

# MILTON KEYNES ROWING CLUB



## COMPETITION RISK ASSESSMENT

**Milton Keynes Rowing Regatta 2023**

**SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

All boat movements on the water are covered by RowSafe: A Guide to Safe Practice in Rowing as published by British Rowing. The code applies to all participants, who are responsible for self-policing the code. Marshals, coaches, umpires and all regatta officials will enforce the code.

Hazard	Circumstances / issues	Assessment / Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Risk Level
COVID-19	Competitor or Volunteer testing positive for COVID-19 or showing symptoms of COVID-19	Regatta information will advise any competitor or Volunteer not to arrive if tested positive for COVID-19 before the event.	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Drowning	Competitor falling out of boat into water	Rescue crews and marshals have good visibility of whole course. Rescue crews have throw lines to assist in rescue. Rescue crews in radio contact with control. Marshals on bank to observe entire course to prevent unsighted capsizes. Marshals in radio contact with control and have throw lines to assist in rescue.	Extremely Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Hypothermia	Competitor falling out of boat into water	Quick response and rescue to minimise risk. Blankets available in launches – hot showers available and club-house. Thermal exposure blankets available when casualty is warm and dry.	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Weil's Disease	Competitor falling into water	Advice available. No throwing people in the lake.	Slightly Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Trivial Risk
Blue/Green Algae	Competitor falling into water or being in contact with water	Wash down competitors and boats on exit from water to minimise contact No throwing people in the lake. Keep water contact minimal. Wash hands on land post row. Cover wounds with appropriate dressing. Shower advisable for those who capsize	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Collision between boats	Between racing boats	Under the control of the umpires.	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk

Hazard	Circumstances / issues	Assessment / Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Risk Level
Collision between boats	Between racing boat and non racing boat.	Non-racing boats are marshalled up to the start and will be directed accordingly. Buoys will mark the edge of the racing course. Non-racing boats will only cross onto the racing course under the instruction of a marshal.	Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Collision between boats	At finish	Marshals on pontoon / bank provide direction and guidance to boats that have finished. Boats must continue across lake after finish, towards pontoon. Assistance on pontoon to help de-boat quickly to prevent backing up.	Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Collision between boats	Between rescue boats and racing boats	Rescue boats to maintain sufficient distance from rowing boats. Rescue boat personnel to maintain awareness at all times.	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Collision with stationary objects	Sailing buoys (Yellow buoys)	Circulation information will warn of sailing buoys. Red marker buoys used along race course to highlight these Marshals on course entry provide direction and guidance on hazards to boats preparing to start All known stationary obstructions to be marked by buoys/signs	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Collision with stationary objects	a. Road Bridge	a. Participants should possess sufficient competence to maintain distance from road bridge. Marshals on course entry provide direction and guidance on hazards to boats preparing to start.	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Snagging course buoys.	Buoy lines not taut or not at sufficient depth	Ensure the lines are weighed down to the correct depth.	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Weeds	Collision/tangle	Racing course to avoid weeded area and excess cut back before regatta by Parks Trust	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable Risk

Hazard	Circumstances / issues	Assessment / Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Risk Level
Aggravation of incident by poor equipment	Boat sinking, more severe injury if head on collision	It is the responsibility of competitors to ensure their boats are safe and are prepared in accordance with the guidance in RowSafe and are suitable for the crew and conditions in which they are used. Control Commission may undertake spot check inspections of the boats prepared by the competitors and shall exclude any boat that fails to meet the standards.	Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Boating incident	Inexperienced crews, rowers and scullers getting in or out of boat	Boating marshal to provide guidance and assistance to rowers and scullers into and out of their boats	Slightly Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Trivial Risk
Rope cleats on sailing pontoons (used by 8s)	Catching the loom of the blade under the cleats	Marshals on pontoons to point out the cleats and to avoid catching them when pushing off.	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Inexperienced or junior rowers	First regatta for some young competitors	Onus on guardians for competence of participants. All juniors required to be BR registered. Above controls also indicate regatta suitable for Juniors.	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Competitor injury or ill health	As above or rowing injury	There will be First Aiders on site Good communication for umpires and officials. Equipped first aid area provided next to clubhouse. Evacuation arrangements – <b>Dial 999. Quote Three words : Clubhouse: races.angel.faster</b>	Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Slip or trip incident	Pergola/marquee guys and pegs etc provide trip risks/ slippery pontoons/ step to pontoon	Guys, pegs and steps etc. in high traffic areas marked for increased visibility. Boating marshalls to help guide rowing boat crews Ensure wooden steps onto pontoon/boating area are level and secure	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Adverse Weather	Very high winds	Monitoring of weather conditions. Regatta cancelled if wind levels too high	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable Risk

Hazard	Circumstances / issues	Assessment / Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Risk Level
Adverse Weather	High winds blowing boats and equipment off racking	Competitors responsible for safe storage of their equipment. PA advice will be given out in the event of high wind.	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Adverse Weather	Rain and or wind	Once regatta started, umpire in control of decisions over safety of racing. Racing suspended, scrapped (e.g. no junior racing/ inexperienced/development crews)	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Adverse Weather	Extreme Cold	Monitoring of weather conditions by regatta organiser	Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Adverse Weather	Lightning	Use 30 – 30 rule. Racing to be stopped and water cleared. Provide proper shelter in the club house. Wait 30 minutes after last lightning before leaving shelter.	Extremely Harmful	Unlikely	Substantial Risk
Extreme Good Weather	Extreme Heat, Heat Stress and Dehydration	Monitoring of weather conditions. Provide area of shade inside clubhouse building. Provide ample drinking water and washing facilities	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Food Poisoning	Poor Food Hygiene	Hygiene guidance issued to those preparing or serving food.	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Consumption of Alcohol	Increased risk of incident due to alcohol.	Competitors not allowed to row after alcohol consumption. No alcohol will be served at the regatta.	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Traffic accident	Traffic movements in car park. Footpath crosses end of car park	Appropriate signage to be posted in car park to warn drivers of pedestrians. Also signage to warn pedestrians of increased traffic in and around the rowing club car park.	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Volunteers tiring/losing concentration	Early starts and long hours	Ensure several shift changes and breaks for volunteers	Slightly harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk

Hazard	Circumstances / issues	Assessment / Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Risk Level
Anglers (fishing lines) Other water vessels	Collision. Tangle	Circulation plan in place (usual navigation rules). Marshals at either end of and along race course. Anglers obstructing will be asked to secure their lines during racing by regatta committee  Local shared water sports notified of event	Harmful	Unlikely	Moderate Risk
Boating trailers	Unloading boats from trailers.	Participants should possess sufficient competence to unload trailer safely	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Spectators and general public	Inexperienced general public around car park and lake in collision with boats being carried at shoulders.	General vigilance in addition to appropriate signage to be posted in car park and on lakeside to warn pedestrians of boats and competitors.  Marshals in car park, on pontoons and by the lakeside to provide direction and guidance on hazards to pedestrians.	Slightly Harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable Risk
Boats on and around landing stage/finish	Collision (with boats, people, bank)	Crews are marshalled to landing and setting off pontoons, separate boating area for outgoing crews – marshalls on boating area to help direct boats.  Competency of crews required	Slightly harmful	Unlikely	Moderate risk

<b>Prepared by:</b> Suzanne De Maine	<b>Position:</b> Chair of the Regatta Organising Committee	<b>Date:</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
<b>Updated by:</b> Paula Heywood	<b>Position:</b> Safety Officer	<b>Date:</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Theo Travlos	<b>Position:</b> Club Captain	<b>Date:</b> 16th May 2023
<b>Approved by:</b> Helen Smith	<b>Position:</b> Club Chair	<b>Date:</b> 20th May 2023

**Risk Estimator** – Source; British Standard 8800 2004

	Severity of Harm		
Likelihood of Harm	Slight Harmful	Harmful	Extremely Harmful
Highly Unlikely	Trivial Risk	Tolerable Risk	Tolerable Risk

Unlikely	<b>Tolerable Risk</b>	<b>Moderate Risk</b>	<b>Moderate Risk</b>
Likely	<b>Moderate Risk</b>	<b>Moderate Risk</b>	<b>Substantial Risk</b>
Very Likely	<b>Moderate Risk</b>	<b>Substantial Risk</b>	<b>Intolerable Risk</b>

<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>Tolerability; guidance on necessary action and timescale.</b>
<b>Trivial Risk</b>	No action is required other than to ensure that the controls are maintained. These risk are considered acceptable.
<b>Tolerable Risk</b>	No additional controls are required. Consideration may be given to more effective solution or improvement.
<b>Moderate Risk</b>	Efforts should be made to reduce the risk. Risk reduction measures should be implemented within a defined time period. Where the moderate risk is associated with harmful / serious consequences further assessment may be necessary to establish more precisely the likelihood of harm as a basis for determining the need for improved control measures.
<b>Substantial Risk</b>	The activity should not be started until the risk has been reduced. Considerable resources may have to be allocated to reduce the risk. Where the risk involves activity already in progress, urgent action should be taken.
<b>Intolerable Risk</b>	These risks are unacceptable. Substantial improvements in risk controls are necessary, so that the risk is reduced to a tolerable or acceptable level. Activity should not be started or continued until the risk has been reduced. If it is not possible to reduce risk even with unlimited resources, activity has to remain prohibited.