

TEAM **K** EANE

Club General Risk Assessment

Author/ Reviewer Responsible	TK Administrator
Authorised date	29 th March 2022
Date of Last Review	29 th March 2022
Date of next Planned Policy Review	29 th March 2023 or As Required

Environmental Risks.

All assessments of these risks and the actions to be taken are the responsibility of the lead coach.

Risk	Measured variable	Risk level	Risk rating	Mitigation
Increased fluvial flow	PLA fluvial flow flag (River Thames only)	Green flag	Low	Nil
		Yellow flag	Medium	Novice Paddlers to remain on land, unless coxed by a coach in Tub 4x +
		Red flag	High	Novice Paddlers to remain on land. If deemed safe enough only Senior or intermediate crews allowed on the water accompanied by coach in a safety launch and qualified steers in the crew during low Tide only.
Rain & Fog	Forecasted conditions & Lead Coach assessment at time of session	Visibility from the Steps to Kew Gardens Green Houses on the Surrey bank	Low	All steers to be advised to keep a clear and regular look out for approaching crews. A decision to use lights on boats may be taken if the lead coach decides this will improve the visibility of the crew.
		Poor visibility from the Steps to Kew Gardens Green Houses on the Surrey bank, however the outline of the Surrey bank still visible	Medium	As above, plus no crews are to go out without a launch to spot ahead & behind. Crews to stay together and within sight of the launches.
		Very Low visibility. Kew Gardens Green Houses on the Surrey bank not visible & the Surrey bank not visible from the Boating Steps.	High	Crews to remain on land until lead coach is satisfied that visibility has improved to a medium risk
Lightening	Forecasted conditions & first-hand assessment	Any presence.	Very High	No Crews are to boat during lightning strikes and athletes are to remain inside the boathouse under shelter until there have not been any visible lightning strikes for a minimum of 30min. Any Crews on the water are to immediately go to land and get off the water & seek shelter (NOT UNDER A TREE) again they are to wait for 30min after the last flash before returning to the water.
High wind speeds	Forecasted wind direction and speed	Forecast Gusts < 25mph	Low	Nil
		Forecast Gusts 25-35mph (especially easterly at Brentford Lock or southerly alongside Isleworth Ait)	Medium	Lead coach to decide upon outing length and direction based upon crew competence and boat types. Lead Coach in Safety Launch to assess outing from the lead so to turn crews if necessary beforehand.
		Forecast Gusts > 35mph	High	Session to continue on Land

Physical Risks

	Likelihood of an Incident	Level of Severity	Level of Risk	Measures to be taken to minimise risk
Collision with other man powered crafts or fixed obstruction or object in the water	Low	Harmful	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All crews except those navigated by a competent steersperson/cox who has passed the club navigation tests are to be accompanied by a coach in a safety launch. • Coach to explain to all crews the navigation for the outing prior to boating. • All crews to keep a good 'lookout', and use the term look ahead when a crew is overtaking. • Beginner crews not to be taken down stream of Kew Road Bridge or past the Syon Crossing. • Lights to be on boats in failing light and the dark. • Crew to be advised to take extra precaution to avoid vessels traveling upriver towards Richmond with the flood tide should they be too far over towards the Middlesex side of the river as the set of the tide. • All crews to be kept in sight of the coach. • All coaches to wear kill cords & Life vests. • Extra care to be taken with regard to increased traffic to and from the Brentford Cut. Especially in the warmer months and holidays.
Radio com failure	Low	Moderate	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile phones must ALWAYS be carried as back up.
Launch engine failure	Low	Harmful	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the start of an outing a active launch is to navigate crews safely to the inshore zone where they remain close to the bank until all Launches are present & functional. • Launch drivers to carry mobile phones to contact one another for assistance if a breakdown should occur during and outing. All crews to be navigated to safety before returning to retrieve a failed launch. • Crews to be briefed prior to outing to navigate safely into the in-shore zone if the launch should break down and wait for a safety launch to collect them and return them to the Club. • All launches to carry a paddle. • Launch drivers must wear life jackets. • All launch drivers to be aware of the shallow areas so to avoid grounding. • Launches to be checked for adequate fuel prior to outing.
Hypothermia	Low	Fatal	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginners are not allowed on the water if the air temp is below 6 degrees Celsius • Launches to carry adequate first aid kits in line with 'row safe' and thermal blankets. • All athletes to be advised to wear kit suitable for weather conditions and to check weather forecast in advance of any sessions. • All Coaches to have completed first aid training to recognise any early signs of Hypothermia and act accordingly.
River Immersion	Low	Fatal	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rowers will need to satisfy individual clubs regarding competence to swim, if not competent or participating in Paddle sports then they must wear an appropriate buoyancy aid or lifejacket. • If rowers are competent to swim, then they will not wear specific buoyancy aids in line

				<p>with national standards for rowing as set out in BR Row Safe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launches to carry adequate first aid kits in line with 'row safe' and thermal blankets. • Coaches to advise participant on the symptoms of dry drowning and delayed collapse. • All athletes to have a dry change of clothes available at the club. • All members to attend a capsize Drill at the earliest convenience to confirm swimming ability and practise capsize • Beginners must not go out in the water if there are white horses on the water. • Beginners are not allowed out on the water without an accompanied launch or coxed by a coach in a tub 4x+ • All coxes will wear buoyancy aids/lifejackets in line with BR Row safe. • Launch drivers to carry mobile phones.
Injury whilst rowing or training on the land	Low	Harmful	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaches to instruct and check for good safe technique. • All sessions to be tailored to the participant's skill and fitness level. • Participants to advise of any previous injury of physical reason for concern prior to any outing so the coaches are aware. • All equipment to be checked by coaches prior to use for any defects. • All damage to equipment to be reported to the coach and if deemed a risk, equipment it is to be taken out of service until a full repair has been completed.
Infections from unclean water	Medium	Medium to high	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage athletes to shower regularly after outings. • Wash hands thoroughly before eating. • Coaches to be aware of current sewage situations. • Any open cuts to be cleaned & treated immediately then covered. • Coaches to explain the hazards of unclean water to squads regularly. • Boats and oars to be washed down with clean water and detergent after every outing.
Infection Transmission in the gym	Low	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All participants to be reminded to clean equipment after use and to shower and clean hands after session.
Injury due to boat handling	Low	Medium to high	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment to be handled under the supervision of a coach. • All doubles and singles are to be supervised from the rack to the water by a coach and support offered to the participant if they are not able to lift the equipment without a risk of injury to themselves or others or a risk to equipment damage. • Coaches are to aid all participants when handling crew boats by holding the boat both at the stern and the bow. Ensuring the boat is careful placed in the water and kept off the ground at either end by either holding the boat until it is pushed off or appointing a responsible participant to hold the boat at either end.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coaches to advise clearly on correct posture and technique while holding the boat. NO juniors to be left holding tub boats on their own.
Launch Fuel	Low	Medium to high	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When not in use fuel is to be safely and locked away approved fuel storage cabinet in a strictly no smoking area.

Club Policies to Mitigate General risks

- All Lead Coaches to have level 2 coaching awards via the relevant governing body.
- Safety briefings prior to **all outings** with crews, with special regard to conditions & navigation.
- All Incidents to be reported via British Rowing or British Canoeing to identify risks and for 'lessons learnt'.
- First aid equipment to be available in all launches and in the Welfare Container.
- Coaches to maintain valid first aid certificates.
- All launches to have supplied safety equipment as outlined in 'row safe'.
- All damage to equipment to be reported immediately and either fixed or taken out of service until fully repaired.

Passage Plan

Only novice singles and doubles are able to journey behind Lots Ait and the Brentford Aits whilst accompanied by a Coaching Launch if it is deemed too dangerous for them to proceed across the the main river or into the fairway as a result of heavy river use, difficult environmental conditions or for any reason that would result in the novice experiencing increased anxiety as a result of being on the main river course.

All more experienced crews are to proceed along normal navigation routes on the main river for the duration of their outing. The only exception would be if the crews were taken behind the Aits to practice single scull skill drills under the supervision of a coach.