

**Event Alternative Arrangements Plan r1 26-07-20**  
**North of England Sprint Rowing Championships 2026**



## Introduction

This plan details the criteria under which the event will be abandoned, suspended or altered, how any by whom related decisions will be taken, consequential actions to be taken and the subsequent format of the event. This should be read in conjunction with the Event Safety and Organisation Plan. It represents guidance as circumstances may be more complex.

| Parameter                  | Alteration                                                                                                                                                                           | Suspension                                                                                   | Abandonment                                                                                     |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wind from south (tailwind) | Base windspeed or gusts >10mph<br>Small waves, some whitecaps.<br>Consider:<br>Reduction in course length to 250m.<br>Cancel Junior races<br>Cancel 1x & 2- races<br>Cancel 2x races | Base windspeed or gusts >15mph<br>Moderate waves and many whitecaps.<br>Improvement forecast | Base windspeed or gusts >15mph<br>Moderate waves and many whitecaps.<br>No improvement forecast |
| Wind from west (crosswind) | Base windspeed or gusts >10mph<br>Small waves, some whitecaps.<br>Consider:<br>In water start assistants<br>Cancel Junior races<br>Cancel 1x & 2- races<br>Cancel 2x races           | Base windspeed or gusts >15mph<br>Moderate waves and many whitecaps.<br>Improvement forecast | Base windspeed or gusts >15mph<br>Moderate waves and many whitecaps.<br>No improvement forecast |
| Wind from east (crosswind) | Base windspeed or gusts >10mph<br>Small waves, some whitecaps.<br>Consider:<br>In water start assistants<br>Cancel Junior races<br>Cancel 1x & 2- races<br>Cancel 2x races           | Base windspeed or gusts >15mph<br>Moderate waves and many whitecaps.<br>Improvement forecast | Base windspeed or gusts >15mph<br>Moderate waves and many whitecaps.<br>No improvement forecast |

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|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wind from north (headwind) | Base windspeed or gusts >10mph<br>Small waves, some whitecaps.<br>Consider:<br>In water start assistants<br>Cancel Junior races<br>Cancel 1x & 2- races<br>Cancel 2x races | Base windspeed or gusts >15mph<br>Moderate waves and many whitecaps.<br>Improvement forecast                                                                                                        | Base windspeed or gusts >15mph<br>Moderate waves and many whitecaps.<br>No improvement forecast                                               |
| Lightning                  | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                             | Audible thunder within 30 seconds of lightning. No resumption until 30 minutes after last thunder.                                                                                                  | Audible thunder within 30 seconds of lightning. No improvement anticipated in reasonable time.                                                |
| Fog                        | Visibility < 500m<br>Salmon Beds not visible.<br>Warn crews on boating to follow circulation pattern and obey instructions should visibility deteriorate.                  | Visibility < 200m<br>The Point not visible.<br>Improvement forecast.                                                                                                                                | Visibility < 200m<br>The Point not visible. No improvement forecast.                                                                          |
| Major medical incident     | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                             | Major incident requiring external assistance from emergency services                                                                                                                                | Major incident involving death or potential life-altering injuries                                                                            |
| Terrorist Threat           | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                             | Any event involving advice from the emergency services to temporarily clear the area or suspend the event for a short enough period of time which would allow the event to be concluded on the day. | Any event involving advice from the emergency services to clear the area for an unspecified period of time or to otherwise abandon the event. |

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## **Decision making process and communication**

Once any participant or official becomes aware of any circumstance which may require the alteration, suspension or abandonment of the event, this must be promptly notified to Race Control either in person or via an official with a radio. Race Control will immediately notify the Event Safety Advisor (ESA) and the Race Committee Chair (RCC).

In the event of a situation meeting the criteria for suspension or abandonment as set out above, the ESA or the RCC should stop or suspend racing in total or by event type until safe and fair conditions are restored.

Race Control will immediately broadcast appropriate instructions over the radio and cause the actions set out below.

In all other situations, and if time permits, a course of action will be promptly decided by the Race Committee Chair, in consultation with the ESA, and Race Manager, the Race Committee and the Organising Committee.

Once made, decisions will be communicated to:

- **Race Control** – The ESA or RCC will advise Race Control of the decision made and actions to be taken.
- **Umpires, Marshals and other Officials** - Race Control will communicate the decision and actions to the umpires, marshals, other officials including the St John Ambulance team over the radio or direct discussion.
- **Coaches, Athletes and Spectators** - Race Control will communicate the decision and actions to Commentary, Control Commission and Numbers collection. Announcements to coaches and athletes will be made by Commentary using the public address system. The Head of Control Commission and Numbers collection shall endeavour to make announcements in their area. Race Control may also communicate via any social media channels being used.

## **Actions in the event of abandonment or suspension**

Exact actions will depend on the circumstances, but considerations will be based on the following:

- **Wind from south (tailwind)** - Crews that have boated and commenced progress to the start may be permitted to race. Races may be started early and crews shall follow all instructions from umpires and marshals. Crews who have just boated should not expect to race and will be advised by umpires and safety boats to turn in their location and return carefully to the boating area.
- **Wind from west (crosswind)** - In the case of a significant crosswind, crews shall follow all instructions from umpires, safety boats and marshals. Crews may be instructed to return to the boating area in the most sheltered lane (lane 1) or even closer inshore – mindful of other boats yet to turn.

**Event Alternative Arrangements Plan r1 26-07-20**  
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- **Wind from east (crosswind)** - In the case of a significant crosswind, crews shall follow all instructions from umpires, safety boats and marshals. Crews may be instructed to return to the boating area in the most sheltered lane (lane 3) or further offshore and cross to the finish area at right angles to the course – mindful of other boats.
- **Wind from north (headwind)** - Crews on the water are not likely to be permitted to race. Crews shall follow all instructions from umpires, safety boats and marshals, and may be asked to return to the finish area, possibly being escorted by safety boats depending on conditions. If facing down the course they will continue using the lanes to proceed to the finish – unless there is a clear route closer to shore. If facing up the course they will turn to port (stroke side) and pass any stationary boats yet to turn portside to portside.
- **Lightning** - Crews will be required to clear the course as quickly as possible, which may include some crews being given permission to race. All crews should follow the instructions of marshals and umpires. All others in attendance at the event, including volunteers and officials, should seek shelter in a building or vehicle.
- **Fog** - Crews will be required to clear the course as safely as possible, mindful of visibility. It is unlikely that crews will be given permission to race. All crews should follow the instructions of marshals and umpires.
- **Low light** – Race Control, the RCC and ESA will monitor conditions throughout the competition. If the light is perceived to be at too low a level, alteration, suspension or abandonment will be enacted as appropriate.
- **Other situations** - All parties will be advised of actions required based on the specifics of the situation. External advice from the emergency services will be followed at all times.

**Restart Criteria**

In the event of a suspension of the competition, the ESA, Race Committee Chair, the rest of the Race Committee and the Organising Committee will discuss whether to resume racing.

Prior to restarting racing, the RCC shall establish a revised timetable of racing, which shall be communicated by Numbers collection, Control Commission and Commentary. This timetable will be based upon following the established programme – that is there will be no attempt to catch up, races missed will be abandoned and only reinstated if it is decided to fit all or some in after the planned racing programme has been completed.

No crews shall boat until Race Control confirms that all Marshals and safety boats are in position.

**Event Alternative Arrangements Plan r1 26-07-20**  
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## **Alterations to Competition**

| <b>Parameter</b>                       | <b>Boat Types</b>                         | <b>Participant Types</b>                              | <b>Other Modifications</b>                       |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Wind from south (tailwind)<br>10-15mph | Cancel 1x & 2- races.<br>Cancel 2x races. | Cancel Junior races.<br>Cancel Women's Masters races. | Reduction in course length to a minimum of 250m. |
| Wind from west (crosswind)<br>10-15mph | Cancel 1x & 2- races.<br>Cancel 2x races. | Cancel Junior races.<br>Cancel Women's Masters races. | In water start assistants.                       |
| Wind from east (crosswind)<br>10-15mph | Cancel 1x & 2- races.<br>Cancel 2x races. | Cancel Junior races.<br>Cancel Women's Masters races. | None.                                            |
| Wind from north (headwind)<br>10-15mph | Cancel 1x & 2- races.<br>Cancel 2x races. | Cancel Junior races.<br>Cancel Women's Masters races. | None.                                            |
| Fog<br>Visibility 500-200m             | Cancel 1x & 2- races.<br>Cancel 2x races. | Cancel Junior races.                                  | Reduction in course length to a minimum of 250m. |

## **Entry Refunds**

If for any reason the event is abandoned or specific divisions, boat classes or competitor categories after close of entries then entries will be refunded less costs incurred to date.

If any coach or competitor feels that conditions are too difficult for them when weather conditions are in the "Alteration" range, then in consultation with Race Control they may scratch from the event and entries will be refunded less costs incurred to date.