



RISK ASSESSMENT 2023-2024

Item	Risk	Description	Probability	Severity	Rating	Action
Weather	Hot weather	Hyperthermia	1	2	2	Avoid outings in the middle of the day Wear appropriate clothing (hat, covered arms)
Weather	Hot weather	Sunburn	1	1	1	Avoid outings in the middle of the day Wear appropriate clothing (hat, covered arms)
Weather	Hot weather	Dehydration	1	3	3	Carry drinking water
Weather	Cold weather	Hypothermia	1	2	2	Wear appropriate clothing Shorten training as needed
Weather	Cold weather	Cold shock	1	2	2	Avoid rowing alone Training
Weather	Strong wind	Capsize	1	1	1	Use larger boats (4x vs 1x) Mix crews (experienced with inexperienced rowers)
Weather	Strong wind	Fatigue	1	2	2	Stay upwind of the boathouse Use larger boats (4x vs 1x) Mix crews (experienced with inexperienced rowers)
Weather	Lightning	Lightning strike	1	3	3	Avoid rowing if lightning is present or forecast Get off the water asap if lightning starts
Weather	Darkness	Poor visibility	1	1	1	Confirm dusk time Avoid rowing alone Ensure lights are available and functioning
Environment	Bends in river	Collision with bank	2	1	2	Educate all members in the geography of the water Include navigational awareness in session briefings
Environment	Other water users	Collision with another river user	2	2	4	Include likely interactions with other river users in session briefings
Environment	Stationary objects in the water	Collision with object	2	1	2	Modify session briefings for high/low water and depending on route chosen (upstream/downstream)



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Environment	Weirs and sluices	Drawn into weir / sluice	1	2	2	Identify on location map and include hazard navigation in member training
Environment	Steep / overgrown banks	Unable to land if capsized	1	2	2	Identify areas where river egress is difficult on locaton map and brief members on capsize recovery in these areas
Water	Choppy water	Swamping	1	1	1	Review conditions prior to each session Use larger boats (4x vs 1x)
Water	Strong flow	Capsize	1	1	1	Use larger boats (4x vs 1x) Mix crews (experienced with inexperienced rowers)
Water	Strong flow	Fatigue	1	2	2	Stay upwind of the boathouse Use larger boats (4x vs 1x) Mix crews (experienced with inexperienced rowers)
Water	High water	Collision with object	1	1	1	Review conditions prior to each session Include new hazards due to water level in session briefing
Water	Low water	Collision with object	1	1	1	Review conditions prior to each session Include new hazards due to water level in session briefing
Water	Low water	Beaching	1	1	1	Review conditions prior to each session Include new hazards due to water level in session briefing
Water	Polluted water	Exposure to blue-green algae	2	3	6	
Water	Polluted water	Weil's disease	2	2	4	
Water	Polluted water	Exposure to pollution (e.g. animal waste)	2	2	4	
Water	Very cold water	Hypothermia in event of capsize	1	2	2	Avoid rowing alone



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Water	Flood condition	Collision with object	1	1	1	Review conditions prior to each session Include new hazards due to water level in session briefing Mix crews (experienced with inexperienced rowers)
Other water users	Anglers	Entanglement with fishing lines	1	1	1	Awareness of season and probability of fishing activity based prior to session
Other water users	Pedestrians	Antisocial behaviour	1	2	2	Awareness of potential hazards - e.g. bridges. Report antisocial / threatening behaviour to the police
Other water users	Kayakers	Collision	1	2	2	Awareness of likelihood of other water users
Other water users	Paddleboarders	Collision	1	2	2	Awareness of likelihood of other water users
Other water users	Swimmers	Collision	2	3	6	Awareness of season and probability of swimmers
Other water users	Dogs	Collision	2	3	6	Awareness of likelihood of other water users
Launching and landing	Steep banks in launching and landing area	Slipping or falling during launching or landing or carrying boat	2	2	4	Session briefings of any change to launching or landing areas, or change to process or procedures for launching or landing, use of appropriate footwear
Launching and landing	Steep or irregular steps in launching and landing area	Slipping or falling during launching or landing or carrying boat	2	2	4	Session briefings of any change to launching or landing areas, or change to process or procedures for launching or landing, use of appropriate footwear
Launching and landing	Slippery or muddy ground in launching or landing area	Slipping or falling during launching or landing or carrying boat	2	3	6	Session briefings of any change to launching or landing areas, or change to process or procedures for launching or landing, use of appropriate footwear
Launching and landing	Manual handling of boats	Musculo-skeletal injury due to manual handling	2	2	4	Define and train a safe procedure for boat handling, launching and landing. Practice correct posture when lifting and handling boats.



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Launching and landing	Variable currents during boat launching or landing	Injury due to loss of control of boat during launching or landing	1	1	1	Session briefings on changes to river condition. Use lines to secure the boat as required.
Boathouse	Solid fixed objects (riggers, boats, racking...)	Collision with fixed object	2	2	4	Good housekeeping, awareness of racking, boats, riggers
Boathouse	Lifting and carrying boats, oars etc	Musculo-skeletal injury due to manual handling	2	2	4	Coach good lifting technique
Boathouse	Lifting and carrying boats, oars etc	Person struck by object being carried	1	2	2	Coach clear communication during carrying, good technique and awareness, and keeping a lookout
Faulty, Incorrectly Set or poorly maintained equipment	Incorrect stretcher placement	Possible capsize due to hands going past chest	2	1	2	Boat setup check prior to session and prior to leaving launch station
Faulty, Incorrectly Set or poorly maintained equipment	Gate not fastened	Possible capsize due to loss of oar	1	1	1	Boat setup check prior to session and prior to leaving launch station
Faulty, Incorrectly Set or poorly maintained equipment	Rudder ineffective	Loss of cox steering	1	1	1	Check rudder condition prior to launch
Faulty, Incorrectly Set or poorly maintained equipment	Heel restraints too loose or ineffective	Inhibited egress in event of capsize	2	2	4	Boat setup check prior to launch
Faulty, Incorrectly Set or poorly maintained equipment	Seats, shoes or footplates loose or broken	Restricted rowing ability - may be difficult to return to boathouse	1	2	2	Boat setup check prior to launch



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Faulty, Incorrectly Set or poorly maintained equipment	Hatch covers missing	Boat may take on water	1	1	1	Boat setup check prior to launch
Rower fitness	Rower low fitness level	Collapse / illness	1	3	3	Session briefing including checkin on physical condition of rowers
Rower fitness	Pre-existing health conditions	Medical incident afloat or on land	2	2	4	Ensure pre-existing conditions are known and appropriate precautions are in place for each rower
Rower fitness	Asthma	Asthmatic incident afloat or on land	2	3	6	Ensure asthmatic rowers have necessary precautions on site/boat. In the event of an incident, bring the casualty ashore immediately, request <u>ambulance support if necessary</u>
Rower fitness	Diabetes	Diabetic incident afloat or on land	2	3	6	Session briefing including checkin on physical condition of rowers and that necessary provisions are available. In the event of an incident, bring the casualty ashore immediately, request ambulance support if necessary
Rowing in floods	Fast flowing water	Fatigue, inability to make headway against the flow	2	2	4	Stay upstream of the boathouse Use larger boats (4x vs 1x) Mix crews (experienced with inexperienced rowers)
Rowing in floods	Turbulent water	Difficult steering, boat can veer off course quickly	2	2	4	Use larger boats Be aware of locations for turbulence - eg. Downstream of bridge supports
Rowing in floods	Hazards or obstructions	Boats can be swept towards or pinned against hazards	2	2	4	No stopping upstream of an obstruction



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Rowing in floods	Obstructions below waterline	Collison with fixed obstruction below the waterline	2	2	4	Session briefing to identify safe water areas and areas of potential hazard Keep a good look-out for indicators of potential obstruction
Club access	Limited access for emergency vehicles	Single lane entry to rowing club blocked	1	3	3	Session preparation to include review of access road
Emergency healthcare	Time to travel to nearest A&E	Time lost due to lack fo awareness of nearest A&E	2	3	6	Confirm that nearest A&E is Yeovil hospital BA21 4AT approx 30mins drive from boatyard
Emergency healthcare	Nearest AED	Time lost as nearest AED not available or location not known	2	3	6	Confirm that nearest AED is at Huish Academy Leisure TA10 9SS Walkers Farm Cottages have an AED which is at TA7 0JL (~1.5 miles from Stathe)