



**National  
Trust**

# River Wey Navigations

## **RAFT OR CRAFT EVENTS TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-POWERED CRAFT**

- 1 The hull to be constructed from sound materials which will not become waterlogged on immersion at any draught. In general, timber planking GRP or steel of adequate dimensions should be employed.
- 2 Containers such as oil drums are to be thoroughly cleaned out before incorporation in the hull structure and all openings are to be adequately secured with efficient screwed caps or bungs so that no leakage can occur when afloat.
- 3 The materials used for constructing the craft or raft and all paintwork or other decoration on the interior or exterior surfaces of the hull and appendages are to be of non-toxic and non-polluting manufacture when in contact with water.
- 4 The method of securing the various parts of a raft to be such as to give adequate strength. Any lashings to be made from marine quality rope of adequate size and connections must be screwed or welded. No nails to be used and screws to be of adequate length and should not protrude.
- 5 Each craft or raft should be designed to carry a specific number of persons under stable conditions. In this respect a maximum of eight persons will be allowed.
- 6 The craft or raft should be designed so as to have sufficient inherent buoyancy to remain afloat in a stable condition with a 50% over-load factor.
- 7 The weight of the craft or raft to be such that it can be easily carried by the crew alone.
- 8 In general, the length of the craft or raft not to exceed twice the breadth, excluding outriggers etc.
- 9 The entire construction to be free from sharp edges, burrs, spikes or other projections.
- 10 Each raft or craft to carry on its hull above the waterline or on a board rigidly fixed to the hull, its own identifying number in 300 mm high numerals easily legible from each bank of the waterway or its Navigation licence.
- 11 Each craft or raft to be constructed so as to allow ready escape to all members of the crew in the event of the craft or raft sinking, breaking up or capsizing.
- 12 During an event safety boats to be present and to be equipped for recovery of rafts or persons. Powered inflatables are not allowed but inflatable dinghies can be secured alongside safety boats fore and aft to provide a soft low level recovery platform.