paddler to get to bank or attract other paddler or safety boat to help.</p>	L
Canoe loss	Paddlers	<p>Paddler to be rescued above equipment. If safety boat or other paddlers cannot retrieve equipment safely Harbour master to be advised so this does not result in concerns a paddler missing.</p>	L
<b>PERSONAL INJURY OR ILL HEALTH</b>			
Injury or ill health	Paddlers	<p>Paddlers need to consider their own medical conditions and the demands of the race on race day and make their own decision (or if under 18 paddler the parent or person acting in “parental locus for the child”) as to whether they are fit/well enough to race. Paddler needs to attract other paddlers or safety boat support. If required medical support to be sought either from local hospital or by dialling 999. Harbour</p>	L

		<b>Master then race finish to be informed.</b>	
<b>Hypothermia or Heat stroke</b>	<b>Paddlers and Spectators</b>	<p><b>Wear clothing appropriate for conditions and your own body regulation.</b></p> <p><b>Paddlers can withdraw from race by attracting safety boat/other paddlers' attention.</b></p> <p><b>If required the RAFYC launch will be called by the safety boat to ferry paddlers to RAFYC for medical support.</b></p>	<b>L</b>
<b>WEILS DISEASE</b>	<b>Paddlers</b>	<p><b>WEIL'S DISEASE</b></p> <p><b>Weil's Disease is a RARE but very serious illness which is caused by bacteria carried in the urine of rats (and some other animals). It can be contracted anywhere but especially around waterways. The descending scale of risk is: Stagnant water, canals and slow moving rivers (particularly after flash floods), swifter streams.</b></p> <p><b>Precautions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Avoid capsize drill or rolling in stagnant or slow moving water</b></li> <li>• <b>Wash or shower after canoeing Cover minor scratches on exposed parts of the body with water-proof plaster</b></li> <li>• <b>Use foot-wear to avoid cutting feet</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Should you become ill after canoeing (2-19 days) with a flu-like illness (temperature, aching limbs &amp; joints) call your doctor and tell him/her you are a canoeist and may have come into contact with the Leptospirosis bacteria - see your Yearbook Contact</b></p>	<b>L</b>

		the British Canoeing Office for more information – sae for standard handout please.	
<b>Emergency</b>	<b>Paddlers, Spectators and Organisation</b>	<b>999 to be called ASK FOR Coastguard give details of situation and locations. Inform Harbour master by VHS or mobile. Then inform race finish. See Emergency Plan</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>WATER AND WEATHER CONDITIONS</b>			
<b>High winds, high waves, fog</b>	<b>Paddlers</b>	<b>Paddlers to be briefed and to ensure they are competent to race in the conditions on the day. If required course changes or race cancellation will be considered and implemented. If Force 5/6 consideration to change course will be considered. If over Force 6 two options will be considered depending on weather severity and paddler safety: Option 1: The course will be changed to run from Lands’ End to the M27 Motorway bridge and back to Lands’ End with one or two loops to make the race. Safety boats will be positioned at the M27 motorway bridge and Bursledon bridge. Option 2 the race will be cancelled. <b>Harbour master to be consulted on race morning as to their views on race conditions.</b></b>	<b>L</b>
<b>Waves from boat traffic</b>	<b>Paddlers</b>	<b>Paddlers briefed on river conditions. Race in November so reduced river traffic.</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>Tidal conditions</b>	<b>Paddlers</b>	<b>Race at top of first tide so minimal tidal strength usually anticipated.</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>SAFETY BOATS AND CANOES</b>			

<b>Minimum of two motorised safety boats.</b>	<b>Paddlers and Safety Boats</b>	<b>2 motorised safety boats as a minimum. Will patrol Stage 2 of race Mercury Marina and Stage 4 of race Port Hamble Marina. If more than 2 boats available will be allocated as one boat per Stage (4 designated stages) or alternative race positions as noted above if race course changed.</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>Safety canoes</b>	<b>Paddlers and Safety Canoes</b>	<b>Where available these will cover first stages 3 and 4 if more available will be put in places where direction most needed for paddlers.</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>Safety finish</b>	<b>Paddlers</b>	<b>WWR rules require the last two boats to wait on the water until the next finishers for safety. This will be required for all paddlers on finishing.</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>			
<b>Mobile phones</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Mobile phones will be held at start and finish</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>VHF</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Hoped to have on each motorised safety boat. VHF at RAFYC can also be used in an emergency.</b>	<b>L</b>

**SMT/MAY 2017**