

Risk Assessment



Event	NWJTT (Singles) 2026 @ Agecroft RC, Salford	Date of Revision:	Jan-26
Author	Competition Rowing Safety Advisor	Next Revision:	Decemeber 2026

No:	Hazard	Reduce probability of 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					Organising Committee	Event RSA	Umpires & Marshalls	Control Commissions	other
Water															
1	Boats afloat for racing	Coaches and crews must have read the Safety Briefing and circulation plan.	Prepare and provide safety briefing and inform coaches and crews that they must read it.	Boats attempt to override instructions + capsizing	Safety plan and instructions to competitors advise crews that practice sessions are not permitted	Send Safety plans to clubs and instruct them to inform their crews. Display safety plan. Umpires/Marshalls/Participants implement in full	Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	B	Low	X		X	X	X
2	Boats afloat for racing	Coaches and crews must have read the Safety Briefing and circulation plan before going afloat for racing.	Prepare and provide safety briefing and inform coaches and crews that they must read it.	Capsize or sinking during a race	Every race will be supervised by Static Umpires.	Ensure that there are sufficient Umpires that have sufficient visibility upstream and downstream, and understand their boundaries of responsibility.	Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X	X	X		
3					A fully equipped rescue launch manned by RYA lvl 2 + First Aider is also in attendance at all times.	Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.					X				
4					Coxes' life jackets checked by control commission prior to going afloat to race.	Ensure that Control Commission checking equipment have instructions and a checklist								X	
5	Collision	All crews will should be moving in the same direction, crews at risk of collision should be warned by other crews or marshalls	Advise steerspeople to check where they're going with reasonable frequency, encourage other crews to give calls to others at risk of collision if they are aware, inform marshalls of their	Crews do not look where they're going, potential for damage to boats and risk to crew members.	Safety plan and instructions to competitors to advise crews of the circulation pattern and of any long-standing risks of collision	Ensure there is sufficient safety cover					X		X		
6	Capsizing		Allow extra vigilence for boats that are likely to be less experienced in case they capsize (e.g. juniors, novices)	A risk to the rower(s) in the water - potential for collision with other crews,	Ensure there are safety launches within adequate distance that they can see and attend any capsized crew	It is the coaches' and individuals' responsibility to be aware of the procedure to follow upon capsizing	Collision with crews who are unaware of the crew in the water. Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	3 collis	D, B	Moderate	X		X		
Weather															
1	Sudden or worsening bad weather causing un-rowable and/or dangerous conditions including high winds caused by tall buildings		Any umpire or other key race official will stop racing. Any crews on the water will be moved into the most sheltered area and shepherded back to the landing stages by umpire launches and rescue boats.	Boats capsize or are swamped	Rescue launches are in attendance at key points on the course and are all equiped with two way radios.	Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use. Brief Marshals	Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	3	C	Moderate	X	X	X		
2					Coxes' life jackets checked by control commission prior to going afloat to race. Particular attention paid to "front loader" boats.	Ensure that Control Commission checking equipment have instructions and a checklist								X	

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3	Possibility of electrical storm	Provisions laid down in the document "Developing an action plan for risk from lightning" available from British Rowing to be followed:-	Ensure that Marshals, Umpires, Coaches and crews are adequately briefed to apply the 30/30 rule	Rower or official struck by lightning	Provisions for first aid, medical treatment, and casualty evacuation to hospital.	Ensure that first aiders, etc., are competent and properly equipped.	Electrical burns, shock	3	B	Low	X		X		
4		"Suspension and resumption of racing should follow the 30/30 rule: racing should stop when the flash-to-bang count is 30 seconds, and should not resume until 30 minutes after the last lightning."	Any variation from 30/30 rule to be agreed unanimously by Event Chairman, Safety Adviser, Starter. Race Committee Chairman and all members of Race Committee.			Marshalls and Umpires implement plans					X	X	X	X	
5		All crews to leave the water immediately, instructions from Safety Adviser or Race Committee Chairman using radios in rescue boats and in umpires' launches.	Ensure that Marshals, Umpires, Coaches and crews are adequately briefed.			Marshalls and Umpires implement plans					X		X		
6	Bad weather (cold, rain, etc.)	Ensure crews have an appropriate number of layers (especially juniors)	Encourage enough layers in the Coxes' meeting, don't allow crews on the water if they aren't suitably dressed	Exposure to bad weather whilst rowing to/waiting at the start and during racing	Provisions for first aid, medical treatment, and casualty evacuation to hospital.	Marshalls and Umpires implement plan, Ensure Coaches and Marshalls are aware of the signs of hypothermia	Vulnerability to illness, risk of hypothermia	2	D	Moderate			X	X	
7	Hot Weather/Bright Sunshine	Provisions laid down in the document "Hot Weather Rowing section 5.1 of the Row Safe Guide" available from British Rowing to be followed:-	Marshalls and coaches to check adequate water and sunblock is available	Heat Stroke	Provisions for first aid, medical treatment, and casualty evacuation to hospital.	Ensure Coaches and Marshalls are aware of the signs of Heatstroke	Heatstoke and Sunburn	3	B	Low	X	X	X		
Other water users															
1	Many Boats on the water	Marshals with megaphones and 2-way radios located at key points of the course to be vigilant for potential collisions and to take actions to minimise any collisions.	Ensure that Marshals are properly equipped and briefed. Do not allow crews to go to the start whilst there are crews racing.	Collision	Bow balls, heel restraints and buoyancy compartment aids may be inspected by Umpires prior to going afloat to race.	Include in briefing for Control Commission		2	C	Low	X		X		
2			Ensure that this is included in the information and briefing to coaches and crews.		Competitors and coaches are responsible for ensuring that their boats are safe and are prepared to the required standards at all times including practice.	Include in information to Clubs					X	X			
3			Ensure that this is included in the information and briefing to coaches and crews.			Marshalls and Umpires enforce navigation pattern					X		X		

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4		Pleasure craft will be asked to wait at either end of the course whilst races are in progress and only allowed to proceed when authorised by marshalls and race control.	Ensure Marshalls understand the significance of this instruction.		Peel Holdings to authorise marshalls to enforce and inform of any breaches.	Distribute notices to local river users with information about thr event. Marshals and umpires enforce navigation patterns.					X		X		
5	Racing	In accordance with British Rowing's rules of racing.	Include this fact in information for competitors	Collision between 2 racing crews during a race	If a clash becomes serious and is likely to damage athletes or equipment, the umpire should stop the race.	Ensure that Umpires are properly equipped and briefed. Umpires enforce BR Rules of Racing		3	C	Moderate	X		X		
6		Umpires & Marshalls along the course to advise crews of potential hazards, should the crew appear unaware and likely to risk their safety as a result.	Remind Umpires & Marshalls								X		X		
7	Racing			Injury of athlete during a race (e.g., hit by blade as a result of a crab, hit by another boat in a collision, etc.)	Umpire & Marshalls contacts Race Control, summons safety boat(s) to assist. Race Controls to alert First Aid by radio.	Ensure that Umpires and Race Control are properly equipped and briefed, and that they implment BR Rules of racing	Injury of athele	3	B	Low	X		X		
Local Environment															
1	Debris in the water	Warn crews and scullers to look out for debris on the way to the start and during racing	Include in briefing to competitors and marshalls. Participants take responsibility for their own safety.	Collision with large debris in the water causing damage to the boat	Assist with safety launch	Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use. Marshalls and Umpires act quickly in case of emergency.	Rowers in collision with debris (minor issue: slight inconvenience, no damage, major issue: damage to the boat, risking safety of the crew)	2	C	Low	X		X		X
2	Jetty's along the bank	Warn coxes/steers persons to look out for the jettys on the way to the start and during racing.	Include in briefing to competitors and marshalls. Participants take responsibility for their own safety.	Collision with the jettys causing damage to boats and risking safety of crew members	Assist with safety launch	Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Marshalls and Umpires act quickly in case of emergency.	Rowers in collision with the post (damage to boats, risk to crew)	3	C	Moderate	X		X		X
3	Large metal post in water	Warn coxes/steers persons to look out for the post on the way to the start and during racing. Highlight its location during the coxes' meeting and on the course map	Include in briefing to competitors and marshalls. Participants take responsibility for their own safety.	Collision with the post by Gnome Island causing damage to boats and risking safety of crew members	Assist with safety launch	Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Marshalls and Umpires act quickly in case of emergency.	Rowers in collision with the post (damage to boats, risk to crew)	3	C	Moderate	X		X		X
4	Large metal post in water below Woden Street Foot Bridge on Trafford Side	Warn coxes/steers persons to look out for the post on the way to the start and during racing. Highlight its location during the coxes' meeting and on the course map	Include in briefing to competitors and marshalls. Participants take responsibility for their own safety.	Collision with the post by Woden Street causing damage to boats and risking safety of crew members	Assist with safety launch	Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Marshalls and Umpires act quickly in case of emergency.	Rowers in collision with the post (damage to boats, risk to crew)	3	C	Moderate	X		X		X
Going afloat and landing															
1	Congestion in the boating area	Crews to boat after safety briefing	Ensure that Umpires & Marshalls, coaches and crews are adequately briefed	Collision in boating area	If rescue is required, this will be co-ordinated by Control Commission via radios.	Ensure that Umpires, Marshalls & Control Commission are properly equipped (radios, throw lines, etc.) and adequately briefed.	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X		X	X	
2	Pontoon Access	Make crews aware of access control on and off Pontoons	Ensure Marshalls control access	Slips, falling in to water	If rescue is required, this will be co-ordinated by Control Commission via radios.	Ensure that Umpires, Marshalls & Control Commission are properly equipped (radios, throw lines, etc.) and adequately briefed.	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X		X	X	
Handling boats on land															

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1	Boats being moved in the presence of pedestrians and cyclists	Public space, no restrictions on public movements	Include in briefing to competitors and marshals	Collision of boat or cyclist with pedestrian.	Marshall contacts Race Control, who summons alerts Medical Officer and First Aid by radio.	Ensure that first aiders, etc., are competent and properly equipped. Check that radios work properly and that users are competent to use them.	Slight physical injury	2	C	Low	X		X	X	X
2		Marshals and coaches to supervise boat movements at all times	Include in briefing to competitors and marshals	Collision of boat or cyclist with pedestrian.							X		X	X	
Faulty, incorrectly set and poorly maintained equipment															
1	Failure of a Safety Boat	All safety boats and engines checked in week prior to event. Race will continue; umpires have full sight of the course from the start line and can use megaphone to control most of the race – finish judges to take control over last 150m.			Other launches will move into position to assist according to safety plan	Ensure that launch drivers and Umpires are appropriately briefed.		2	B	Low	X		X		
2					Umpire/Marshal will radio to Race Control to advise of problem; Race control to summon rescue launch to retrieve the broken-down launch and recover at the end of division	Ensure that communications are effective.					X		X		
Pre-existing health conditions and low levels of fitness															
1	Pre-existing health conditions			Collapse of athlete on landing stages (e.g., asthma attack or serious fall)	Umpire contacts Race Control, who summons safety boat to assist and alerts Medical Officer and First Aid by radio.	Ensure that Umpires are properly briefed and equipped and that there are competent, well equipped first aiders, etc. AED is available at the club	Serious health implications for competitor	3	B	Low	X		X		X
2	Pre-existing health conditions			Collapse of athlete during a race (e.g., asthma attack)	Umpire contacts Race Control, who summons safety boat to assist and alerts Medical Officer and First Aid by radio.	Ensure that Umpires are properly briefed and equipped and that there are competent, well equipped first aiders, etc. AED is available at the club	Serious health implications for competitor	3	C	Moderate	X		X		X
Other															
1	Presence of cyclists, pedestrians and motorists in areas used for boat storage	Cycling/driving is permitted in the area.	Ensure that Marshalls, coaches and crews are adequately briefed	Collision involving cyclists/pedestrians/vehicles in the area	Provisions for first aid, medical treatment, and casualty evacuation to hospital.	Ensure that first aiders, etc., are competent and properly equipped. Check that radios work properly and that users are competent to use them.	Minor injury to spectators and cyclists	2	B	Low	X				
2	Obstruction of Marshalls sight lines by Spectators			Marshalls are unable to supervise boat movements		Position umpires and marshals away from the spectator viewing area at the higher level a the Finish		2	B	Low	X		X		
4	Fire risk	Ensure gas canisters for BBQ are handled and used appropriately	Instructions for volunteers	Fire in boat bay		Provide clear instructions on what to do in fire emergency		1	A	Low	X				X

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5	Road traffic at Agecroft Rowing Club	Adequate information given to visitors and trailer drivers on where to park and to leave trailers	Brief all volunteers on plan. Appoint traffic marshalls on roadways. Remove towing vehicles to car park once trailers delivered.	Injury of pedestrian or damage to boats	Report to Safety Advisor	Provide clear instructions on what to do in vehicle emergency		1	A	Low	X				X
6	Refuelling Safety Boats	Only at designated points	All safety launch tanks and stored in metal fuel box and are filled before the event.	Fire or Spillage	Spare Fire extinguishers are available	Provide clear instructions on what to do in an emergency		1	A	Moderate	X				X