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ROWING ON THE TIDEWAY

A CODE OF PRACTICE FOR ROWING ON THE TIDAL THAMES ABOVE PUTNEY 2006

FOREWORD

Rowing safely on a tideway requires more than the usual rowing skill. It also demands a sound knowledge of the effects of the tide, including the resultant currents and variable depths. On the Thames, and especially at low water above Putney, rowing is made even more challenging as a consequence of the exceptionally large number of rowers and other river users all of whom wish to pursue their activity in what is a very confined area and with limited water.

“Rowing on the Tideway” a joint publication produced by the Port of London Authority and Thames Regional Rowing Council brings together practical guidance from experienced rowers, the recommendations of recent risk assessment, and the requirements of local and international regulation. Its objective is to provide the rowing community with a single comprehensive source of information and advice about rowing on the tidal Thames, in which all may have confidence, and which will enhance safety.

To this end, it is vital that all who use the tideway recognise that others have equal rights to the water, and that safety will best be ensured by the application of three fundamental principles, namely:

- Keep a good look out
- Know and follow the rules
- Show consideration for others

Enjoy your river.

Martin Humphrys
Chairman TRRC

Bruce Richardson
Chief Harbourmaster PLA
Date: September 2006