

# Hereford Rowing Club Risk Assessment



<b>Task</b>	Hereford City Regatta
<b>Location</b>	Hereford Rowing Club - River Wye
<b>Date Updated</b>	28/05/26
<b>Completed by</b>	Richard Ashurst
<b>Reviewed by</b>	Regatta Organising Committee

Hazard	Risk	Control Measures in Place	Person Responsible	Risk Factor	Further Actions
Arrival and departure of boats to site	Collision of vehicles, injury to pedestrians	Marshall present to direct vehicles to correct parking and boat storage areas.	Captain, Marshalls	Low	
River conditions and river and river bank hazards	Dangerous river conditions , floating or lodged debris on banks or foot bridge	Prior to race day the river banks and foot bridge will be inspected for debris and debris removed . In the morning of each regatta day the safety advisor and club captain must conduct a final inspection of the river prior to racing .	Safety Advisor and Captain	Low	
Launching and landing of competing boats	Handing Incidents	Boat storage located close to boating and marshalling area. Landing stage (Steps and tressels) to give good access to water. Marshalls available at inspection and boating areas to control movements. Ensure steps are clean and free from blades	Captain, Marshalls	Low	
Incorrect or confusing Radio Transmission	Delays in emergency response and confusion in race control	All radios to be issued with a summary of row safe 2.3 . All channels to be clearly identified as to use	Safety Advisor	Low	
	Unsafe boats	Boats may be checked to ensure they are in safe condition (bouyancy, bow balls, heal restraints)	Marshalls, Umpires	Low	
Boats assembling for races	Collision	Boats only allowed to row upstream upon direction of Boat Marshall.  Boats assemble upstream of start as directed by Start Marshall. Boats instructed not to proceed downstream until there is sufficient safe distance between races.	Marshalls, Umpires, Launch Driver	Low	Circulation Required

Movement of boats	Collision / capsize	Marshalls / Umpires along route to direct boats accordingly to avoid collisions with racing crews. Marshalls to be in radio contact with race control and safety boats. Competing boats assemble and proceed to start as a Division Each race is separately started and observed by Umpires on the course Radio communication between finish, start, safety boat and course Umpires <b>3 x launches in attendance:</b> 2 tin fish on water during racing, one at start and one at mid point in the course. Whaley launch moored at steps for emergency use. Whaley has been deemed by separate risk assessment to be suitable for rescue purposes. Automatic engine cut-outs on launches. Provision and use of buoyancy aids by rescue boat users and coxes Assigned duty first aider . 10 - 15 mins response by emergency service less than 3 miles from rowing club Throw lines provided to Umpires	Marshalls, Umpires, Launch Driver	Low	
Movement and assembly of boats	Immersion, with consequent risk of infection, drowning, hypothermia	Blankets available in boathouse. Rowers educated about Weil's disease (British Rowing Row Safe section 5.3) and hypothermia (British Rowing Row Safe section 1.8). Throwbags for marshalls on route, lifebuoys to be available. First Aid kits to be available and checked regularly. Rowers taught to stay with (bouyant) boat.	Captain, Sub Captains, Coaching Team, Safety Advisor	Low	Hypothermia kit? Guidelines on Weil's disease
Foot bridge safety	Collision with foot bridge , debris from bridge landing on passing boats , people jumping from bridge	During the periods that regatta boats are on the water there will be safety marshall placed on the bridge with radio to race control and safety boats . This marshall will also have use of megaphone . This marshall has the immediate authorisation to suspend racing if a serious safety incident or near miss occurs or is immanent . The bridge support will be buoyed up stream to warn coxless boats of possible strike	Bridge safety marshall	Low	
Other users of water	Collision, capsize, etc.	Hereford Angling Club, Kayak Club, Sea Cadets advised of Regatta date Canoes, kayaks or other boats controlled during races	Captain, Secretary, Marshalls, Umpires	Low	
Sickness, Heat Exhaustion etc.	Individual becomes unwell on water (competitors, safety launch drivers)	Safety boat on hand to access individual Umpires and Start and Finish provided with radio communication Safety boat crew provided with food and drink, appropriately clothed, protected from the sun and should rotate every 120 mins	Captain, Marshalls, Umpires, Launch Drivers	Low	

	Umpires / Marshalls become unwell	Provision of gazebos for weather protection Provision of water and refreshments Umpires and Marshalls provided with radio communication	Captain, Marshalls, Umpires	Low	
Weather	Thunderstorms, high winds, heavy rain	Suspension of event as weather approaches by Race Control and Umpire decision until it has cleared . During periods of high wind the start marshall should instruct all boats to be manned or support while on tressels	Race Control, Captain, Marshalls, Umpires	Low	
Members of the public	Drowning, injury	Life rings and throw-lines sited along footpaths, both sides of the river Observation of riverbanks from Marshall and Umpire positions Radio communication with safety launch Assigned duty first aider . 10-15 mins response by emergency services less than 3 miles from rowing club . Coordination of response to be undertaken by Race control. Emergency vehicle access outlined in plan.	Race Control, Captain, Marshalls, Umpires	Low	
Motor Vehicles	Collision with other motor vehicles and pedestrians	Clearly marked parking. Car Park Marshalls at start and end of event.	All	Low	
High Water	High / fast flowing	If the river rises above 3ft from normal summer levels, then the race committee and safety advisor will assess the situation in line with the conditions of the day.	Race Control, Safety Advisor	Low	
Junior 12 years	Experience and overall boat control under adverse weather conditions	Safety Adviors will conduct Risk Assessment on the day and before commencement of J12 racing to assess river and weather suitability . All Safety station will be informed by radio before J12 launch	Safety Advisor and Race Con	Low	
Chlidren below 18yo and Vulnerable Adults	Inappropriate contact and management of juniors and Vulnerable adults	The club will appoint a welfare officier and competing clubs are require to complete welfare docuements at registration . Management of these individuals will be in accordance with BR standards and guildlines . Appropriate changing area will be given for juniors females and males	Safety Advisor and Welfare of	Low	
Coping with behaviour of others	Abuse or rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour (anti-social behaviour) or by harassment, public disorder or having objects thrown at, or dropped on, them (criminal behaviour).	Safety boat on hand to help if any injury or damage. Marshals and umpires to be alert to external antisocial behaviour which may impede racing or safety. Bridge safety marshal as above.	Safety advisor, welfare, race control, marshals, umpires	Low	
Safety of launch drivers	Launch drivers are not familair with the launch or how to use them.	Will all be RYA level 2 or equivalent and be on the list of launch drivers held by the club and familair with the use of the launches. Launch drivers will check the launch before use. All launches will be checked prior to regatta day.	Safety advisor, marshals, captain	Low	
Poor hygiene and shared equipment	Spread of illness or infection among competitors and staff	Handwashing facilities, sanitiser stations, and cleaning of shared equipment provided	Event Organiser / Safety Officer	Medium	Regularly check and restock hygiene supplies throughout the event
Competitors attending with infectious illness	Transmission of illness to other participants	Pre-event communication advising unwell individuals not to attend	Team Managers / Competitors	Medium	Reinforce guidance during registration and briefing

Competitors with pre-existing medical conditions (e.g. asthma, diabetes, heart conditions)	Medical emergency during racing or training	First aid cover on site and medical information requested during entry	Safety Officer / First Aid Team	Medium	Ensure emergency contacts and access arrangements are available to responders
Medical incident on the water	Delay in treatment leading to serious harm	Safety boats, marshals, and emergency procedures in place	Water Safety Coordinator	Medium	Relevant medical information to be available to first aid and safety teams where necessary.