

Dartmouth Rowing club - Risk Assessment going afloat and on water

Hazard	Controls	Risk	Action Required
Trips and falls	Entrance to club house and racks to be clear of boats, trestles and any other trip hazards as far as possible. 1st aid kits available for minor bumps and cuts in boat house.	Low	Ensure first aid box topped up and available. Notify all members to keep access clear.
Damage to boats/ injury to members as boats moved on and off racks. Lifting & carrying.	Tennis balls to be added to ends of all riggers for protection. Constant supervision of juniors when racking boats. Ensure all understand correct way to carry boats and place on racks.	Low	Purchase of tennis balls for riggers. Briefing all members on need for care in racking boats. Manual handling
Poorly Maintained/ damaged or quarantined equipment	All damages to be logged in accident book and reported to Club captain or coach. All damage to be clearly marked and boats quarantined if unsuitable for use. Members to know that quarantined/ damaged boats cannot be used – cracked or damaged hulls, bow balls, broken heel restraints, corroded riggers, faulty steering, corroded swivels, corroded rigger plates, broken shoulders, damaged seats and wheels.	Low-Med	Ensure all members know where to find accident book and damage log and understand responsibility to report damage. Ongoing maintenance programme to be agreed.
Injury to members, damage to boats when rigged	All boats to be checked by a competent person to ensure all nuts tight, riggers attached correctly, swivels tight, heel restraints tight, bow balls tight, hatch covers in, steering attached correctly. Ensure all adjustable blades are tight.	Low	Assign competent person to each boat. Brief all on boat rigging. Training if required.
Collision with motor vehicles & pedestrians	Check access to club before moving boats from club house. Ensure coxes, competent person is guiding all boats to slipway fro launch.	Low	Competent person to monitor passing traffic
Slips and falls on slipway	All members to wear suitable footwear when launching boats. Be aware of ferry cabling and seaweed/algae on lower part of slip	Low - Med	Brief all members. Daily check of slipway. Communication with SHDC if slip in need of maintenance.
Higher Ferry. Capsize.	Controlled launching of boats to slipway around the arrival and departure of the ferry. Crews to be aware of backwash of ferry and effect on water. Where possible crews to boat when ferry absent or to side of slip not impeding ferry. Coaches must be present when junior crews boating.	Low-Med	All members to be aware of ferry issues and listen to instructions from coach.

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General Water Safety	Bow balls to be in good condition, steering correctly adjusted. All juniors to wear life jackets if not passed new Skills assessment. Safety boat required when junior crews on water. All safety boat drivers, coxswains to wear correctly fitted buoyancy aids. Safety boats to be equipped with grab line and safety bag. Chalk board to be completed with date, time of outing, crews out and expected return.	Low - Med	Follow club procedures. Ensure all crews aware of above. Coaches to sign off Junior skills assessment for sculling without lifejacket.
Capsize due to rough sea state, high winds, poor visibility, and tidal state.	Coaches to provide assessment of the conditions on every outing. Wind, tide, sea state, forthcoming tide and wind shifts. All crews be familiar with capsize drill and consequences of hypothermia	Low - Med	Decision by coach on state of water and suitability of crews to go afloat. Possible decision to boat only large boats or land train if deemed dangerous.
Exposure due to cold weather	All crews to be appropriately dressed with spare change of clothes on land. Thermal blankets in safety boat kit bags. Warm showers in clubhouses.	Med	Follow junior guidelines. Vigilance from parents and coaches.
Heat exhaustion and sun-burn	All crews to carry water on all outings with adequate sun protection, hats and sun glasses where possible.	Med	Follow junior guidelines. Vigilance from parents and coaches.
Collision with other river users, floating & submerged objects	All crews to follow circulation pattern of river, keeping to starboard and following "Rules of the road". When possible keep out of main channel. Keep a good look out at all times and give way to sailing craft when you can. Keep a look out for floating objects and follow navigation buoys	Med	All crews to be aware of circulation and to keep to starboard. Training of new coxswains on rules of river.