

General Risk Assessment for Events

Club	Star Club	Date:	14th October 2025
Author/Reviewer	David Gowing	Rev:	Dec-27



No:	Hazard	Reduce probability a Hazard causing a Hazardous Event		Hazardous Event	Reduce the Severity of Harm		Harm	Severity (1-5)	Probability (A-E)	Level of Risk (L/M/S/I)	Action Owners					
		Barriers	Action to maintain barriers		Controls	Action to maintain controls					Event Committee	CRSA	Safety Boat Drivers	Control Commissions	other	
Water																
1	Rough Water	Use alternative (shorter or reversed) course. Cancel some classes (with less experienced rowers)	Event committee Chairman and CRSA decide to cancel or alter event based on conditions	Capsize or Swamping	Two safety launches provided, with qualified drivers AND first aid AND thermal blankets in launches	maintain first aid training and equipment AND check on launch safety kits	Competitors get wet and cold, risk of hypothermia	2	b	Low	X	X	X			
2	Fast Flowing Water	Use alternative (shorter or reversed) course. Cancel some events (less experienced)	Event committee Chairman and CRSA decide to cancel or alter event based on conditions	Crews have difficulty marshalling before and after racing.	Sufficient experienced marshalls to advise crews and help in to bank	Provide information to coaches to keep bows pointed upstream only spin when advised	Rowers get tired and frightened	1	b	Low	X	X	X			
3	Ice	Break up using safety launches. Use alternative (shorter or reversed) course. Cancel some classes (with less experienced rowers)	Event committee Chairman and CRSA decide to cancel or alter event based on conditions	Collision with Ice	none		Boat and blades damaged	1	a	Low	X	X	X			
Weather																
1	Adverse weather (excessively cold, windy, foggy, etc.)	Cancel rowing if conditions deemed unsafe OR if rowing does take place, advise clubs to ensure that rowers are correctly dressed	Event Committee Chairman and CRSA decide whether conditions are safe for some or all crews include recommendations for warm clothing in safety briefing to clubs	Swamping of a boat due to adverse weather, capsize, collision	provide safety launches with qualified drivers AND provision of first aid AND thermal blankets carried in launch	maintain first aid training and equipment AND checks on launch safety kits	Rower(s) get wet and cold, risk of hypothermia	2	b	Low	X	X	X			
Other water users																
1	Other rowing boats on the river	Rowers comply with the navigation rules AND keep a good lookout	include navigation rules in safety briefings to clubs	Collision with another rowing boat	provide safety launches with qualified drivers AND provision of first aid	maintain first aid training and equipment AND checks on launch safety kits	capsize, injury, boat damage	2	d	Moderate	X	X	X			
2	Canoes/paddle boards on the river	advice to paddlers to keep clear of the area used by rowers. Rowers comply with the navigation rules and keep at least 30m from canoes	email local club to make aware of event AND include navigation rules in safety briefings to clubs	Collision of a rowing boat with a canoe/ paddle board	provide safety launches with qualified drivers AND provision of first aid	maintain first aid training and equipment AND checks on launch safety kits	capsize, injury, boat damage	2	c	Low	X	X	X			
3	Pleasure Craft on the river	advice to skippers to wait during event	notify river users diary	Collision of a rowing boat with a pleasure craft	provide safety launches with qualified drivers AND provision of first aid	maintain first aid training and equipment AND checks on launch safety kits	capsize, injury, boat damage	3	b	Low	X	X	X			
Local Environment																
1	Overhanging trees	Rowers keep a good lookout AND keep clear of overhanging trees	include overhanging trees in safety briefings to clubs	rowing into a tree and becoming entangled	provision of First aid	Maintain First Aid equipment and trained first aiders	minor injury (scratches)	1	d	Low		X	X			
2	Biological contamination of the water	rowers avoid undue skin contact with the water, cuts and scratches are kept covered	include water contamination in safety briefings to clubs	Infection from contact with biological contamination in the water	availability of showers and washing facilities, infected rowers seek medical attention	provision by Star Club, information for rowers	Water borne diseases (e.g. Weil's disease)	2	d	Moderate		X	X			
Going afloat and landing																
1	Slippery surface on the boating areas	Clean goose excrement off landing stages, reliance on vigilance of coaches, rowers and coxes	bring slippery surfaces to the attention of clubs in the safety briefings	slips when launching or recovering boats	provision of first aid	Maintain First Aid equipment and trained first aiders	minor injury, potential damage to boat	2	c	Low		X				
2	congestion in the launching and landing area	control by boat Marshalls	bring the requirement to take care when launching and landing to the attention of clubs in the safety briefings	collisions and difficulty handling boats	provision of first aid	Maintain First Aid equipment and trained first aiders	minor injury, potential damage to boat	2	d	Moderate		X		X		
Handling boats on land																
1	Boat Handling in trailer park	advise clubs to take care when handling boats	bring boat handling to the attention of clubs in the safety briefings	impact with people not directly involved when crews handle boats on land	provision of first aid	Maintain First Aid equipment and trained first aiders	minor injury, potential damage to boat	1	d	Low	X	X				
2	Trailer loading and unloading	advise clubs to take care when loading and unloading trailers	bring trailer loading and unloading to the attention of clubs in the safety briefings	impact with people not directly involved when crews load and unload trailers	provision of first aid	Maintain First Aid equipment and trained first aiders	minor injury, potential damage to boat	1	d	Low	X	X				
Faulty, incorrectly set and poorly maintained equipment																
1	boat does not fulfil the safety criteria	check boats before going afloat	provide marshals/monitors fully equipped to check boats	problems with boat when afloat	provide safety launches with qualified drivers AND provision of first aid	maintain first aid training and equipment AND checks on launch safety kits	capsize minor injury, potential damage to boat	2	c	Low		X		X		
2	boat not correctly assembled	check boats before going afloat	provide marshals/monitors fully equipped to check boats	problems with boat when afloat	provide safety launches with qualified drivers AND provision of first aid	maintain first aid training and equipment AND checks on launch safety kits	capsize minor injury, potential damage to boat	2	c	Low		X		X		
Pre-existing health conditions and low levels of fitness																
1	medical conditions of rowers	advise participants to only compete if fit and well	advice in circulated safety plan	illness or collapse of a rower on land	provide safety launches with qualified drivers AND provision of first aid	maintain first aid training and equipment AND checks on launch safety kits	unknown health effects, possible further consequential harm	4	b	Moderate	X					
Other																
1	difficulty accessing the site with a trailer	care by drivers	provide information on the best routes to clubs	collision of boats and trailers with fixed objects	none		potential injury, damage to boats	2	c	Low	X					