

L REGATTA Risk Assessment Two Day Event. 25th/26th

Club	Bewdley Rowing Club (BRC)	Date:	04 May 2026
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No:	Hazard	Reduce probability of a Hazard causing a Hazardous		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					Event Committee	Event RSA	Umpires & Marshalls	Control Commissions	Coxes	Welfare officer	other
ON LAND, AROUND THE BOATHOUSE including HANDLING BOATS																	
1	Boats being carried across pedestrian footpath whilst going to landing stage area	Marshal at the top of the steps to landing stage area to control the flow of boats being carried.	Include in briefing to marshals	Collision of boat with pedestrian.	Marshal contacts Race Control, who summons 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.	Minor injury	2	C	Low	X	X	X		X		Club Adult Volunteer.
2	Minor cuts and bruises due to handling equipment	Well stocked First-Aid kit to be maintained in gym and behind bar.	Ensure trained First-Aiders are on site in addition to club facilities.	Injury to participant	Provision of first aid kit/Professional first aiders Participants to follow instructions when handling equipment.	Maintain first aid equipment.	Minor injury.	2	C	Low		X		X			
3	Trailers being moved into boat park	Marshals controlling the moving of trailers into boat park. Trailers to move at slow speeds. Areas where EA equipment stored to be fenced off so no access possible.	Include in briefing to marshals	Collision of trailers with pedestrian.	Marshal contacts Race Control, who summons First Aid by radio if required	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	2	C	Low	X	X	X	X			Club Adult Volunteer.
4	Use of towpath by cyclists and pedestrians	The following of races by bicycle is not permitted	Prepare and provide Instructions to Competitors and inform coaches and crews that they must read it.	Collision involving cyclists and pedestrians	Marshal contacts Race Control, who summons 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.	Minor injury to spectators and cyclists	2	C	Low	X			X			
5	BBQ, kitchen and catering areas	Fire precautions in place: fire extinguishers, appropriate containers and storage areas for fuel/gas. Briefing food hygiene of all those involved	Fire extinguishers serviced regularly, marshals on hand who know how to use them. Gloves to be worn by all those touching food, check food is cooked through	Fire/Illness from improperly prepared food	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.	Burns/Food Poisoning	2	C	Low	X	X					Club Adult Volunteer.

6	Crowds of people	Marshals spread around the area of the regatta site	Include in briefing to marshals	Serious public disorder/violent behaviour	Marshal contacts Race Control, who summons First Aid by radio and/or emergency services if required. General evacuation of area if necessary. Marshals to assist in evacuation process. PA system used to make any emergency announcements.	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	2	C	Low	X	X	X			X	
7	Abuse or bullying.	All participants to report any abuse of bullying directly to the Welfare officer.	Welfare officer contact details posted around club site.	Any incident of abuse to anyone associated with the event. In particular, those that are vulnerable may be at risk of experiencing abuse or bullying.	Implementation of the Club Welfare Policy	Welfare Officers trained in safeguarding. Named welfare officer and assistant officer. All club users have a duty of care to recognise and report any suspected safeguarding issue to the welfare officer.	Minor injury, psychological or emotional abuse	1	D	Low	X	X				X	
8	Alcohol induced accidents / incidents.	Age check on bar Security staff on gate and patrolling area to deal with problem behaviour. Rowers briefed no alcohol to be consumed whilst racing.	Competent bar tenders adhere to regulations regarding serving alcohol. Race officials take decisions to keep public safe where necessary.	Unwanted behaviours of persons accessing event. Injury to persons accessing event.	Security Staff. Officials to refuse to serve alcohol if required. Officials to stop crews racing if intoxicated.	Participants briefed and requested not to drink alcohol whilst racing or handling/move boats/other equipment.	Injury from slips, trip and falls. Unwanted behaviour on club site.	1	C	Low	X	X				X	
GOING AFLOAT AND LANDING																	
1	Congestion in the boating area	Top end of landing stage to be used for embarkation, bottom end to be used for disembarkation. Marshalls to control crews going up and down the steps.	Ensure that Marshals are adequately briefed. Ensure adequate support is available on the landing stage.	Collision in boating area	If rescue is required, this will be co-ordinated by Regatta Control	Ensure that Marshals are properly equipped (throw lines, etc.) and adequately briefed. First aiders available.	Minor injury or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	D	Moderate		X	X	X			Club Adult Volunteer.
2	Oars, equipment and rough surfaces	People on landing stage to be limited to marshals, competitors and those assisting crews. Number of crews on landing stage to be controlled by marshals. Oars are to be stored away from landing stage area when not in use.	Ensure that Marshals are adequately briefed. Announcements over the PA during the course of the day reminding crews to not store oars on the landing stage.	Slips or trips	Marshal contacts Race Control, who summons 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.	Minor injury	2	D	Moderate	X	X	X	X			Club Adult Volunteer.

3	Crews crossing racing lanes to make their way up to the start.	Marshal positioned on the town side of the course opposite the landing stage indicating when no races are coming and it is clear to cross. Crews to only cross when instructed by landing stage marshals. Crews to continue rowing upstream until they are passed the slip way which will be marked by a buoy.	Ensure that Marshals, coaches and crews are adequately briefed. Prepare and provide Instructions to Competitors and Emergency Instructions.	Collision with racing crews. Capsize or sinking during a race	If a clash becomes imminent the umpire will stop the race. If rescue is required, this will be co-ordinated by Coordinating Umpire. Two fully equipped rescue launches manned by RYA L2 qualified drivers and a qualified first aider in attendance at all times. Both safety launches are in 2-way radio contact at all times with umpires and race control. Coxes' life jackets checked by Umpires prior to going afloat to race. Particular attention paid to "front loader" boats.	Ensure that Umpires are properly equipped and briefed. Ensure that Marshals are properly equipped (throw lines, etc.) and adequately briefed. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Minor injury and/or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	1	D	Low	X		X	X	X		
4	Racing crews straying off course and into landing stage area	Coaches and crews must have studied the course map before going afloat for racing. Course to be buoyed appropriately to guide racing crews away from landing stage area.	Prepare and provide course map. Ensure the course is buoyed appropriately and checked before racing.	Collision in boating area. Capsize or sinking during a race	If a clash becomes imminent the umpire will stop the race. If rescue is required, this will be co-ordinated by Coordinating Umpire. Two fully equipped rescue launches manned by RYA L2 qualified drivers and a qualified first aider in attendance at all times. Both safety launches are in 2-way radio contact at all times with umpires and race control. Coxes' life jackets may be checked by Umpires in line with BR rules of racing prior to going afloat to race. Particular attention paid to "front loader" boats.	Ensure that Umpires are properly equipped and briefed. Ensure that Marshals are properly equipped (throw lines, etc.) and adequately briefed. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Minor injury and/or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	1	D	Low			X	X			
5	Collision between rowing boats and/or clash of blades	Participants to comply with the navigation rules AND keep a good lookout for other crews. During Regatta be aware of races coming downstream and always abide by instructions of marshals.	Navigation rules on display in boathouse. Regatta Marshalls and officials take control of incident.. Briefings and reminders to members to keep a good lookout	Participants may be injured or get anxious.	All crews under supervision of marshals, umpires and safety boats	Incident to be attended by safety boats. Rowing boats to return to landing stage if possible. First aid attention if required.	Injury to participant. Equipment damage.	2	D	Moderate			X	X	X		
6	Congested passage and pathways.	Site to be cleared of all unnecessary equipment/debris to allow safe passage of all.	Club members to keep access clear and help maintain clear areas during the event. Provision of bins on site.	Slips trips and falls. Injury to persons accessing event.	Provision of first aid. All BRC members to take ownership of keeping areas safe and clear of debris.	First aiders on site. Clear signage for access to first aid.	Minor injury	2	C	Low	X	X					Club Adult Volunteer.

WATER															
1	Low water / Shallows	All participants to be made aware of where and when shallows will be present. During the regatta these areas will be buoyed.	Race Committee and Safety Officer to assess water level on Friday evening, Saturday morning and throughout the day. Marshals and Umpires to hold crews in the bay downstream of the Gasworks and release in batches.	Damage to boats by grounding	All shallows buoyed. All crews alerted to course map in registration and boat pairing. Batch holding and releasing of crews proceeding to start. If the course cannot be rowed without damage to equipment, rowing club (RC) to consider suspension of racing	Monitor position of buoys Monitor weather and river levels. Marshals to monitor batch holding and releasing. Radio contact between start race control and Gasworks marshal/Umpire will be on a separate channel and constantly open.	Boat damage	2	D	Moderate	X	X	X	X	X
5	Collision between rowing boats and/or clash of blades during racing Capsize during racing.	Participants to abide by instructions of umpires.	Umpires to umpire the race in accordance with the rules of racing.	Participants may be injured or get anxious or capsize.	All crews under supervision of marshals/Umpires and safety boats. Incident report logs provided in Umpire packs.	Incident to be attended by safety boats. Rowing boats to return to landing stage if possible. First aid attention if required. Position Umpire/Coordinating Umpire to fill in incident log and report to British Rowing.	Injury to participant. Equipment damage.	2	D	Moderate	X	X	X	X	
2	Fast flowing water / high water	Cancel regatta if conditions unsafe	Race Committee to assess water level on Friday evening and decide to run or cancel regatta. Race committee to monitor river levels Saturday morning and throughout the day and decides if racing can continue.	Crews unable to return to the boathouse.	Make situation safe and support landing of crews using launch and people on landing stage. Ensure communication aids are available between launch user and persons on land.	Provide information to coaches on this approach. Use of launch by competent persons. Communication aids/ radios	Rowers get tired and anxious.	1	D	Low	X	X	X		
WEATHER															
1	Stormy or windy weather	Racing to be suspected on order of any official if lightning follows thunder within 30 seconds.	All crews/officials/spectators to be guided to safe shelter (NOT tents/marquees) until 30 minutes after storm has passed. Race committee to consider restart of racing.	Unexpected change in weather conditions. Swamping of a boat due to adverse weather, capsize, collision	Suspend racing. Race committee to make key decisions early of potential stormy weather to ensure safety of participants.	Race committee to maintain communication via radios. Alternative PA system to be set up in clubhouse so communication can continue (control PA open to elements) Provide safety launches with qualified drivers. Provision of first aid and thermal blankets carried in launch.	Participants may get anxious. Potential boat damage and challenge to landing crews.	2	D	Moderate	X	X	X		
2	Cold/Wet Weather	Crews and coxes reminded at boating up that they should wear sufficient clothing to protect against poor weather.	Suitable rowing clothing to be worn by participants.	Adverse weather conditions causing participants to be wet and/or cold for period of racing.	Availability of hot showers and changing facilities. Provision of life saving thermal blankets.	Consider provision of drying facilities to cope with prolonged rain. Race officials to keep racing fluent.	Potential hypothermia of participants.	1	C	Low	X	X			
3	Hot weather/sun	Crews reminded to cover up, wear hats, apply sunscreen and drink plenty of water to avoid sunburn/sunstroke	Race official to remind crews at morning briefing.	Rowers suffer sun burn	Advise rowers to carry drinking water and apply sunscreen.	Notices in the boathouse and instructions to rowers and coaches. First Aiders on site.	Rowers become dehydrated. Rowers become sun burnt.	1	C	Low	X	X			

COMMUNICATIONS															
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.	No warming up or practice starts are allowed on the course. Crews proceeding to the start are to stay close to the town side bank and are to not impede any racing crews on the course. Ensure that this information is included in the Instructions to Competitors.	Collision	Crew are to check their own bow balls, heel restraints and buoyancy compartment aids prior to going afloat to race; these may also be inspected by Umpires. Competitors and coaches are responsible for ensuring that their boats are safe and are prepared to the required standards at all times.	Include in briefing for Control Commission. Include in information to Clubs Launches to carry thermal throws.	Minor injury and/or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	2	C	Low	X	X	X	X	
2	Racing	In accordance with British Rowing's rules of racing. Umpires observing each race to instruct the crews to move apart (or for one out-of-station crew to move into their own water).	Ensure that this is included in the Instructions to Competitors. Ensure that Marshals are properly equipped and briefed	Collision between racing crews during a race	If a clash is likely to damage equipment or athletes, the umpire will take action inline with BR rules of racing. If rescue is required, this will be co-ordinated by Coordinating Umpire. Umpires to contact Coordinating Umpire to summon safety boat to assist and alert First Aid by radio.	Ensure that Umpires are properly equipped and briefed. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use. Launches to carry thermal throws.	Minor injury and/or Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	3	B	Low	X		X	X	
3	Lack of communication to all	Communication radios. Written entry system and race plan. Signage for all areas of risk assessment implemented. Briefing for competitors at start of event.	Spare radios and batteries available. Contingency: mobile phones Erect signage day before regatta. Update of information to all during the event.	Confusion of participants and others.	Ensure continuous communication amongst all officials. Announcements to be made regularly to all present via PA system/commentators	Officials maintain communication with participants and public via race control public speaker system. Contingency; mobile phones. Regatta committee to plan ahead for regatta day and communicate to members.	Minor Injury/Damage to Equipment. Frustration of competitors/spectators/officials	2	B	Low	X	X	X	X	Club Adult Volunteer.
4	Other watercraft on river/Swimmers in river	Suspend racing until river is clear. Start or finish marshals to coordinate with other water users if they wish to pass over the racing course.	Officials to make decisions and communicate actions clearly to participants and others. Racing to be stopped to allow for passage of other water users.	Collision with another vessel - canoe, paddle board, kayak, inflatable boats/person	Officials to suspend racing until river is clear. Rescue via launch. Provision of first aid.	Launch drivers to check river is clear. Communication aids used to inform marshals and officials.	Minor injury Boat damage	3	C	Moderate	X		X	X	

LOCAL ENVIRONMENT																
1	Athletes on the water: Heart attack /stroke/seizure/illness due to over exertion or preexisting medical condition	Location of defibrillator installed for easy access at the club. All participants to be aware of need to clear landing stages in the event of an incident of this type.	Regular training in CPR provided for members. Call ambulance and medical assistance immediately.	Potential life threatening event to individual.	Umpire contacts Coordinating Umpire who summons safety boat to assist and alerts First Aid by radio. Suspend racing. Ensure clear access Defibrillator on site Provision of First aiders	Ensure that marshals are properly briefed and equipped and that there are competent, well equipped first aiders, etc. Team to clear access for transporting injured person. Officials to follow policy and procedures for injuries.	Death or potential life changing event. Serious health implications for competitor	4	B	Moderate	X	X	X	X		
2	Athlete/public on land: Heart attack /stroke/seizure/illness due to preexisting medical condition	Location of defibrillators installed for easy access at the club. All participants to be aware of need to clear landing stages in the event of an incident of this type.	Regular training in CPR provided for members. Call ambulance and medical assistance immediately.	Potential life threatening event to individual.	Marshals contact Coordinating Umpire who summons first aid by radio. Suspend racing. Ensure clear access Defibrillator on site Provision of First aiders	Ensure that marshals are properly briefed and equipped and that there are competent, well equipped first aiders, etc. Team to clear access for transporting injured person. Officials to follow policy and procedures for injuries.	Death or potential life changing event. Serious health implications for competitor	4	B	Moderate	X	X	X	X		
3	Biological contamination of the water	Regular reminders to all to wash hands after rowing and handling boats.	Ensure multiple handwashing facilities are available and hand sanitizer in changing rooms/toilets Participants to avoid undue skin contact with the water, cuts and scratches are kept covered	Contact with biological contamination of the water	Availability of showers and washing facilities. Hand sanitizing station available Infected rowers seek medical attention	Information located on RowSafe board	Leptospirosis (Weill's disease), and other zoonoses due to ingestion of contaminated water/faeces or absorption	3	B	Low	X	X				
4	Biological contamination of the steps	Club steps to be cleaned of all bird faeces both mornings of regatta.	Ensure multiple handwashing facilities are available and hand sanitizer in changing rooms/toilets	Contact with biological contamination of the steps	Availability of showers and washing facilities. Infected rowers seek medical attention	Regatta committee to confirm steps cleaned Information located on RowSafe board	Leptospirosis (Weill's disease), and other zoonoses due to ingestion of contaminated water/faeces or absorption	3	B	Low	X	X				
5	Debris collected on the pillars of the bridge from the flooding	Bridge marshals in situ throughout the racing. Rowers informed of the issue. EA asked to remove as much as possible	Safety plan. Marshals. Rowers informed if the debris has not been fully removed.	Blades hit debris	Bridge marshals to keep a lookout and inform boats if they are getting near the debris	Ensure that bridge marshals are aware what is expected of them	equipment damage	2	C	Low	X	X	X	X		

PARKING																
1	BOAT PARKING COMPOUND SAFETY WITH PLANT HIRE	Compound cleared. Appropriate fencing erected. All Jackson plant hire to be stored beyond the fencing.	Safety plan Gates to be secured open car park to be free of pot holes debris	Collision of vehicles with fencing/plant equipment	Fencing Marshalling	Two marshals - directing vehicles Marshals at the top of the lane. speed limit 5mph along lane to all parking.	boats/cars/people damaged	2	C	low	X	X	X	X		Club Adult Volunteer.
3	Trailers being moved into boat park	Marshals controlling the moving of trailers into boat park. Trailers to move at slow speeds. Areas where EA equipment stored to be fenced off so no access possible.	Include in briefing to marshals	Collision of trailers with pedestrian.	Marshal contacts Race Control, who summons First Aid by radio if required	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	2	C	Low	X	X	X	X		Club Adult Volunteer.
2	Car Parking/camping	radio contact between top of the track and marshals in the parking compound.	Cars to give way to boat trailers	collision of cars parking beyond compound and cars towing trailers	marshals at the top of track explain to cars camping that they give way to trailers	Communication between marshal at top of the lane and marshal in compound speed limit 5mph along lane to all parking.	minor injury	2	C	low	X	x	X	X		Club Adult Volunteer.

		People	Assets	Probability				
				A	B	C	D	E
				Highly improbable (has not been known to happen in rowing)	Improbable (has been known to happen in rowing)	Possible (could happen to about 1% of the club's active members per decade)	Probable (could happen to about 1% of the club's active members per year)	Highly probable (could happen to about 10% of the club's active members per year)
Severity	1	Slight injury or health effect (Requires little or no treatment; no need to take time off rowing or training)	Minor damage to equipment (<£100)	Low	Low	Low	Low	Moderate
	2	Minor injury or health effect (Requires First Aid or rest; potentially a few days off rowing or training)	Damage repair costs low (£500)	Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Substantial
	3	Moderate injury or health effect (Requires treatment beyond simple First Aid; potentially a week or so off rowing or training)	High damage repair costs (>£1000)	Low	Low	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable
	4	Major injury or health effect (Requires hospital treatment for more than one day; potentially a few weeks off rowing or training)	Very high damage repair costs (loss of boat, 3rd party damage)	Low	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable	Intolerable
	5	Fatality or Life Threatening Injury or Health Effect (could end a rowing career or cause hospitalisation for a few months)	Major damage & major costs (loss of several boats, high 3rd party damage)	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable	Intolerable	Intolerable

Low	An acceptable level of risk. No additional barriers/controls are required. Start or continue the activity but check that the current barriers/controls remain effective.
Moderate	An acceptable level of risk that should be reviewed. Implement additional barriers/controls to reduce the risk if the opportunity arises. Start or continue the activity with care.
Substantial	An unacceptable level of risk. Improve the barriers/controls and allocate resources to reduce the risk. Do not start or continue the activity until the risk has been reduced.
Intolerable	An unacceptable level of risk. Improve the barriers/controls and allocate resources to reduce the risk. Do not start or continue the activity until the risk has been reduced. Prohibit the activity if it is not possible to reduce the risk.