

Flotilla 200

May 20th – 22nd 2022



Risk Assessment

V1 ~ 23rd February 2022

Notes :

Flotilla 200 is being run in partnership with Scottish Canals (and other organisations) as one of the celebratory events marking the 200th anniversary of the Union Canal.

The Flotilla comprises of two separate groups of boats (and other water based craft) commencing independently from Falkirk (Falkirk Wheel) and Edinburgh (Lochrin Basin), both travelling towards and meeting up at Manse Road Basin, Linlithgow on the afternoon of Saturday 21st May 2022

It is envisaged that many of the participants will not travel the complete route, but join (and leave) the flotilla at varying locations along the canal. Scottish Waterways for All (SWfA have no control regarding who joins or leaves at any time)

Individual muster points under the control of independent organisations are being coordinated at locations along the canal where the Flotilla will be encouraged to stop / pause. Some boats may decide not to stop at these points. Health and Safety and Risk management at the individual muster points are the responsibility of the organising organisations.

Activity	Control Measure
Participating Craft ~ motorised boats See Section 1	All motorised boats (skippers) participating in the flotilla are required to register their craft on line through the Flotilla 200 web site. A full registration sheet has been created for this purpose, collecting information on boat size, direction of travel, potential starting and finishing points, skippers name and contact details and contact phone numbers on the boat on the day of the flotilla. It is acknowledged that as some boats may simply turn up and join in. SWfA may not have comprehensive information for all participants. Registered boats will be furnished with written copies of any rules, guidance and etiquette regarding participation in the Flotilla. Non registered boats can refer to this information on-line in the flotilla booklet, accessed through the about menu on the Flotilla web site. (www.flotilla200.live)
Participating Craft ~ Non Motorised (kayaks, canoes, inflatable boats, rowing boats, paddle boards, etc.) See Section 2	It is not practical to collect names and contact details of all individual participants of small non-motorised craft. Overseeing organisations such as Kayak clubs, are encouraged to register their club or organisation indicating the number of expected participants, anticipated joining and leaving points, to give Flotilla control some indication of expected activity. Cont. /

	<p>These organisations will be furnished with written copies of any rules, guidance and etiquette regarding participation in the Flotilla.</p> <p>Non registered boats can refer to this information on-line in the flotilla booklet, accessed through the about menu on the Flotilla web site. (www.flotilla200.live)</p>
<p>Muster Points See Section 3</p>	<p>A number of individual muster points are being co-ordinated along the route of the Flotilla. These are detailed in the Flotilla booklet.</p> <p>On land activities at the individual muster points are the total responsibility of the organisation hosting or running the muster points including control of spectators congregating on the tow path and surrounding area.</p> <p>On water activities at the individual muster points are the total responsibility of the person, organisation, or boat skipper undertaking that said activity. Scottish Waterways for All cannot be held liable for any occurrence on the water or within the muster point.</p>

Section 1 ~ Participating Craft : Motorised Boats

Activity	Control Measure
Rules of the canal	<p>All the normal "Rules of the Road" apply at all times, eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum speed at all times ~ 4mph • Always pass oncoming boats on the right • Slow down when passing moored boats • Give way to smaller / non motorised craft
On Board Equipment	<p>All boats must carry ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable mooring ropes • Mooring pins for use when there are no suitable tying up points • Gang planks / walkways • Compliant life rings • Compliant life jackets / buoyancy aids in accordance with their boat size / certification • Horn or similar to advised / warn other canal users • At least one mobile phone (ideally with number advised to Flotilla Control)
Stopping Points, moorings etc.	<p>Some muster points do not have formal mooring platforms, and mooring pins, ropes and gang planks should be used in all such events.</p> <p>Passengers should not disembark until the skipper has deemed the mooring safe and secure, and that it is safe to do so.</p>

Section 1 cont. /

Awareness & Consideration of other craft	<p>All participants will be made aware that other craft will be using the canal at the same time. These craft may or may not be participating in the Flotilla, and may include Holiday Boats travelling against the direction of Flotilla Traffic.</p> <p>Holiday Companies are being made aware of the Flotilla dates and are being asked to advise their clients accordingly.</p> <p>Motorised craft must be aware of smaller craft such as kayaks, paddle boards etc., and show all courtesy to all users at all times.</p>
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Section 2 ~ Participating Craft : Non-motorised

Activity	Control Measure
General Awareness	<p>Small craft such as kayak's, canoes etc should remember that they may not be visible to the skipper of larger vessels.</p> <p>If in doubt, they should pull into the side of the canal until they are aware that the larger vessel has seen them and is taking appropriate action.</p>
Mooring & Disembarking	<p>Care should be taken at all times when disembarking or leaving the canal. Small craft should not tie up on official mooring platforms, thus leaving them available for larger boats.</p> <p>If possible, kayak's canoes etc. should be lifted out of the water at suitable locations.</p>

Section 3 ~ Muster Points

Individual muster points under the control of independent organisations are being coordinated at locations along the canal where the Flotilla will be encouraged to stop / pause.

In addition to the individual points, there is mustering at Falkirk (to the east of the locks above the wheel), at Lochrin Basin, Edinburgh, Bridge Inn, Ratho, and at Manse Road Basin, Linlithgow.

Activity	Control Measure
Falkirk	<p>With the exception of the Flagship, boats participating from the west, shall be required to transit the Falkirks Wheel and locks, prior to the start of the flotilla, and muster on the towpath side until the flagship has transited the wheel and locks, passed the mustered boats, and lead off the flotilla.</p> <p>All mustered boats should be moored facing the correct direction (ie towards Linlithgow) awaiting departure.</p>

Lochrin Basin, Edinburgh	<p>All mustered boats should congregate in the basin (space permitting) then depart following the Flagship through the Leamington Lift Bridge.</p> <p>All mustered boats should be moored facing the correct direction (ie towards Linlithgow) awaiting departure.</p>
Manse Road Basin, Linlithgow	<p>Marshalling at Manse Road Basin Linlithgow is under the control of Linlithgow Union Canal Society. All boats must follow the directions and instructions of the shore marshals’.</p> <p>Shore Marshalls will be located on the tow path out with the basin, and will be in contact to the main basin marshall by “walkie talkie”</p> <p>Not that all boats may not be able to finally berth in Manse Road Basin, and may be required to moor at formal moorings to the East & West of the basin.</p> <p>No boats shall be permitted to moor in the basin until the flag ships & VIP boats, have safely berthed and passengers disembarked.</p> <p>It should be noted that boats requiring to depart Linlithgow at a specific time, should not berth in the basin as departure may not be possible.</p>
Individual Muster Points	<p>Locations of the individual muster points are detailed within the flotilla booklet. All timings for the arrival and departure of the flotilla are approximate and subject to change.</p> <p>Although help and assistance can be given, muster point organisers / coordinators are not responsible for flotilla participants safely mooring, disembarking or boarding their craft. This is specifically the responsibility of the skipper or operator of the craft / vessel.</p> <p>Muster Point organisers should endeavour to direct spectators and visitors to their muster point in a professional and safe manner.</p>

Communication

The measures and controls outlined in this document shall be conveyed to all known participants in the flotilla, together with known organisers of the individual muster points.

This document will be published on the Flotilla web site and referred to in the flotilla booklet.

Responsibilities

Responsibility for ensuring good safety practices lie with the individuals concerned. The Canal Network is available for all to use and enjoy, both on the water, and on the adjacent land and tow path.

This document provides an awareness of the implications of the flotilla, both to the flotilla participants, spectators, organisers, together with those not participating, but using the canal and its environs in the normal day to day manner. It is not intended to diminish or remove anyone’s normal responsibilities.