

# Risk Assessment



BRITISHROWING

Club	Maidstone Invicta Rowing Club (MIRC)	Date:	Jan-26
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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					Club Chairman	Club RSA	DOR	Coxes / Coaches	Squad Captains / Session leaders
<b>1 Water and Weather</b>															
1	Fast river flow	River status used by MIRC is updated to AMBER	DOR, Club RSA or the Environment Agency can update the river status if the river is flowing fast OR crews can make educated assumptions	Collison or capsize by inexperienced sculler/crew OR reduced boat manoeuvrability	Only approved crews to be afloat during AMBER conditions If conditions change whilst members are boated then they will be advised of the updated conditions by members at the club	Provide a record of AMBER approved members AND members are familiar with the River Conditions RAG (red, amber, and green) rules	Sculler/crew has difficulty navigating the river due to increased flow	1	E	Moderate		X	X	X	X
2	Cold weather (between 0°C and -5°C)			Rowers suffer hyperthermia			Rower(s) get wet and cold, risk of hypothermia	2	C	Low		X	X	X	X
3	Moderate wind			Crews unable to return to the boathouse			Rowers get tired and frightened	1	D	Low		X	X	X	X
4	Extremely fast river flow	River status used by MIRC is updated to RED	DOR, Club RSA or the Environment Agency can update the river status if the river is flowing fast OR crews can make educated assumptions	Sculler/crew unable to navigate the river safely and have a collision	No boating by any member of the club If conditions change whilst members are boated then they are to return to the club	Club-wide updates when river conditions change to RED AND members are familiar with the River Conditions RAG (red, amber, and green) rules	No member will be boated during red conditions	1	A	Low		X	X	X	X
5	River height exceeds the landing stage/river banks			Sculler/crew unable to navigate the river safely and have a collision				1	A	Low		X	X	X	X
6	Extreme weather - excessively cold (>-5°C) OR lightning			Sculler/crew suffers from hyperthermia OR struck by lightning				1	A	Low		X	X	X	X
7	Low visibility due to fog (Fremlin Walk is not visible from the landing stage)			Sculler/crew unable to navigate the river safely and have a collision				1	A	Low		X	X	X	X
7	Hot Weather	Avoid outings when temperature is abnormally high OR UV index is >8	Coxes / Coaches OR Squad Captains / Session Leaders can decide if conditions are unsafe	Sculler/crew suffers from dehydration	Ensure sculler/crew are wearing sunscreen AND carrying drinking water	Drinking water available on-site	Sculler/crew becomes dehydrated	2	C	Low				X	X
<b>2 Other River Users</b>															
1	Collision - rowing boats	Scullers/rowers comply with navigation rules of the Medway and follow 'high-viz' clothing club rule	Navigation rules reminded to members at the start of the season AND regular reminders to keep a good lookout	Collision with another rowing boat	Treat any injury with First Aid AND quarantine damaged equipment AND repair boats	Train members each year, maintain first aid equipment, maintain boat repair equipment and skills	Capsize, injury, boat damage	2	D	Moderate	X	X	X	X	X
2	Collision - other vessels	Scullers/rowers comply with the navigation rules						2	C	Low	X	X	X	X	X
<b>3 Local Environment</b>															
1	Overhanging trees / river debris	Train rowers to keep a good lookout and stay away from the bank	Squad to report any instances	Rowing into a tree and becoming entangled	First aid treatment	Maintain First Aid equipment and trained first aiders	Minor injury (scratches)	2	B	Low		X	X	X	X
2	Biological contamination of the water	Scullers/rowers avoid undue skin contact with the water, cuts and scratches are kept covered	Information for members and notices	Contact with Biological contamination of the water	Availability of showers and washing facilities, infected rowers seek medical attention	Information for rowers	Water borne diseases (e.g. Weill's disease)	3	B	Low		X	X	X	X
<b>4 Going afloat and landing</b>															

1	Steps and launching area being slippery due to mud OR ice OR water	Members to clear steps and launch area when conditions are bad	Equipment provided to members	Members slipping, boats being dropped	Provision of first aid	Maintain training and equipment AND quarantine and repair boats	Minor injury, potential damage to boat	2	C	Low				X	X	
2	Stepping onto the wrong part of a boat	Training of rowers and supervision of coaches	Briefings and reminders to rowers	Excessive load on a weak area of the boat	Quarantine damaged boats AND repair boats	Maintain boat repair equipment and skills	Boat damage	2	B	Low		X	X		X	
<b>5 In and Around the boathouse (including handling boats on land)</b>																
1	Manual handling of boats and equipment storage	Train members how to handle boats and equipment correctly	Coaching, information displayed in the boathouse	Injury caused by boat handling on land	Provision of first aid AND quarantine damaged boats AND repair boats	Maintain First Aid training and equipment AND maintain boat repair equipment and skills	Minor injury, potential damage to boat	1	C	Low		X	X	X	X	
2	Car park navigation	Advise members to park in a sensible fashion	Provide members with notice when trailers are to be moved	Potential damage to members vehicles and boats	Provide excess parking spots outside of club grounds during busy training days	Maintain a list of members who use the parking spots at the football club	Minimal damage to vehicles	3	B	Low	X	X				
3	Trailer/s - loading Or unloading	Train members how to load boat trailers	Briefings and reminders to members	Injury caused when loading boat trailers	Provision of first aid AND quarantine damaged boats AND repair boats	Maintain First Aid training and equipment AND maintain boat repair equipment and skills	Minor injury, potential damage to boat	2	B	Low	X	X	X		X	
4	Trailer/s - towing	Care by car and/or trailer drivers	Information and guidance to drivers AND maintenance of trailer	Collision when transporting boats	Provision of first aid AND quarantine damaged boats AND repair boats	Maintain First Aid training and equipment AND maintain boat repair equipment and skills	Potential injury, damage to boats	3	B	Low	X	X	X			
<b>6 Faulty, incorrectly set and poorly maintained equipment</b>																
1	Boat not correctly set up and adjusted for rower	Ensure correct adjustment before going afloat	Notice and reminders to rowers and coaches	Rower suffers musculo-skeletal injury	Provide First Aid treatment and possibly provide physiotherapy or other appropriate treatment	Maintain First Aid training and equipment	Musculo-skeletal injury	2	C	Low			X	X	X	
2	Gate not correctly closed	check boats before going afloat	notice and reminders to rowers and coaches	scull or oar comes out of gate	ensure all rowers have done a swim test and a capsizing drill AND teach the Buddy Rescue Technique AND provide safety launches	periodic review of records of swim tests and capsizing drills AND maintain training and equipment AND periodic checks on launch safety kit	capsizing	3	B	Low				X	X	
<b>7 Pre-existing health conditions and low levels of fitness</b>																
1	Medical conditions of member	None	-	Illness or collapse of a rower on land Or on the water	Provision of first aid AND keep records of members medical problems	Maintain training and equipment AND members give details of health problems on application form	Unknown health effects	2	B	Low	X	X	X	X		
2	Injury whilst training	Ensure members are trained on correct use of boats and equipment	Notice issues and reminders to rowers and coaches	Catching a crab, continued poor technique, improper use of equipment	Provision of first aid	Maintain training and equipment AND maintain First Aid training and equipment	Cuts/abrasions, skeletal/muscular injury	3	B	Low				X	X	
3	Covid-19	Members should not be present at the club if they test positive for Covid-19	-	Spread of Covid-19 throughout the club	Provide members with facilities to wash their hands AND equipment after use	Encourage members not to train when feeling ill AND to use facilities provided	Covid-19	2	C	Low	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>8 Other</b>																
1	Animals on-site	Ensure all visiting pets are kept under control OR on a lead	Inform all pet owners of guidance when visiting club grounds	Animals frightening members AND making boat handling more difficult	Provide clear expectation of animals on club grounds	-	Animals frightening members	2	B	Low	X	X				

**Current standing of summertime and wintertime rules**

Conditions	Summertime	Wintertime (to be followed in addition to summertime rules, per condition)
<b>GREEN</b>	Conditions are assessed as safe for general rowing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NO Single sculler may be on the water on his/her own AT ANY TIME, during the winter months. (Unless they are each accompanied by a bank coach with a throw bag).</li> <li>• During the winter, all single scullers must buddy up with each other or other boats, which must remain within visual contact of each other and help in case of a boat's capsize.</li> </ul>
<b>AMBER</b>	<p>– Conditions have been assessed as rowable with the following restrictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- You MUST be on the approved AMBER sculling list to row a single scull or steer a coxless boat. A list of approved members is published on the safety page of the club website.</li> <li>- NO club member with less than two full years rowing experience is allowed to go out (afloat) in a single scull or crew boat unless approved by the DoR or an approved nominee.</li> <li>- NO junior club member with less than two full years rowing experience is allowed to go out (afloat) unless approved by the DoR or an approved nominee. An approved coach must also be present.</li> <li>- NO single scull/ double scull/pair is allowed to go out (afloat) unaccompanied. You MUST have a buddy system in place:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Either in the form of another boat which MUST remain in close contact throughout the outing, or</li> <li>o A person on the bank with you at all times who should carry a throw bag and mobile phone.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Coxed crew boats (quads/fours/eights) should have an experienced coxswain. The coxswain must be competent to take charge of the crew and deal with emergencies. Coxless crew boats (quads/fours) must be steered by a person on the approved AMBER sculling list.</li> <li>- NO crew to go downstream below the White House, to keep clear of Allington lock and weir.</li> <li>- NO crew to go upstream above Archbishop's Palace, to avoid rowing in isolation. - Persons overseeing crews on the bank, (and it is advised for coxswains) should carry a mobile phone to summon assistance in an emergency</li> </ul>	See Summertime Amber rules
<b>RED</b>	<b>No rowing on the river under any circumstances</b>	

		People	Assets	Probability				
				A	B	C	D	E
				Highly improbable <i>(has not been known to happen in rowing)</i>	Improbable <i>(has been known to happen in rowing)</i>	Possible <i>(could happen to about 1% of the club's active members per decade)</i>	Probable <i>(could happen to about 1% of the club's active members per year)</i>	Highly probable <i>(could happen to about 10% of the club's active members per year)</i>
<b>Severity</b>	<b>1</b>	Slight injury or health effect <i>(Requires little or no treatment; no need to take time off rowing or training)</i>	Minor damage to equipment <i>(&lt;£100)</i>	Low	Low	Low	Low	Moderate
	<b>2</b>	Minor injury or health effect <i>(Requires First Aid or rest; potentially a few days off rowing or training)</i>	Damage repair costs low <i>(£500)</i>	Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Substantial
	<b>3</b>	Moderate injury or health effect <i>(Requires treatment beyond simple First Aid; potentially a week or so off rowing or training)</i>	High damage repair costs <i>(&gt;£1000)</i>	Low	Low	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable
	<b>4</b>	Major injury or health effect <i>(Requires hospital treatment for more than one day; potentially a few weeks off rowing or training)</i>	Very high damage repair costs <i>(loss of boat, 3rd party damage)</i>	Low	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable	Intolerable
	<b>5</b>	Fatality or Life Threatening Injury or Health Effect <i>(could end a rowing career or cause hospitalisation for a few months)</i>	Major damage & major costs <i>(loss of several boats, high 3rd party damage)</i>	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable	Intolerable	Intolerable

<b>Low</b>	An acceptable level of risk. No additional barriers/controls are required. Start or continue the activity but check that the current barriers/controls remain effective.
<b>Moderate</b>	An acceptable level of risk that should be reviewed. Implement additional barriers/controls to reduce the risk if the opportunity arises. Start or continue the activity with care.
<b>Substantial</b>	An unacceptable level of risk. Improve the barriers/controls and allocate resources to reduce the risk. Do not start or continue the activity until the risk has been reduced.
<b>Intolerable</b>	An unacceptable level of risk. Improve the barriers/controls and allocate resources to reduce the risk. Do not start or continue the activity until the risk has been reduced. Prohibit the activity if it is not possible to reduce the risk.

<b>Low</b>	<p>An acceptable level of risk.</p> <p>No additional barriers/controls are required.</p> <p>Start or continue the activity but check that the current barriers/controls remain effective.</p>
<b>Moderate</b>	<p>An acceptable level of risk that should be reviewed.</p> <p>Implement additional barriers/controls to reduce the risk if the opportunity arises.</p> <p>Start or continue the activity with care.</p>
<b>Substantial</b>	<p>An unacceptable level of risk.</p> <p>Improve the barriers/controls and allocate resources to reduce the risk.</p> <p>Do not start or continue the activity until the risk has been reduced.</p>
<b>Intolerable</b>	<p>An unacceptable level of risk.</p> <p>Improve the barriers/controls and allocate resources to reduce the risk.</p> <p>Do not start or continue the activity until the risk has been reduced. Prohibit the activity if it is not possible to reduce the risk.</p>

