

## Risk Assessment

Event	OURCs Winter Spring League	Date:	29/10/2023, 26/11/23, 21/01/2024, 04/02/24, 18/02/24 & 28/04/24
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No:	Hazard	Reduce the probability that a Hazard causes a Hazardous Event		Hazardous Event	Reduce the Severity of Harm caused by the occurrence of a Hazardous Event		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					Race Secretary	Event Committee	Incident Coordinator	Launch Drivers	Senior Umpire	Marshals	Other	If other, who?
<b>Water</b>																		
1	Boats afloat for racing	Coaches and crews must have read the Safety Briefing and circulation plan before going afloat for warm-up or racing. Marshals to check all boats for adequate buoyancy measures, e.g. properly fitted hatch covers, before boating.	Prepare and provide Safety Briefing and inform coaches and crews that they must read it. Marshals briefed on boat checks. Crews or athletes/coxswains may be removed from racing if they are deemed to be unsafe.	Capsize or sinking during a race	Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	2	C	Low	X	X		X		X	X	Coaches, coxswains/steerspeople, crews
2	Boats afloat for racing	Crews to be aware of and follow circulation plan. Marshals to direct crews. During racing, crews set off in approximate speed order and with sufficient gaps between them so boats should not be near each other. Race klaxon if racing line unavoidably blocked and/or collision is imminent.	Prepare and provide Safety Briefing and inform coaches and crews that they must read it. Event Committee/Race Secretary/marshals to remain vigilant for incorrect circulation and communicate to crews circulating incorrectly. Crews or athletes/coxswains may be removed from racing if they are deemed to be unsafe. Marshals briefed on circulation pattern and when to klaxon.	Collision with bank or another boat	Boats fitted with backstays on forward-most port and starboard riggers (except single sculls) and securely attached bow balls. Recover damaged boat with launch if necessary. Administer First Aid.	Marshals to perform boat checks on all boats before boating, having been briefed beforehand. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment	2	C	Low	X	X		X		X	X	Crews, coxswains, coaches
					Boats fitted with backstays on forward-most port and starboard riggers (except single sculls) and securely attached bow balls. Rescue injured athlete with launch if necessary. Administer First Aid.	Marshals to perform boat checks on all boats before boating, having been briefed beforehand. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Injury to athletes	2	C	Low	X	X		X		X	X	Crews, coxswains, coaches
					Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Athlete knocked into the water. Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	2	C	Low	X	X		X		X	X	Crews, coxswains, coaches
3	Boats afloat for racing with people in the water	No individuals to voluntarily enter the water during the event. Crews expected to be competent enough to avoid being ejected from their boat.	Marshals to report people in the water during river checks. SU shall not start racing if people are in the water. Crews or athletes/coxswains may be removed from racing if they are deemed to be unsafe.	Collision between boat and person in water	Boats fitted with backstays on forward-most port and starboard riggers (except single sculls) and securely attached bow balls. Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	Marshals to perform boat checks on all boats before boating, having been briefed beforehand. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Injury, unconsciousness, water aspiration, drowning, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	4	B	Moderate	X	X		X	X	X	X	Crews, coxswains, coaches, other river users
4	Athletes who are unable to swim being present in racing crews	All Oxford-college crews must have passed an OURCs swim test. All non-Oxford-college crews must enter a declaration of swimming ability or proof of passing an OURCs-standard swim test.	Entries system prevents Oxford-college crews with non-swim-tested athletes being entered for racing.	Athletes who are unable to swim falling into deep water	Rescue with launch following each division. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Water aspiration, drowning	4	A	Low	X			X		X		Club secretaries & captains

5	Poor rowing technique	Athletes expected to be sufficiently competent.	Athletes may be removed from racing if they are deemed to be dangerous.	Ejector crab	Marshals to klaxon race immediately if ejector crab occurs. Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	2	B	Low	X	X	X		X	Crews
6	Debris in river	Move any small object in the river that can cause an obstruction, using the launches if necessary. Protect crews from larger, immovable objects or suspend racing while they are moved.	Inspect course before start of racing. Race officials, especially marshals, to remain vigilant for new objects entering the course.	Collision with objects, capsize	Recover damaged boat with launch if necessary. Rescue with launch if necessary. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	2	B	Low	X	X	X	X		
7	Launches afloat	All launch drivers operating during the hours of racing are to be RYA2 trained.	Refresher training available if required.	Capsize of launch	Second launch available to assist. Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.		Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	2	B	Low		X	X			
8	Launches afloat	All launch drivers operating during the hours of racing are to be RYA2 trained.	Refresher training available if required.	Collision involving launch	Second launch available to assist and tow damaged launch.		Damage to launch	2	C	Low		X	X	X		
					Second launch available to assist. Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid.		Injury to launch crew	2	B	Low		X	X	X		
9	Launches afloat	All drivers or passengers to be seated or holding on to something.	Passengers to be instructed on how to stay safe whilst on a launch.	Falling out of launch	Lifejackets worn by everyone; kill cord worn by the driver at all times. Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A reminder of life jackets and kill cords to be given to all launch drivers. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	2	C	Low		X	X		X	All launch passengers
10	Launches afloat	Kill cord worn by the driver at all times.	A reminder of kill cords given to all launch drivers.	Uncontrolled driverless launch	Second launch available to recover and tow first launch.	A second launch is available at all times.	Uncontrolled launch collides with boats/obstacles.	3	B	Low	X		X	X		
11	Spare launch afloat outside of racing hours	Spare launch drivers operating outside the hours of racing to have been instructed in required competencies for the role.	Refresher training available if required.	Capsize of launch or collision involving launch	Second launch available to assist. Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.		Damage to launch, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	2	C	Low		X	X			
12	Debris in river	Launch crews to clear river of debris as appropriate.	Marshals and all launch users to be vigilant for debris in river.	Failure of engine due to fouling of propeller, stranded launch	Self-rescue of launch using paddle. Rescue with another launch. Remove debris from propeller.	Launch to carry British Rowing recommended safety equipment, including a knife and paddle. At least two launches in operation.	Damage to launch	2	B	Low				X	X	All launch passengers
13	Gastrointestinal illness (caused through poor water quality in Isis (Thames))	Cover any cuts/abrasions as far as possible beforehand. Clean hands with soap and water or use anti-bacterial gel ASAP. Clean any cuts/abrasions using soap and water. After removed from water (even after rowing), handle clothes with care and rinse in mains water at boathouse. Use detergent to wash clothes thoroughly thereafter. Wash equipment, especially handles of oars, with soap and water after use.	Crews reminded in Safety Briefing to be aware of actions to prevent gastrointestinal illness. Coaches and coxswains to remind crews to wash equipment and, in particular, hands after racing.	Any contact with river water from rowing activity, a capsize, or fall into river	Refer to information sites such as <a href="#">River health   Performance   About us   Thames Water</a> ( <a href="https://www.thameswater.co.uk/about-us/performance/river-health">https://www.thameswater.co.uk/about-us/performance/river-health</a> )	Check prior to event.	Possible high temperature, upset stomach resulting in vomiting and/or diarrhoea.	2	E	Low	X	X			X	Anyone who comes into contact with the river water, coaches, coxswains

Weather															
1	Possibility of electrical storm	All crews to leave the water as quickly as possible, instructions from Race Secretary or Senior Umpire using radios carried by launch drivers and marshals.	Ensure that marshals, coaches and crews are adequately briefed.	Rower or official struck by lightning	Provisions for First Aid, medical treatment and casualty evacuation to hospital; AEDs mounted on downstream side of Pembroke BH, upstream side of Balliol BH, front of University BH, downstream side of Longbridges BH, downstream side of Falcon BH and downstream side of the Riverside Centre.	Ensure that first aiders, etc., are competent and properly equipped.	Electrical burns, shock	3	B	Low	X		X		
2	Bad weather causing un-rowable and/or dangerous conditions	Modified flag system to be followed (see below). Cancellation or restrictions to be implemented if appropriate.	Weather and stream to be monitored in consultation with EA.	Crews swept into obstacles	Recover damaged boat with launch if necessary. Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment, injury to athletes, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	3	C	Moderate	X	X	X	X	Coaches, coxswains/steerspeople, crews
				Boats capsizing or swamping	Marshals to check all boats for adequate buoyancy measures, e.g. properly fitted hatch covers, before boating. Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	Marshals briefed on boat checks. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	2	B	Low	X		X	X	
3	Low visibility	Use adequate lighting on boats. If visibility is reduced to less than 100m on any part of the racing course, then racing is suspended or cancelled.	Organisers to monitor conditions. Crews to be warned before the race if low visibility is likely to occur.	Crews crashing into obstacles, other boats or other river users	Boats fitted with backstays on forward-most port and starboard riggers (except single sculls) and securely attached bow balls. Recover damaged boat with launch if necessary. Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	Marshals to perform boat checks on all boats before boating, having been briefed beforehand. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment, injury to athletes, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	3	B	Low	X	X	X	X	Coaches, coxswains/steerspeople, crews
4	Extreme* heat (* indicates subjective conditions, as decided by the SU team)	Athletes and officials to wear sun cream and stay hydrated.	Emails to be sent to competitors before the event if forecasts suggest likelihood of hot weather. Senior Umpire to monitor conditions with the help of Event Committee and marshals.	People unprotected from sun	Administer First Aid. Keep casualties cool and hydrated.	Water available at boathouses, all marshals have radios to summon First Aid if needed.	Heatstroke, sunburn	2	B	Low	X	X		X	Crews, Coxswains
5	Extreme* cold (* indicates subjective conditions, as decided by the SU team)	Athletes to wear sufficient layers during warm-up and racing. Delays, cancellation, or restrictions on racing to be implemented if appropriate.	Emails to be sent to competitors before the event if forecasts suggest likelihood of cold weather. Senior Umpire to monitor conditions with the help of Event Committee and marshals.	Athletes becoming too cold on the water	Rescue with launch if needed. Administer First Aid. Warm casualties up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use. Hot water for drinks available at Race Desk.	Mild hypothermia, injury due to cold muscles before racing	2	B	Low	X	X		X	Crews, Coxswains
		Officials to wear sufficient layers during shifts. Delays, cancellation, or restrictions on racing to be implemented if appropriate.	Emails to be sent to competitors before the event if forecasts suggest likelihood of cold weather. Senior Umpire to monitor conditions with the help of Event Committee.	Officials becoming too cold	Provide adequate First Aid cover. Regularly check officials are ok.	Welfare team to be set up by Event Committee to distribute hot drinks and monitor officials' wellbeing if necessary.	Mild/moderate hypothermia, slowed response time to incidents due to cold	3	C	Moderate	X	X		X	Umpires

6	Icy conditions	Safety launches used to clear small quantities of ice from the racing course. Racing cancelled if launches cannot sufficiently clear the race course of ice.	Senior Umpire to monitor conditions with the help of Event Committee and marshals.	Boats collide with ice	Recover damaged boat with launch if necessary.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment	3	B	Low	X	X		X	X				
7	Significant ice on towpath	No bank riding: crews requiring bank riders not allowed to race.	Senior Umpire and Race Secretary monitor conditions and make decision.	Slipping on ice, cyclist collides with bystander, cyclist or fixed object.	Event-related cyclists (if permitted) should wear helmets. Administer First Aid.	Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover.	Injury from slipping or collision	2	B	Low	X					X	X		Bank riders
<b>Other water users</b>																			
1	Other river traffic	Signs visible to river traffic displayed at the entry points onto the course. Senior Umpire to check river is clear using marshals and ensure other river users on the racing course are static before starting racing. Marshals to make sure crews stick to the sides of the river, as shown by the circulation pattern, leaving the centre free. Ensure crews do not spin in front of cruisers. Moor cruisers when a race is about to go off. Coxswains to observe the circulation pattern and not to spin in front of cruisers. Racing to be stopped by marshals if river traffic seems likely to cause a hazard to racing crews.	Pre-event contact made with other river users alerting them to the event (see event plan). Install signs displayed at the entry points onto the course. Brief marshals to make sure crews stick to the sides of the river, as shown by the circulation pattern, leaving the centre free. Also not to allow crews to spin in front of cruisers. Key marshals equipped with megaphones to hail crews, and all marshals to communicate to other river users entering the course. Create holding points to moor cruisers up at when a race is about to go off. Brief coxes to observe the circulation pattern and not to spin in front of cruisers. Brief coxswains and crews to be aware of small craft such as paddleboarders and/or swimmers.	Collision between a crew and another river user	Boats fitted with backstays on forward-most port and starboard riggers (except single sculls) and securely attached bow balls. Recover damaged boat with launch if necessary. Administer First Aid.	Marshals to perform boat checks on all boats before boating, having been briefed beforehand. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment	2	B	Low	X	X			X	X	X		Coxswains, other river users
					Boats fitted with backstays on forward-most port and starboard riggers (except single sculls) and securely attached bow balls. Rescue injured athlete with launch if necessary. Administer First Aid.	Marshals to perform boat checks on all boats before boating, having been briefed beforehand. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Injury to athletes or other river users/members of the public	2	B	Low	X	X		X	X	X		Coxswains, other river users	
					Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Athlete or other river user/member of the public knocked into the water, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality.	2	B	Low	X	X		X	X	X		Coxswains, other river users	
<b>Handling boats on land</b>																			
1	Boats being moved on land	Crews and coxswains to remain aware of spectators on land whilst moving boats.	Clubs aware of responsibilities for any supporters and spectators.	Collision between boats or blades and spectator	Administer First Aid.	Ensure adequate medical cover present. Marshals available at boathouses with radios to contact medical cover.	Injury to bystanders	2	C	Low								X	Coxswains, crews, captains
					If necessary, marshal contacts Race Desk, which summons launch to assist and alerts first aiders by radio. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	Ensure adequate medical cover present. Marshals available at boathouses with radios to contact medical cover. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Check equipment prior to use.	Person knocked into river, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality.	2	B	Low							X	Coxswains, crews, captains	
2	Boats being moved on land	Crews recommended to lift with a straight back and use good technique. Coxswains to monitor safe technique.	Coxswains recommended to observe crew lifting boat and check for safe technique.	Lifting boats with poor technique	Administer First Aid.	Ensure adequate medical cover present. Marshals available at boathouses with radios to contact medical cover.	Spinal or other injuries	3	B	Low							X	Coxswains, crews	
<b>Faulty, incorrectly set and poorly maintained equipment</b>																			
1	Heel restraints broken or too loose.	Boat checks to be conducted by marshals and crews.	Ensure that marshals checking equipment have instructions and a checklist.	Rower trapped in capsized boat	Rescue with launch.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Water aspiration, drowning	3	B	Low				X	X	X			Coaches, coxswains, crews

2	Coxswain wearing broken or poorly fitted lifejacket	Clubs to maintain lifejackets. Coxswains to fit lifejackets correctly. Marshals to check that coxes are wearing lifejacket over outer layer.	Safety Briefing to competitors, instructions to marshals	Lifejacket does not inflate when required, lifejacket detaches from cox on inflation or fails to keep their head above water.	Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Water aspiration, drowning	4	B	Moderate						X	X	X	Club safety officers, coxswains, crews	
3	Coxswain wearing incorrect lifejacket	Coxswains in bow-loaded boats are not permitted to wear lifejackets that inflate automatically.	Safety Briefing to competitors, instructions to marshals	Coxswain trapped in capsized boat	Rescue with launch.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Water aspiration, drowning	4	B	Moderate						X	X	X	Coxswains, crews	
4	Poorly maintained pontoon floats	Boat checks to be conducted by marshals and crews.	Ensure that marshals checking equipment have instructions and a checklist.	Equipment failure, possible capsizes	Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	2	C	Low						X	X	X	Coxswains, crews	
5	Other poorly maintained parts of rowing boat (e.g. steering cables, rudder, gates, riggers)	Boat checks for these issues to be conducted by crews, with marshals pointing them out if noticed during marshal boat checks (for heel restraints, backstays, floatation compartments and bow ball).	Coxswains and crews reminded in Safety Briefing to check equipment before boating. Ensure that marshals checking equipment have instructions and a checklist.	Equipment failure, possible collision or capsizes	Rescue with launch. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	2	C	Low						X		X	Coxswains, crews	
6	Poorly maintained launch	Launches to be serviced regularly.	All launch users to be vigilant of any abnormal launch behaviour and report it.	Mechanical failure, stranded launch	Self-rescue of launch using paddle. Rescue with another launch. Racing to be suspended until minimum number of operational launches achieved (2).	Launch to carry British Rowing recommended safety equipment, including a knife and paddle. At least two launches in operation.	Damage to launch	2	B	Low						X		X	All launch passengers	
<b>Pre-existing health conditions and low levels of fitness</b>																				
1	Strenuous exercise	Rowers should warm up on land, and warm down and stretch. Coaches and captains to take into account medical history when selecting crews. Rowers should not compete if they feel unwell or are injured.		Over-exertion	Marshal contacts Race Desk, which summons a launch to assist and alerts first aiders by radio. Administer First Aid.	Ensure that marshals are properly briefed and equipped and that there is medical cover. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times	Hyperventilation, pulled muscles, cramp, back injury	1	D	Low	X							X	X	Captains, coaches, coxswains, crews
2	Pre-existing health conditions	Crew members are responsible for carrying their own medication if required (e.g. inhaler). Athletes with pre-existing conditions are (along with their club) expected to be managing these in line with medical and BR guidance and taking appropriate precautions.	Prepare and provide Safety Briefing for competitors and inform them that they must read it.	Collapse of athlete on landing stages (e.g. asthma attack or serious fall)	Marshal contacts Race Desk, which summons a launch to assist and alerts first aiders by radio. Administer First Aid.	Ensure that marshals are properly briefed and equipped and that there is medical cover. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times	Serious health implications for competitor	3	B	Low	X							X	X	Captains, coaches, coxswains, crews
				Collapse of athlete on the water (e.g. asthma attack)	Marshal contacts Race Desk, which summons a launch to assist and alerts first aiders by radio. Administer First Aid. Marshals to klaxon a race if immediate First Aid is needed.	Ensure that marshals are properly briefed and equipped and that there is medical cover. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times	Serious health implications for competitor	3	C	Moderate	X								X	X
<b>Adaptive Rowing: sliding-seat boats containing athletes who have a physical or intellectual disability</b> (*Physical to include visual or hearing impairments, or athletes with loss of part or all of one or more limbs, or neuro/muscular dysfunction of part or all of one or more limbs.)																				
1	Adaptive rowing athletes on land	Adaptive athletes to boat from their home club, which is responsible for its own Risk Assessment and accessibility provisions for club areas and water access.		Injury of athlete due to poor accessibility (e.g. a trip of a visually-impaired athlete on poorly marked obstacles)	Marshal contacts Race Desk, which summons a launch to assist and alerts first aiders by radio. Administer First Aid.	Ensure that marshals are properly briefed and equipped and that there is medical cover.	Serious health implications for competitor	3	B	Low								X	X	Safety Officer of adaptive rowing athletes' home club

2	Sliding-seat boats containing adaptive rowing athletes afloat for racing	If guidance is needed to steer, this will be provided by a following launch.	Competing clubs are asked to identify visually-impaired crews in need of steering guidance to the Race Secretary during Entries to allow them to be placed at the end of divisions.	Visually-impaired athlete colliding with obstacles, other boats or other river users	Rescue with launch. (Safety teams aware that visually-impaired athletes may become disorientated in the event of a capsized.) Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Safety teams made aware of boats that contain visually-impaired rowers and their seat position. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment, injury to athletes, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	3	B	Low	X										Coaches, athletes and captains of competing clubs, safety teams
3	Sliding-seat boats containing adaptive rowing athletes afloat for racing	Marshals will be made aware of which boats contain hearing-impaired athletes and provided with advice for giving instructions to hearing-impaired crews.	Competing clubs are asked to identify hearing-impaired athletes to the Race Secretary during Entries.	Hearing-impaired athlete colliding with other boats or other river users	Rescue with launch. (Safety teams provided with advice for giving instructions to hearing-impaired crews.) Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Safety teams made aware of boats that contain hearing-impaired rowers and their seat position. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment, injury to athletes, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	3	B	Low	X				X						Coaches, athletes and captains of competing clubs, safety teams
4	Sliding-seat boats containing adaptive rowing athletes afloat for racing	All rowers with a learning disability will be accompanied by a coach who has experience working with them. Marshals will be made aware of which boats contain athletes with learning disabilities, and provided with advice for giving instructions to rowers with learning difficulties.	Competing clubs are asked to identify athletes with learning disabilities to the Race Secretary during Entries and to advise on hazardous situations involving them.	Athlete with a learning disability colliding with other boats or other river users, capsizing or falling out of the boat	Rescue with launch. (Safety teams aware that athletes with learning disabilities may have an unpredictable response in the event of a capsized.) Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Safety teams made aware of boats that contain visually impaired rowers and their seat position. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment, injury to athletes, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia	3	B	Low	X				X						Coaches, athletes and captains of competing clubs, safety teams
5	Sliding-seat boats containing adaptive rowing athletes afloat for racing	All athletes with a significant physical disability which may hinder their activities or prevent self-rescue will be accompanied by a coach who has experience working with them. Marshals and the Senior Umpire will be made aware of which boats contain athletes with physical disabilities and provided with advice on how to deal with issues including capsized or athlete overboard.	Competing clubs are asked to identify athletes with physical disabilities to the Race Secretary during Entries and to advise on management of hazardous situations involving them.	Athlete with a physical disability colliding with other boats or other river users, capsizing or falling out of the boat.	Rescue with launch. (Safety teams aware that athletes with physical disabilities may need special types of help if capsized or otherwise in an emergency situation.) Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Safety teams made aware of boats that contain physically disabled rowers and their seat position, along with their Individual Rescue Plan. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Damage to equipment, injury to athletes, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality	3	B	Low	X				X						Coaches, athletes and captains of competing clubs, safety teams
6	Adaptive rowing athletes who are unable to swim being present in racing crews	Clubs entering adaptive rowing athletes to confirm they have completed capsized drill training online and in the water, and that they meet BR swimming requirements. Athletes who do not meet both/either to race in crew boats or with floats below the riggers of their boats.	Competing clubs are asked to identify adaptive rowers who have not both completed capsized drill training and met BR swimming requirements to the Race Secretary during Entries and to advise on management of hazardous situations involving them.	Adaptive rowing athletes who are unable to swim falling into deep water	Adaptive rowers who have not both completed capsized drill training and met BR swimming requirements to wear a buoyancy aid. Rescue with launch. (Safety teams aware that adaptive rowing athletes may need particular types of help if capsized or otherwise in an emergency situation.) Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Safety teams made aware of boats that contain adaptive rowers and their seat position, along with their Individual Rescue Plan where appropriate. Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Water aspiration, drowning	4	A	Low	X				X						Coaches, athletes and captains of competing clubs, safety teams
<b>Contagious diseases</b>																					
1	Contagious diseases	Following National Health Service advice and government advisories	Sabbatical Officer to remain aware of national health emergency news.	Participants needing to be hospitalised	Follow national health advice at the time.	Follow national health advice at the time.	Potentially serious health issues	2	A	Low	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Members of competing clubs

Towpath use															
1	Bank riders cycling fast to accompany crews	Only one bank rider allowed with each crew unless a second is allowed by Event Committee to train a Novice coxswain. Race Desk to keep a list of crews allowed two bank riders to ensure total number of bank riders stays low. Bank riders to keep a good look out. Marshals warn towpath users of imminent race. Bank riders to make sure bikes have working brakes.	Event Committee to make intermittent checks on the number of bikes accompanying crews.	Collision involving accompanying cyclists	Bank rider stops to provide assistance and/or information as required. Marshal contacts Race Desk, which summons launch to assist and alerts first aiders by radio. Administer First Aid.	Ensure that marshals are properly briefed and equipped and that there is medical cover. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times	Injury to cyclists and pedestrians	1	D	Low	X		X	X	Bank riders
					Bank rider stops to provide assistance and/or information as required. If necessary, marshal contacts Race Desk, which summons launch to assist and alerts first aiders by radio. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Someone falls in river, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality.	2	B	Low	X		X	X	Bank riders
2	Bike marshal cycling fast along towpath	Marshal to keep a good look out and to make sure bike has working brakes.	Marshal briefed beforehand. Marshal told to cycle slowly, avoid pedestrians, and get off bike to talk to large groups of pedestrians.	Collision involving bike marshal	Bike marshal to wear a helmet. Bike marshal stops to provide assistance and/or information as required. Marshal contacts Race Desk, which summons launch to assist and alerts first aiders by radio. Administer First Aid.	Ensure that marshals are properly briefed and equipped and that there is medical cover. A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times	Injury to cyclists and pedestrians	1	D	Low	X		X		
					Bike marshal stops to provide assistance and/or information as required. If necessary, marshal contacts Race Desk, which summons launch to assist and alerts first aiders by radio. Administer First Aid. Warm casualty up slowly.	A fully equipped safety launch in attendance at all times Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover. Check equipment prior to use.	Someone falls in river, cold water immersion leading to mild hypothermia, possible gastrointestinal illness due to poor water quality.	2	B	Low	X		X		

In the event of the Environment Agency (EA) displaying Amber or Red Boards at the local locks which indicates a Strong Stream, OURCs have developed a range of contingency plans to allow the Regattas to continue in some form.

Included is the 'Flag' state relating to the number of bucks drawn at Iffley Weir (in brackets), which dictates what rowing takes place during training.

In the event of debris obstructing the Weir, resulting in an abnormally conservative flag for a given level of stream, the OURCs Senior Member and University Sports Safety Officer may set the Flag after consultation with the EA and Senior Umpire. The SU will use this Flag when considering what controls should be put in place.

Controls in place to reduce risks	Persons responsible for ensuring controls in place
<p><b>Blue Flag (2-3 bucks)</b> Good conditions (high water, but low stream and wind): full programme</p> <p><b>Poor conditions (high stream or winds):</b> Senior Umpire to consider whether coxing restrictions, coxless-boat restrictions or small-boat restrictions are required, with the aid of the OURCs Captain of Coxes for coxed crews. The course may be shortened on the SU's advice. Crews may be permitted to withdraw with no financial penalty at the discretion of the Race Secretary.</p>	Senior Umpire with the help of the Event Committee, Race Secretary, OURCs Captains of Coxes & Sabbatical Officer
<p><b>Amber Flag (4 bucks)</b> No Novice status coxswains. SU to consult with the OURCs Captain of Coxes regarding any further coxing restrictions. SU may restrict small-boat or coxless boat racing depending on the precise conditions. SU may cancel racing for less experienced crews. The course will be shortened on the SU's advice and consideration given to not permitting any above-Gut crew to go through the Gut. Crews may be permitted to withdraw with no financial penalty at the discretion of the Race Secretary. The race may be completely cancelled at the SU's discretion.</p>	
<p><b>Red Flag (5+ bucks)</b> No Racing – event is cancelled.</p>	

## Event Responsibilities

Event Committee	Incident Co-Ordinator	Launch Driver	Senior Umpire	other (specify)
Display safety plan.	Check safety equipment prior to use.	Provide quick transport for the First Aid team	Ensure that marshals checking equipment have instructions and a checklist.	Rowing Sabbatical Officer: create an 'individual rescue plan' for each adaptive rowing athlete.
Ensure that there is sufficient safety cover.	Ensure that launch drivers are appropriately briefed.	Tow any boats out of the way during an incident if required		
Ensure that there are sufficient launches.		Rescue any stranded person/crew in the river		
Ensure that medical cover, etc., are competent and properly equipped.		Remove debris from the racecourse		
Ensure that Marshals, Coaches and crews are adequately briefed on response to lightning.				
Ensure that warning notices are displayed for other river users.				
Ensure that marshals and Race Control are properly equipped and briefed.				
Ensure that communications are effective.				
Ensure that marshals are briefed on effective communication with adaptive rowing athletes, as necessary.				
Ensure that safety teams are given the 'individual rescue plans' for each adaptive rowing athlete (including which boat & seat position the athlete is in).				





## Risk Matrix

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

<b>Low</b>	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.
<b>Moderate</b>	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.
<b>Substantial</b>	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.
<b>Intolerable</b>	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.