



Trafford Rowing Club

Head of the Bridgewater 2020: Weather contingency plan



The forecast

The current weather forecast for Saturday 15th February (Met Office, location Altrincham) has winds of 20 MPH, gusting 38 MPH from the south.

There is a weather warning from mid-day on Saturday through to midnight for “very strong winds” resulting from the approach of storm Dennis.

Options for the Trafford Head course in high winds

When the wind is strong, conditions along the length of the course vary: there is one section which seems to amplify even light winds and can be virtually unrowable if the wind is strong and from a southerly or south-easterly point. The last 1Km of the course, on the other hand, is generally regarded by the club as rowable in all but the strongest and gustiest of winds.

So as well as outright cancellation we have options for restricting the scope of the race:

- Allowing only large, more powerful boats (fours, quads and eights) to row the full course, restricting all 1x, 2x and junior 4x+ events to the more sheltered short course.
- Running all events on the short course.

The club's strategy for 15th February

A decision will be made on Thursday 13th February in the middle of the day. The UK Meteorological Office will be used as the prime source of information, because it forecasts the speed of gusts as well as more general wind speed.

An announcement will be made by all possible means – email, the club web site, FaceBook and so on – as soon as the decision is made.

Henry Law

Trafford Head race director

✉ headrace@traffordrowing.club ☎ 07530 804698

Tuesday 11th February afternoon.