



HAMPTON PIER YACHT RACE OFFICER GUIDANCE

RACE OFFICER GUIDANCE AND SAFETY CHECK LIST

This check list provides a summary of key points with regard to the RO's responsibility for safety.

- Arrive in good time, 1 hour 30 minutes before the race
- Check the weather in advance of the race, the forecast for the race, and monitor any changes in the wind and sea state visually
- On arrival meet your team, assistant RO, Safety Boat Helm and Crew, Officer of the Day
- The Hon. Bosun deals with the equipment of safety boats, but the Race Officer is ultimately responsible for the safety of the race. In practice you will work together
- Ensure adequate rescue cover is available. You should not run a race if there is insufficient safety boat cover. If in doubt, **consult with a Flag Officer for advice**
- Set the course to avoid dangerous obstructions to suit wind direction and strength, the tide, and the ability of entrants: this is likely to be your most challenging responsibility.
- Arrange a briefing to discuss the course with participants at the course board, **at least 30 mins** before the race
- In the event of adverse conditions if improvement is forecast use the option for postponement rather than cancellation
- Check signing out sheets match participants on the water
- Carry out Radio Checks with safety boats at earliest opportunity.
- Keep track of boats on the water
- Monitor changes in weather and sea state during the race; abandon if necessary.
- Check signing back in and all have returned to shore
- For all aspects of race management refer to the HPYC Sailing instructions
[HPYC Sailing Instructions 2023.pdf](#)

Thank you for you for taking on this duty. If you have any feedback on the event or the materials available to you as the rostered Race Officer, **please contact the Rear Commodore**
rearcommhpyc@gmail.com