

Bridgnorth Rowing Club



Fun Regatta 2025

Risk Assessment

Bridgnorth Rowing Club - Fun Regatta 2025 - Risk Assessment



This Risk Assessment (RA) has been carried out in accordance with the British Rowing Row Safe guidelines 2025. The format followed is to:

- Identify the hazards
- Identify hazardous events
- Identify barriers to reduce the probability
- Identify controls to reduce the severity of harm

The findings have been listed across the following scenarios.

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Weather

Hazard	Hazardous Events	Barriers (to reduce the probability)	Controls (to reduce the severity of harm)
Hot Sunny Weather	Sunburn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crews are to wear appropriate clothing Crews are to use suncream where appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply after sun where appropriate. Seek medical treatment if severe.
	Sun Stroke		
	Dehydration	Carry and drink water regularly during the day.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to drink sips of water. Seek medical treatment if severe.
Cold Weather	Hypothermia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crews/coaches to assess if crew is dressed for the outing prior to deciding if racing may be undertaken safely. Applying effective layers of clothing Using an appropriate hat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Withdraw to a warm environment asap. Seek medical attention asap.
	Cold Shock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crews to have undertaken relevant training and capsize drills. Crews to understand the concept of cold shock and its short-term effects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer first aid where appropriate.
Strong Winds	Capsize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess suitability of conditions against the crew's ability prior to boating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide immediate rescue with launch
	Inability to land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess suitability of conditions against the crew's ability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marshals to be available onshore, to assist with landing the boat.
Lightning	Lightning strike leading to burns or electrocution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess weather forecast prior to boating. Leaving the water and seeking shelter on hearing thunder. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer first aid where appropriate. Call 999 for ambulance.
Poor visibility	Collisions with bank or other river users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess suitability of racing in such conditions Course marshals/umpires to provide verbal assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide aid via rescue launch if necessary. Marshals assist to crews in the in the event of boat damage.



Water Hazards

Hazard	Hazardous Events	Barriers (to reduce the probability)	Controls (to reduce the severity of harm)
Fast Flowing Water	Inability to Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess river conditions in the run up to the event. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanently man the boating area with suitably trained marshals
	Collision with debris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heightened awareness of the risk and maintaining lookout for the potential debris on the water by coxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coxes to provide crew guidance
Very Cold Water	Capsize resulting in Hypothermia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess river conditions in the run up to the event. Reduce scope of racing to larger boats if necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club to ensure crews bring change of clothes Provide first aid treatment for Hyperthermia. Provide warm drinks to casualty. Seek medical treatment if in any doubt.
Waterborne Diseases	Contracting Weils Disease and other water borne infectious diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness of all competitors Promote hand washing on completion of an outing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek medical attention



Rowing On the River

Hazard	Hazardous Events	Barriers (to reduce the probability)	Controls (to reduce the severity of harm)
Other River Craft	Collision with other river users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coxes to be made aware of course layout Marshals to ensure crews obey navigation rules of the river. Marshals/Start Umpire to highlight if other unexpected craft are in the vicinity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety boat will be positioned on the course, with crew trained in recovery. Safety boat crew to recover to the bank and call for assistance if necessary.
Bends and Currents	Being pushed out into oncoming river traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of short (500m) course Coxes to be made aware of course layout Start marshal/umpire on the bank to observe and provide feedback to crews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crews to prioritize moving back over into the correct part of the river, over maintaining race pace
Anglers	Fishing line entanglement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness of the event prior to the regatta day to discourage angling on/near the course. Crew/Cox vigilance Communicating to other crews of known areas where lines are far out into the river. Where possible, ask the angler to "drop lines" while passing. Move further out into the river to avoid the line if safe to do so. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crew to slow down immediately if they realise you've become entangled. Cut/untangle lines from kit where necessary. Use a first aid kit in the clubhouse if necessary. Cox/Crew to calmly attempt to resolve the matter with the angler.
	Verbal Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate politely. Explain the navigation rules that must be adhered to if applicable to the discussion. Raise awareness of the event prior to the regatta day to discourage angling on/near the course. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss the matter with boating marshals on return who can pass information to the safety advisor and in the event of junior crews, the event welfare officer.



Going Afloat and Landing

Hazard	Hazardous Events	Barriers (to reduce the probability)	Controls (to reduce the severity of harm)
Boat and Oar and maneuverability while being carried	Musculoskeletal Injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boats placed on the water at the start of the event and will remain on the water for the entire event. Crews expected to have been instructed in correct way of handling a boat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of first aid kit Seek medical attention if necessary
	Collisions with members of the public while crossing the public path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boats placed on the water at the start of the event and will remain on the water for the entire event. Coxes/coaches expected to direct crews during the boat handling Ensure the path is clear prior to lifting/maneuvering boats Post marshals on the path between the club enclosure and the steps to politely ask members of the public to briefly wait until the boats are clear. 	
Condition of the boating area	Slipping on steps down to the boating area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the crew ascend steps together, slowly. Ensure steps are clear prior to lifting the boat. Regularly weeding/sweeping of the steps. 	
	Slipping on the planks on the landing stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the condition of planks prior to boating and use concrete landing stage as an alternative if viable. Marshals to highlight condition of planks to crews if being boated from. 	
Fast Moving Water	Loss of boat control during launching Difficulties in landing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boating marshals to assist crews, where necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use throw line to aid recovering boat where necessary



Using The Motor Launch

Hazard	Hazardous Events	Barriers (to reduce the probability)	Controls (to reduce the severity of harm)
Boat Handling/Launching	Musculoskeletal Injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure safe minimum number of people (6) available to assist launching from steps or slipway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of first aid kit
Operating the launch	Collision with boats or other objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch drivers are RYA Level 2 qualified or their competence has been assessed by experienced club members. Drivers to maintain low speed on the river except during rescue Assess conditions prior to launch. Do not use it in low visibility. Driver always uses kill-cord 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First aid kit and tow rope carried on board. Boat hook, bailer, paddle, and spare life jackets stored on board.
	Falling In/Capsize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise movement around the launch while afloat. Do not overload launch with passengers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driver always uses kill-cord. Driver and passengers must wear life jackets. Drivers and passengers must not wear wellington boots. Stay with the boat where possible.
	Engine Fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No smoking in or near the boat Service the engine regularly Carry out visual checks of the engine prior to use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire extinguisher carried on board



In The Boathouse

Hazard	Hazardous Events	Barriers (to reduce the probability)	Controls (to reduce the severity of harm)
Racked Boats	Head injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise footfall into the boat house. Ensure walkways are kept clear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of first aid kit Seek medical attention if necessary
Sloped floor leading out of the boat house	Slipping on wet floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide suitable signage. Use non-slip tape on floor to improve floor condition 	
Stairs	Slipping on stairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure lighting in the stair area is suitable. Use non-slip floor tape on the steps to aid traction. Promote use of handrail 	
Kitchen Area	Oven Burns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulate the number of club members in the kitchen to mitigate overcrowding. Ensure correct use of the oven. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Run affected areas under cold tap for 10 minutes. Use a first aid kit as required. Seek further medical attention if required.
	Boiling water from kettle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulate the number of club members in the kitchen to mitigate overcrowding. Ensure correct use of kettle (not overfilling) 	
Fire	Danger to life and property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No smoking policy. Alarm system (air horns only) Detection (battery operated only) Flammable items stored in locked metal containers outside building. Monthly fire safety inspection (recorded) Signage and emergency lighting Fire Safety Risk Assessment reviewed regularly (separate document) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire extinguishers throughout building (Inspected annually and certificate issued)
Electricity	Electrocution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubhouse wiring system inspected and tested and certified by a competent person every 5 years. Portable equipment is PAT tested annually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of first aid kit Seek medical attention if necessary



Outside Catering Area

Hazard	Hazardous Events	Barriers (to reduce the probability)	Controls (to reduce the severity of harm)
BBQ	Burns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote safe usage of BBQ including correct usage of utensils Reduce access to the BBQ area via orderly queuing system for customers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of first aid kit Seek medical attention if necessary
	Food poisoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote safe handling and isolation between cooked and uncooked foods. Always wash hands before/after handling food being cooked Promote the use of food safe gloves Do not leave uncooked food out in direct sunlight. Store uncooked food in refrigerators – on lower shelves and cooked foods in the higher shelves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek medical help/guidance
Food and Drink	Allergic reactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure foods appropriate for intolerant customers on sale are clearly marked 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek medical help/guidance
Boiling Water Kettle/Urns	Burns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure access to catering area and those operating the urn is kept to a minimum. Ensure area round the urn is kept tidy and cables are safely managed to ensure they could be pulled on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Run burned area under cold water for up to 10minutes Use of first aid kit Seek medical attention if necessary
Electrical equipment	Electrocution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubhouse wiring system inspected and tested and certified by a competent person every 5 years. Portable equipment is PAT tested annually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubhouse wiring system inspected and tested and certified by a competent person every 5 years. Portable equipment is PAT tested annually.
Outdoor temporary workspace	Slips, Trips & Falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure catering area is kept tidy Effective use of bins/recycling containers to ensure clutter is reduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of first aid kit Seek medical attention if necessary