



Event Safety Plan

RYA NATIONAL TEAM RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**22nd -23rd March
2025**

At

**Oxford Sailing Club
Farmoor Reservoir
OX2 9NS**



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Key Event Details and Personnel

Event

RYA Team Racing Championships 2025

Location

Oxford Sailing Club
Farmoor Reservoir
Cumnor Road
Cumnor
Oxfordshire
OX2 9NS

01865 863201

Dates

22nd – 23rd March 2025

Key Personnel

Event Director	Steve Watson	07771 807401
Event Coordinator	Nigel Vick	07812 930001
Principal Race Officer	Keith Sammons	07879 403139
Chief Umpire	James Clapham	07739 580425



Objective

To provide a safe on-the-water environment for Competitors, Volunteers, Contractors and Staff having regard for both expected and unforeseen conditions including:

- Suitable safety requirements for the conduct of races
- A coordinated emergency plan for events
- Recommended responses by personnel involved.

All competitors have been made aware of the following 'Risk Statement':

Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accepts responsibility for the exposure of themselves and their crew to such inherent risk while taking part in the event.
- b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew and any property they may bring, whether afloat or ashore.
- c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
- d) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities
- e) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- f) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for this event.
- g) It is their responsibility to ensure that they are familiar with the type of boat used, and the supplied equipment and are suitably experienced with its operation.
- h) It is their responsibility for ensuring all supplied equipment is carried on board.
- i) That they are fit to sail and that they believe the crew and the boat and crew is capable of competing in the anticipated conditions.



Roles and Responsibilities.

These roles are explained in detail in the RYA document:
RYA Event Safety Standard Operating Guidelines (SSOG)

Event Director

Has overall responsibility for the delivery of the event.

Event Coordinator

Assists the Event Director in delivery of the event.

Principal Race Officer (PRO)

Has the responsibility for all operations on the water.

Medical

There will be an abundance of First Aid Trained people on site (RYA Instructors) who can provide medical cover to both the on the water teams and shore helpers, parents etc.

If, for any reason an Ambulance is called, the Event Director and Race Officer must be informed.

Beach Master

A beach master will be appointed, along with a number of assistants to manage the launch and recovery of the sailing fleets. The Beach Master is responsible for overseeing the safe launching and recovery of the fleets as well as ensuring safe access and egress to the transfer pontoons.

Umpires

Although primarily on course to adjudicate racing rules disputes, the umpires are all following the races in close proximity and therefore as best placed to act as safety. When necessary, and as directed by the PRO, acting as a safety boat will be their primary responsibility.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding Officer is David Oughton of OSC



Risk Assessment

A Risk Assessment has been prepared for this event.

This covers the identified risks prior to the event.

A dynamic sailing risk assessment will be prepared at the daily Race Management meeting once the current weather forecasts have been obtained and compared with the actual conditions.

The event is being held at an established site and sailing venue.

Briefings

Event Safety Briefing

There will be no formal Safety Briefing.

The Race Management & Umpire Team meetings will include safety matters and safety will be identified in the Competitor Briefing.

Race Management Briefing

Each morning a briefing will be held.

The plan for the day will be discussed along with weather forecast, wind conditions and any other items that may affect the planned racing.

Racing areas for each fleet will be agreed.

Daily Safety Briefing

A daily Safety Briefing will be delivered each morning as part of the Race Management briefing

Racing Area



Daily Plan

There will be a morning Safety / Management meeting each day.

Following the Management meeting there will be a Race Team briefing and Umpire meeting.

On Saturday there will be a Sailor Briefing before racing.

The first warning signal for racing is planned for 08.57 each day.

Racing will be a continuous sequence of starts each day with a target finishing time of 17.00 on Saturday and 15.00 on Sunday.

Emergency Action Plans

The RYA Safety Standard Operating Guidelines (SSOG) provide guidance on a number of situations.

Fog

The international definition of Fog is when visibility is less than 1000 metres or 0.539Nm.

As an inland venue there is little risk from Fog however, Fleets will be not be launched if the entire course area is not visible and will be directed ashore should the nearest limnology tower not be visible.

Lightning

In the event of lightning being seen in the vicinity racing is to be terminated and boats returned to shore or capsized and sailors brought ashore by powerboat.

Strong Wind

Should the ChUmp feel that the environmental conditions existing at the time (wind, wave, temperature etc.) are becoming challenging then they should discuss with the RO whether or not to reduce sail size by going cut-downs or abandon racing.

Code Red

This is a situation that is declared over the VHF radio if a significant injury or accident occurs on the water.

In the event of an emergency occurring that will require additional resources (significant injury to a participant, structural damage endangering the safety of a boat in the event, etc.), the first boat on the scene should inform all stations using the code words "CODE RED" and its location. The safety or boat nearest to the "CODE RED" boat's location should immediately proceed to help. All other stations should minimize radio traffic. The senior person on the scene should take appropriate action and inform the Race Officer.

On the Water Casualties

First Aid

If a person on the water requires 'First Aid' then they can be brought ashore at the club Pontoon. Make contact with shore via 'PRO' who will organise .

Significant Injury

Normally the casualty should be brought to the club pontoon where they will be met by an appropriate team organised by the Race Officer. However consideration may be given to recovering the boat at the beach as transport may be easier.

External Emergency Services

Calls to external Emergency Services must be reported to the Event Director & Race Officer as soon as possible.

An AED is located outside the clubhouse members entrance (reservoir side), the access code is
C159X.

What 3 Words Main Gate Location ///juggle.replying.sneezed

Ambulance control struggles to find the right location from the postal address.
Send someone to the gate to direct the ambulance



The Emergency Landing Point, if required will be the sailability pontoon near the gangway.

The Race Officer will also give consideration to recovering the powerboat on the beach if he considers it appropriate

Medical Centres

Urgent Care Centre
Abingdon Community Hospital
Marcham Road
Abingdon
OX14 1AG

Tel: 01865 903476

This service is available seven days a week,
10am to 10.30pm.

X-ray opening times at this Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) are as follows:

Monday to Saturday 10.00am – 6.30pm;

Sunday – 11.00am to 5.00pm.

These times are for the MIU patients only.





Oxford A&E

The John Radcliffe Hospital
Headley Way
Headington
Oxfordshire
OX3 9DU

0300 304 7777





Daily Risk Assessment

Date	Leader		VHF Channel 37 Results - Phone
Forecast			
Wind			
Temp	Sunset	Start Time	
Additional Hazards			
Sailing Boats	24 Firefly Dinghies	Powerboats	6 x Umpire 1 x Course Manager 1x Welfare
Having considered all the factors I have decided that the activity can go ahead with an acceptable level of risk.			
Signed		Print Name	
Position		Time	