

Risk Assessment											
Club or Event		Ross Regatta 2026 RACING Risk Assessment									
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Date:	11/7/2026
Rev:	

No:	Hazardous Event	Potential Consequences	Risk Assessment			Reduce Likelihood of Event		Mitigate the Consequences		Action Parties				
			Severity (1-5)	Likelihood (A-D)	Risk (E-MHSH)	Barriers	Action to Maintain Barriers	Barriers	Action to Maintain Barriers	Regatta Chair	Safety Advisor	Race Committee	Welfare officer	Co-ordinating Umpire
1	High river levels	Loss of boat control due to river speed and strong currents	5	A	M	Co-ordinating Umpire confirms conditions are safe before racing commences Continuous monitoring of river level (currently 6 cm - unusually low for Ross Regatta)	Race Committee to monitor weather forecasts and upstream river levels throughout the event Safety Advisor to liaise with Co-ordinating Umpire to support decisions on postponement or cancellation if conditions deteriorate	Racing may be cancelled, postponed, or restricted to larger boats and adult crews if conditions are unsafe Full safety briefings provided to umpires, marshals, and safety boat crews	Race Committee to decide whether to cancel the event or to restrict racing to larger boats and adult crews. Full briefing to umpires, Marshals and safety boat crews.	x	x	x	x	
2	Low River Levels	Injury to rowers and equipment. Restricted safety boat access to the racing course	2	E	H	Race committee to ensure conditions are safe to race - Water level currently 6 cm - lowest ever seen for a Regatta at Ross.	Race committee to monitor the weather forecast and up-stream river levels. Where conditions dictate that the river is too shallow to allow safety boats to pass the section between the club steps and the boosing on beach, the shallow section will be covered by marshalls with throw lines. The safety boat moored at the bridge will in such circumstances discharge casualties at the boosing on beach.	Conditions may dictate whether racing can be continued including conditions resulting in the river becoming un navigable for safety boats.	Co-ordinating to Umpire decide whether to adapt safety arrangements to allow for shallow conditions or to move the course to deeper water		x	x	x	x
3	Capsize/fall in the river	Drowning: Death or permanent physical or brain injury	4	C	H	Racing undertaken under British Rowing rules.	The Safety Boat Coordinator will create a rota to ensure continuous safety boat cover. The Safety Advisor will brief umpires and marshals before racing each day. A course map and safety instructions will be published to all competitors. Safety boats must remain on station at all times while racing is in progress. Radio communication will be maintained between the coordinating umpire, umpires, paramedic providers, race control, the public address system, and safety boats.	The Coordinating Umpire will stop racing while any capsize incidents are managed. Radio communication will be maintained between the Coordinating Umpire, safety boats, race control, all umpires, the Safety Advisor, and the public address system. First aid crews and paramedic providers will remain in a prominent and accessible position at all times.	Competitors who cannot swim must be advised to wear a lifejacket. Two safety boats will be on station at all times while racing is in progress, each crewed by a qualified operator and competent crew. Umpires and marshals will be positioned at predetermined points and equipped with throw lines. All safety crew will be briefed one hour before racing each day by the Club Safety Advisor. The coordinating umpire will suspend racing while capsized crews are recovered. Radio batteries are to be charged each night, and megaphone batteries replaced at the start of the regatta. A daily safety meeting and briefing will take place before racing begins each day during the regatta.	x	x		x	x
4	Collision with other boats	Drowning: Death or permanent physical or brain injury	4	D	H	Racing undertaken under British Rowing rules. Canoe companies advised of events. Marshall upstream of start. Canoe camping at RRC suspended for the weekend to cut down on canoe pressure.	Safety advisor to contact canoe hire companies to warn them of the event. All boats checked for safety before going on the river. Upstream marshals to liaise with start umpire to manage traffic through the regatta course. Safety boats on station when racing is on.	Upstream marshals will speak to canoeists and ask the to hold or to go when possible and to keep light to the sides if a race passes them. Umpires will stop a race if canoes get in the way before a collision occurs.	Umpires and marshals briefed at the beginning of the day. Upstream marshals equipped with a megaphone		x		x	
5	Fall in water from the ferry launch	Drowning: Death or permanent physical or brain injury	1	A	L	Ferry launch used within the capacity of the boat (ie max 3 people. Lifejackets worn by driver and passengers when on the river. Boat secured to the bank when passengers boarding or disembarking.	Ferry boat driver to ensure adequate lifejackets are available and boat is equipped with a boat hook	Ferry boat driver to attend safety briefing and to carry a 2-way radio.	Safety advisor to ensure safe use of the ferry boat	x				x
6	Muscular/ Skeletal injury while on the water	Permanent physical injury	1	D	M	All competitors will be BR members and so will have a degree of competence. Safety boats on station while racing is on going. First Aid providers in radio contact with safety boat crews to provide support and advice	Safety boat drivers, coordinating umpire and paramedic providers will be briefed each day to ensure a protocol is in place	Only RYA level 2 qualified drivers to operate safety boats with a briefed crew person. Radio protocol in place to allow direct communication between safety boat crews and paramedic provider.	Safety adviser to brief all safety boat crews, regatta coordinating umpire and paramedic providers	x				
6	Illness caused by river water	Death or severe illness(including leptospirosis)	5	C	H	Possible gastro-intestinal illness caused by swallowing/contact with river water. Possible infection including leptospirosis caused by contact with river water	All people who have capsized to be checked over by the first aid crew. Safety instructions to include advice on Leptospirosis. Rowers advised at boat check to cover wounds/ blisters and wash then after rowing	First aid crew/ paramedic providers available at all times. Participants given good information on risks and controls. Safety crews and umpires briefed	Club safety advisor and Welfare officer responsible to brief umpires, Safety Crew and first aiders.	x			x	
7	Illness caused by hot weather/ sunshine	Dehydration/sunburn for participants	1	E	M	Temporary or permanent damage to athlete's health. Temporary/permanent skin damage	Advise rowers of the risk at boat check. Supply access to drinking water	Facilities director to sign outside taps on the boat house. Regatta team and umpires briefed.	Safety advisor to ensure welfare officer and co-ordinating umpire are aware of the weather forecast and mitigation measures (water location)	x			x	x
9	Child/vulnerable adult Abuse	Mental and physical damage to junior coxes, rowers and to vulnerable adults	3	E	H	Regatta welfare policy.	Crews to be aware of risks to themselves, to vulnerable adults and to juniors. Briefing of all club members and regatta team to be aware to look out for inappropriate behaviour.	Welfare Officer and committee take all concerns seriously. Regatta Welfare will be number one priority at all times and any issues dealt with promptly.	Captains to ensure all members are aware of regatta welfare policies. Welfare officer to monitor and support captains at section meetings and to report issues of concern to the club committee and police where necessary. Display the risk assessment on the club notice board.	x	x		x	
10	High Winds	Boats pushed onto rocks or into the bank	3	B	M	Co-ordinating Umpire confirms conditions are safe before racing commences Continuous monitoring of meteorological conditions	Race Committee to monitor weather forecasts and upstream river levels throughout the event Safety Advisor to liaise with Co-ordinating Umpire to support decisions on postponement or cancellation if conditions deteriorate	Racing may be cancelled, postponed, or restricted to smaller boats and adult crews if conditions worsen. Full safety briefings provided to umpires, marshals, and safety boat crews	Race Committee to decide whether to cancel the event or to restrict racing to smaller boats and adult crews. Full briefing to umpires, Marshals and safety boat crews.	x	x			x