



Reading Amateur Regatta 2026

RISK ASSESSMENT

Version 1.0

Date: 9/1/2026

Distribution: Competitors; Umpires; Regatta officials; TRRC, RBC

- Reading Amateur Regatta is held under the rules of British Rowing and the [British Rowing Rules of Racing](#) will apply.
- Further the Regatta conforms to the ['RowSafe'](#) guide.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Please note that this document should be read in conjunction with;

1. RAR 2026 Site Plan

The Notes for Competitors and the Regatta Safety Plan are available on line at www.reading-amateur-regatta.org.

Hard copies of the relevant documents are normally available to Officials as a matter of course.

The documents will be forwarded in soft format to all relevant groups so that the document can be printed by the individual should they chose to. The documents will be available for collection also.

The instructions cover amongst other things safety arrangements, circulation patterns, local navigation issues, boating and racing arrangements. All participants are encouraged to read all of the relevant Regatta documentation.

The British Rowing RowSafe guide governs all rowing boat and regatta launch movements on the water.

The code applies to all participants who are responsible for self-policing the code. Further, coaches, marshalls, umpires and all regatta officials enforce the code. Failure to comply with any part of the code, or local rules (as indicated in the instructions) may lead to the crew or other participants' exclusion from the regatta.

.

Risk Matrix		Severity		
		Slight	Moderate	Extreme
Likelihood	Very Likely (VL)	Moderate	High	Very High
	Likely (L)	Moderate	Moderate	High
	Unlikely (U)	Low	Moderate	Moderate
	Very Unlikely (VU)	Low	Low	Low

Key:

Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An acceptable level of risk that should be reviewed. • Implement additional barriers/controls to reduce the risk if opportunities arise. • Start or continue the activity with care.
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
Very High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.

Hazard identified	Person/s at risk / Potential Outcome	Control measures put into place to reduce the hazard identified	Risk level when implementing control measures		
			Likelihood	Severity	Risk
1. Vehicles and Trailers					
Fall Hazard unloading Boats	Injury to rower/damage to boats	Reliance upon competency of crews and coaches.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low
Collision Hazard in boat unloading and building area	Serious injury to rowers and/or boat	Trailer park separate from competitor and spectator parking. Boat parking monitored by Car park marshals.	Unlikely	Slight	Low
2. Landing Stages					
Trip or other injuries caused by Boat or Oar striking an individual.	Injury to competitor / other persons and/or damage to boats	Queuing system for stage, under direction of Control Commission and stage marshal. Oars to be stored in area away from stage. Notes to Competitors cover conduct at the stage and immediate area.	Unlikely	Slight	Low
Collision with other boats in Boating Areas	Serious injury to rowers and/or boat. Potential for drowning	Separate embarkation and arrival stages. Outgoing crews leaving practices monitored by stage marshals. Incoming crews arrival controlled by dedicated post finish marshal. Notes to Competitors cover conduct.	Unlikely	High	Moderate

3. On river					
General accident hazard whilst afloat in course area.	Serious injury to rowers and/or boat. Potential for drowning	<p>Provision of 3 fully equipped, professionally manned safety boats that are in radio contact with Regatta control, who are supported in the event of an incident by qualified first aid personnel and Ambulance Personnel who take responsibility for injured persons once they are brought ashore. Further medical assistance, if required, is provided by the normal A&E facilities of the Royal Berkshire Hospital.</p> <p>A list of actions to be followed by regatta officials is contained in section 2 of the Regatta Safety Plan and with further information provided in Notes to Competitors.</p>	Unlikely	Moderate	Moderate
General Collisions or capsizes on river outside course area	Serious injury to rowers and/or boat. Potential for drowning	<p>Crews are expected to conform to the normal rules of navigation and behave in accordance with usual river rowing practices.</p> <p>Specific instructions for dealing with Passenger cruisers are contained in Notes to Competitors.</p> <p>All motor cruiser traffic informed on regatta procedures by leaflet distributions at each lock before entering Caversham stretch.</p>	Unlikely	Moderate	Moderate

Collisions or capsizes whilst proceeding to start in regatta area	Serious injury to rowers and/or boat. Potential for drowning	Dedicated buoyed navigation channel, beside the course, dimensions approved by EA. Channel marshalled by channel control boat, supported by minimum 2 and max 3 safety boats. All normal river traffic informed on regatta procedures by leaflet distributions at each lock before entering Caversham stretch. Crews given explicit instructions on behaviour in channel through Notes to Competitors . These instructions including a ban on practice starts and paddling firm in the channel. The Channel marshal and the umpires enforce instructions. Map of course provided to competitors and large scale map posted in crew registration area. Floating Warning Boards to direct river traffic to navigation channel are posted at each end of the Course area.	Likely	Moderate	Moderate
Collisions or capsizes in start area	Serious injury to rowers and/or boat. Potential for drowning	Crew movements controlled by bank and afloat start marshals.	Very unlikely	Slight	Low
Collision or capsizes whilst racing	Serious injury to rowers and/or boat. Potential for drowning	Buoyed course. Conduct of races managed by umpires. Umpires equipped with Loud hailers, Radios and Throw lines. Directly supported by a minimum of 2 safety boats at all times.	Likely	Slight	Moderate
Collision or capsizes whilst returning to stage	Serious injury to rowers and/or boat. Potential for drowning	Crew leave the course area and pass below Caversham Bridge before turning. All incoming boats are marshalled on to the landing stages. Crews given explicit instructions on behaviour in channel through Notes to Competitors .	Very unlikely	Slight	Low

4. Regatta Enclosure area					
General Accident and Emergencies	Injuries to rowers, officials and general public	First Aid station to administer first aid where necessary. Standard procedure in Regatta Safety Plan for Regatta Control to take charge or in his absence Grounds Manager, exceptionally the Chairman of the Race Committee, to take charge of any incident all equipped with mobile phones and radios to required actions. Access and exit route for emergency vehicles defined in Safety plan.	Unlikely	Slight	Low
Illness to rowers (excluding COVID)	Serious threat to life	First Aid station to administer first aid where necessary and who will decide whether to escalate event into an emergency.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low
Fire in Reading Rowing Club	Serious threat to life	Normal fire precautions already available (alarm, extinguishers) Evacuate building. Call emergency services. General evacuation if necessary.	Very unlikely	Moderate	Moderate
Fire in marquee	Serious threat to life	Extinguisher to be situated in marquee for first use. Evacuate Marquee. Call emergency services. General evacuation if necessary.	Very unlikely	Slight	Low
Gas Leak in Marquee	Serious threat to Life	Visual inspection of all equipment / hoses. Use of soapy water to verify connections are sound.	Very unlikely	Slight	Low
Electrocution	Serious threat to Life	Visual Inspection of all cables & equipment. Appropriate testing of electricity supplies, cables & equipment. Use of appropriate cables & connectors. Siting of connectors / cables away from main thoroughfares / open ground.	Very unlikely	Moderate	Moderate

Tripping over cables / hose	Injuries to rowers, officials and general public	Lay cables / hoses away from main thoroughfares. Where possible, lay cables next to fence and put up signs elsewhere plus fix cables and hoses to ground to minimise trip hazard.	Unlikely	Slight	Low
Serious public disorder/ violent behaviour	Serious threat of injury	Call police. General evacuation if necessary. If there is an encampment on the site prior to set up, it is assumed that this will not be in place during the Regatta.	Very unlikely	Moderate	Low
Incident concerning the wellbeing or physical safety of a junior or vulnerable adult		RRC Welfare Officer appointed and available to assist.	Moderate	Slight	Contact Regatta Control to call Welfare Officer
Terrorist Threat	Serious threat to life	Call police. General evacuation if necessary.	Very unlikely	Slight	Low
5. General					
Excess Sun	Sun Stroke, Sun burn	Protection from sun to be provided where possible for officials and course staff. Rotas to be shortened if necessary for exposed individuals. Regular supply of water to all officials and staff.	Likely	Slight	Moderate
Rain or Storm	Hypothermia. Water conditions unrowable leading to injury to rowers/damage to boats	Race Committee to consider abandoning racing Abandonment procedures in Regatta Safety Plan to be followed.	Unlikely	Slight	Low
High Winds	In ability to hold boats correctly on start. Water conditions unrowable leading to injury to rowers/damage to boats	Marshals to ensure appropriate stake boat staff used to undertake task. Race Committee to consider abandoning racing. Abandonment procedures in Regatta Safety Plan to be followed	Likely	Slight	Moderate

Lightning Storm	Injury to rower, spectators, officials; damage to boats	<p>Racing to be suspended immediately if a thunderstorm is considered imminent, then decision to abandon may be taken if it is likely that the lightning storm will continue throughout the day.</p> <p>Abandonment procedures in Regatta Safety Plan to be followed. General warning issued via PA to competitors to make efforts to avoid moving oars and boats whilst storm in progress and to seek proper shelter.</p>	Very unlikely	Extreme	Low
-----------------	---	---	---------------	---------	-----