



Important!

Launch Drivers and Assistants

Please ensure you read the attached notes, which refer especially to boat handlers.

You should also be familiar with, and have seen a copy of, the documents entitled;

Northwich Rowing Club Competition / Event Safety Plan

Emergency procedure with regatta map

RowSafe Section 5.2 Launch driving

RowSafe Section 7.4 Launches

RowSafe Section 2.3 radio Procedure





Notes to Launch Drivers

1. All Launch Drivers must hold appropriate qualifications, which is up to date.
2. **Before setting off, please ensure that the fuel tank air vent is completely open;** after the last event a fuel tank had partially collapsed with the vacuum, which would have prevented the engine from re-starting!
3. Please note that all drivers and crews should be properly equipped with appropriate Wet Weather gear, Sun protection and Life Jackets which must be worn above all clothing. DRIVERS KILL CHORDS MUST BE ATTACHED AT ALL TIMES WHEN AFLOAT.
4. All Launches are equipped with a safety bag which contains the items required under the RowSafe guidance.
 - a. Launch Operators are responsible for checking that all the required items are available before proceeding from the mooring point.
5. Launch operators are responsible for equipping themselves with Radios and Hailers according to their requirements and stations. When collecting a radio, drivers should ensure they receive a laminated card containing a copy of the latest radio procedure.
6. Launch Drivers are reminded that there is a speed limit on the river which should be adhered to except in an emergency. Please take special care when passing moored boats that may be occupied to minimise any disruption from your wake even when travelling slowly.
7. Re-Fuelling; please ensure that refuelling takes place on shore, unless in an emergency. Before refuelling you should identify where the nearest appropriate fire extinguisher is located, and if necessary move it next to the refuelling.
8. In an Emergency:
 - a. Please consider if it is appropriate to intervene or join an incident where a rescue boat may already be deployed before leaving your station.
 - b. Please respect Radio Protocols.
9. Shore Safety Monitor.
 - a. A shore based Safety Monitor has been provided with extra wet and cold weather safety gear and is available with a car at key points on the course.
 - b. For some events, notably for Singles, the shore based safety monitor will be located at the Blue Bridge to provide assistance.
 - c. At other times the shore safety monitor will usually be not more than five minutes away from any incident.
 - d. Under some circumstance the Safety Monitor has the authority to take control of an incident away from the launch or bank monitors, and will notify everyone of this decision by radio.