

# CARDIFF BAY YACHT CLUB



## T.A.R.S.

## Assessment of Risk for TARS.

Assessment undertaken 29/01/2019

Undertaken by TARS Race Organisers

Signed and dated... Idris Dibble, Roger Wallington 15/1/2019

Assessment Review Date: Annual or when circumstances dictate.

### Hazard

- Danger inherent in sailing craft originating from the interaction of spars, sails and cordage all in a waterborne environment subject to changing weather conditions.
- Multiple craft engaged in competitive racing, sometimes at close quarters, with the possibility of collision, navigation error, stranding.
- Possibility of collision resulting from several, different racing fleets competing within a common geographical area and possibly under diverse race management.
- Interaction of leisure racing fleet and commercial shipping using constrained navigation channels.
- Interaction of leisure racing fleet and other non-racing leisure vessels.
- interaction of leisure racing fleet and small commercial ferries within Cardiff Bay.
- Severe inclement weather.
- Operation and deployment of club vessels used for waterborne race management and mark laying.
- Navigational hazards that are exposed or partially exposed at various states of the tide.

## Those at Risk

- Crew members of participating vessels
- Race management when deploying waterborne techniques.
- Crew members of other non-racing leisure vessels.
- General public and crew aboard small ferries within Cardiff Bay.

## Controls Deployed to Manage Risk Levels

- Race Management:  
Each race is controlled by a designated race officer. A race officer will have significant sailing and racing experience. A race officer will either be certificated, having attended a race officer (RYA) recognised course, or will have been judged to be of significant experience and, additionally, undertaken duty as an assistant race officer to the cruiser racing chairman who will have demonstrated the guidance and controls available to club race officers.  
Race officers are provided with a race management bag containing race guidance notes and sailing instructions related to races both inside and outside of the Cardiff bay barrage, a chart of the race area, binoculars, timers, hand held radios, notepad and pens.
- Dangers inherent in sailing:  
It is not considered possible to eliminate the dangers inherent in sailing but measures have been introduced to mitigate the risk:  
All races are conducted under the auspices of the Racing Rules of Sailing of the ISAF and all competitors acknowledge this when completing their entry forms. This is considered to promote the orderly conduct of racing with the resultant reduction in the risk of collision and injury.  
In both the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions all competitors are reminded of their absolute responsibility to maintain their vessels and to manage the competence of both crew and vessel in relation to prevailing conditions.  
All competitors are required to carry insurance for their activities in the amount of £3m. All competitors are required to carry a minimum of safety equipment and this provision is scrutinised each season.  
All competitors declare their familiarity with the current Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions to further control the conduct of racing with a view to reducing risk.
- Different racing fleets:  
The club schedules racing within the bay so as to separate the timing of racing undertaken by different fleets operated by the club. Races with possible overlap with neighbouring clubs are resolved by inter-club liaison usually involving an agreement to stagger starting times and deploying courses which minimise any overlap.  
Different classes involved in the same club race are given courses which avoid fleets rounding common marks in opposite directions.
- Interaction with commercial shipping both within Cardiff Bay and in Bristol

#### Channel:

Race officers are encouraged to liaise with Cardiff Harbour Control to establish whether any shipping is likely to affect the intended race and any information passed to competitors.

When in the vicinity of the restricted depth channel leading to the Cardiff Dock entrance all competitors are advised to listen in to Channel 8 to ensure that they do not interfere with large shipping movements.

- **Interaction with other water users:**  
All users of Cardiff waters are governed by the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea and the Regulations of the Harbour Authority. Further club regulation is not considered to be able to improve the position and incidents of this nature are virtually unknown.
- **Severe inclement weather:**  
Guidance to race officers indicates that races will not be undertaken if the Met Office forecast for Cardiff predicts winds in excess of 30 knots for the scheduled time of the race.  
The guidance discourages racing if a combination of strong wind, ebb tide and adverse wind direction coincide.
- **Deployment of club vessels:**  
All race officers or marklayers scheduled to use a club vessel are required to hold a minimum qualification of PB2 or higher. Qualification to Day Skipper and above is considered to be acceptable. Potential users of club vessels are offered PB2 courses, at no individual cost, if they do not already hold the requisite level of qualification.  
Vessel familiarisation sessions are held for those that require them.  
Operators of club marklaying vessels are provided with guidance notes which identify requirements to use a kill cord, wear a buoyancy aid and other safety procedures. They are also provided with a safety 'barrel' containing a kill cord, radio, first aid kit and length of rope.

## Risk Levels

Hazards identified are all considered to be low risk following the adoption of the control regime implemented by the club.

## Supporting Documentation

The following documentation is revised at least annually and circulated to those individuals involved in the various race management roles:

- Race Entry forms. These acknowledge familiarisation with other supporting documentation.
- Notice of Race.
- Sailing Instructions for racing inside the bay.
- Sailing Instructions for racing outside the bay