

London RC Risk Assessment 2020/21

Likelihood	Severity		
	Slight	Moderate	Extreme
Very unlikely	Very low risk 1	Low risk 2	Low risk 2
Unlikely	Low risk 2	Medium risk 3	Medium risk 3
Likely	Low risk 2	Medium risk 3	High risk 4
Very likely	Medium risk 3	High risk 4	Very High risk 5

Categories

1. Navigation and navigational hazards
2. Weather & water conditions
3. Participants & equipment

1. Navigation and navigational hazards

Hazard description	Risk level	Mitigation	Actions/Comments
Collision with another rowing vessel	3	Application of Steers policy - inexperienced steers to be accompanied, only experts and advanced to steer in challenging conditions All steers to be familiar with and adhere to navigational rules and tideway code All boats to comply with Rowsafe guidance for equipment, bow balls, bow back stays on crew sculling hulls.	

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Collision with commercial vessel	3	Application of Steers policy - inexperienced steers to be accompanied, only experts and advanced to steer in challenging conditions All steers to be familiar with and adhere to navigational rules and tideway code	
Collision with static object (Bridge, pier etc)	3	Application of Steers policy - inexperienced steers to be accompanied, only experts and advanced to steer in challenging conditions All boats to meet buoyancy standards All steers to be familiar with and adhere to navigational rules and tideway code	
Collision with non static object (debris etc)	2	Application of Steers policy - inexperienced steers to be accompanied, only experts and advanced to steer in challenging conditions	Likely to cause very minor damage in vast majority of occurrences
Wind and turn of the tide leading to confusion and collision at Putney pier turning point	2	Application of Steers policy - inexperienced steers to be accompanied, only experts and advanced to steer in challenging conditions All steers to be familiar with and adhere to navigational rules and tideway code No pieces or hard paddling to take place past the turning point during a flood tide unless fully supervised by safety cover or NTM in place	

2. Weather & water conditions

Hazard description	Risk level	Mitigation	Actions/Comments
Extreme heat and/or sunshine leading to heat stroke and/or sunburn	3	All athletes advised to carry water and dress appropriately Advice on hot weather and clothing appears on Safety Notice Board at appropriate times of year	Unlikely to occur and mostly possible to predict
Extreme cold leading to hypothermia	4	Coaches trained to spot signs Hypothermia kit on hand in the club Outings to be cancelled in event of extreme cold Launches carry foil blankets in throw bags	
High winds or change of wind direction leading to swamping or capsize	4	All participants familiar with Row Safe guidelines All novices/beginners to take part in a capsize drill, all experienced participants to have completed a drill in the past Coxes to wear lifejackets/PFDs Outings to be cancelled in event of high winds predicted	Where dangerous conditions are predicted no rowing should take place
Lightning strike	3	No rowing to take place during lightning storms Boats to take shelter at nearest rowing club in the event of unpredicted lightning storms. Reinforcing of the 30/30 rule in the steers online test	
Low fluvial flow leading to beaching, bottoming out and/or loss of fin/ rudder causing instability	2	Coxes and steers training in how to safely navigate without a fin - where this is not possible boats to land at nearest rowing club	Likely to cause minimal damage
Poor visibility leading to collision	4	Application of Steers policy - inexperienced steers to be accompanied, only experts and advanced to steer in challenging conditions All boats to be fitted with bow balls, bow back stays on crew sculling hulls.	

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<p>Collision or loss of control due to strong tides or fluvial flow</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Application of Steers policy - inexperienced steers to be accompanied, only experts and advanced to steer in challenging conditions All steers to be familiar with and adhere to navigational rules and tideway code Adherence to PLA flag warning system</p>	
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3. Participants & equipment

Hazard description	Risk level	Mitigation	Actions/Comments
Waterborne disease	2	Hand sanitiser available in changing rooms Participants made aware of signs of common illness	
Drowning	3	Mitigations as above to prevent participants entering the water All participants able to swim 400m in clothing All coxes and launch drivers/passengers to wear lifejackets/PFDs	Participants with known medical conditions are asked to declare these on membership and should be able to carry out their own risk assessment before steering alone
Cold water immersion	3	All coxes and launch drivers/passengers to wear lifejackets/PFDs Hypothermia kit on hand in the club Outings to be cancelled in event of extreme cold Launches carry foil blankets in throw bags	
Infection from sores or open wounds	2	Hand sanitiser available in changing rooms Participants made aware of signs of common illness	
Damage/failure of equipment leading loss of normal steering/control	2	Application of Steers policy - inexperienced steers to be accompanied, only experts and advanced to steer in challenging conditions Coxes and steers training in how to safely navigate without a fin - where this is not possible boats to land at nearest rowing club	

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Exhaustion/injuries a result of training	2	<p>Launches to have capacity to carry a passenger in an emergency Coaches/member of crew to carry mobile phone for emergency use Crew boats able to return to club without all participants rowing</p>	
Loss of mobility due to design of equipment (coxes)	3	<p>All coxes to wear lifejackets Coaches to take care assigning coxes to equipment that is not suitable Coxes to take particular care when exiting boats</p>	
Ejection from vessel (launch and boat)	3	<p>All launch drivers to wear kill cords All launches to carry throwbags, and drivers training in usage All launch kits to carry a spare kill cord</p>	

4. Training Camp

Hazard description	Risk level	Mitigation	Actions/Comments
Damage to equipment or stranding of the vehicle during transit and or vehicle breakdown	3	Inspect trailer and towing vehicle two weeks prior to departure to ensure roadworthy and check insurance Check all ties and security of equipment prior to departure Review the trailer and vehicle with reference to Towing Guidance document Ensure that all spare wheels, bulbs and any other safety items required by local law are in the towing vehicle	
Collision, sinking, or other hazards on unfamiliar water	3	Discuss with host club or venue prior to departure, draft and circulate new safety plan to match perceived risks, circulation pattern, known weather conditions risks, known local hazards, availability of safety launches and all other items covered in our plan	
Illness in the travelling group	2	Requirement that all members have individual travel insurance or are able to access local healthcare free of charge	This is especially the case following the UK exit from the EU if our EMIC cards are no longer viable