

Event Analysis

The Olympics, Pukkelpop 2011, and The Boston Marathon 2013

to the Guardian, the hugely successful Belgian festival: Pukkelpop stumbled upon a tragedy in 2011. An unexpected mini thunderstorm passed through them on the 18 of August 2011. Four people died, and over more than 70 people got injured. Sixty thousand people were evacuated after the “mini-thunderstorm” caused a stage collapse. A government report has since cleared festival organizers of blame, calling the storm a “natural disaster”. Unfortunately, damage from natural disasters was not covered by Pukkelpop’s insurance policy, and therefore it could not issue cash refunds to ticket holders of that year. “Pukkelpop has suffered considerable financial losses,” organizers wrote. “The festival will only be able to survive with the support of many and thanks to the strong reputation it has built up in the past.” Instead of reimbursing the 2011 festival passes, food and drink vouchers equivalent to ticket prices had been offered for the 2012, 2013 and 2014 events. The expenses for the organizers of Pukkelpop suffered heavy financial losses and had to face the consequences because they did not decide to pay restitution. (Sean Michaels, 2011)

Another major event going wrong was the Boston Marathon where, on the 15th of April 2013 two bombs went off near the finish line, whereby three spectators were killed and over more than 260 other people were wounded. Four days later, after an intense manhunt that shut down the Boston area, police captured one of the bombing suspects, 19-year-old Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, whose older brother and fellow suspect, 26-year-old Tamerlan Tsarnaev, died following a shootout with law enforcement earlier that same day. Investigators later concluded that the brothers, who spent part of their childhoods in the former Soviet republic of Kyrgyzstan but lived in the United States for about a decade prior to the bombings, planned and carried out the attack on their own and were not connected to any terrorist organizations. Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is scheduled to stand trial in November 2014; federal prosecutors have announced they will seek the death penalty. (www.history.com)