

# DART TOTNES AMATEUR ROWING CLUB



W.E.A.R.A.

WATER SAFETY

RISK ASSESSMENTS

TRAINING AND REGATTA

**Location:** Steamer Quay, Totnes

**Subject:** Crew Training, Regattas, Head of the Dart.

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## TRAINING

Hazards Identified	Potential Outcome	Likelihood	Control Measures	Review & Audit Measures	Risk Level
Access and Egress to clubhouse	Collision with vehicle, Potential physical damage to People and vehicles	Low	Use area immediately In front of clubhouse. Avoid Setting up boats across car park entrance		Low
Trips, Slips and Falls	Minor bumps and cuts, Sprains.	Low	Boat house and surroundings to be kept tidy, oars and sculling blades to be kept clear of public footpaths and Access points. First aid kits available for minor bumps and cuts.		Low
Removal of boats from racks	Injury to rowers and other club users.	Low	Boathouse floor to be kept clear, boats only to be stored in designated racks. Call for assistance if there is any difficulty lifting/manoeuvring boats(s)		Low
Launch and recovery of boats	Injury to rowers from falling off	Low	Rowers using steps to ensure access is clear and not restricted by loose blades,	Blades etc.' left on steps to be removed	Low

	launching steps, access to public slipway hindered by public users		clothing etc.’ When using the public slipway ensure there is sufficient clearance from other users to ensure safe launching and recovery of boat. Only the smaller singles and doubles boats should use slipway.	whilst boating.	
Capsize due to rough waters or collision	Potential hypothermia	Low	River conditions to be assessed before outing, safety boat to be on water and/or immediately available during training. Buoyancy of craft to comply with ARA guidelines.		Low
Collision and General Water Safety	Injury to rowers and damage to equipment.	Moderate	Rowers to abide by ARA, ‘Row Safe’ guidelines, Dart Harbour navigation rules (keep good lookout at all times, keep right and give way to deep draft vessels). Note: Rowing craft have NO automatic rights of way over power or sailing vessels. Dow balls to be in good condition. Safety launch equipped and manned to ARA standards. Safety boat to carry throw-lines and carry mobile phone throughout training.	Person in charge of boat to be vigilant of others around	Low
Overhanging trees on the river, debris in the river	Potential hypothermia if capsize, damage to boat	Moderate	Stay away from river banks. Person in charge of boat i.e. cox to look ahead. Danger from overhanging trees is increased at high water.	All water users to check river conditions and advise others of recent hazards i.e. floating debris.	Low
Ferries and other river traffic	Injury to rowers and damage to boats.	Moderate	Abide by local navigation rules, pass to port, and give way to other river traffic.		Low

Exposure due to cold weather	Potential hypothermia or mild colds etc.'	Moderate	Rowers to be dressed appropriately for the outing and to have a towel and change of clothing available at the clubhouse. Thermal blankets in safety boat kit. Warm showers in clubhouse.	Splash tops could be worn when stopped on the river. Assess weather prior to going on the water.	Low
Exposure due to capsize	Potential hypothermia	Low	Risk dependent on prevailing conditions. All rowers to be familiar with capsize drill and consequences of immersion in cold water in accordance with ARA 'Row Safe' guidelines. Provision of Safety Boat		Low
Heat exhaustion and sun-burn	Potential Heat stroke, Sun Burn, Dehydration	Moderate	Provision of bottled water/isotonic drinks. Rowers to be made aware of need to take adequate fluids and use sun-block, hats and dark glasses as necessary depending on conditions.	Rowers to take water bottles with them	Low
Drowning	Potential Death	Low	All coxswains, Safety Boat drivers and crews to wear correctly fitting buoyancy aids / life jackets. All rowing crews to be familiar with capsize drill. Buoyancy of craft to comply with ARA Code. Rowing and sculling boats fitted with correctly adjusted heel restraints.	Rowers to be able to swim a minimum of 50 metres and have completed a capsize drill.	Low
Weather Squalls, heavy rain, sleet, snow, fog, severe crosswinds etc.'	Severe injury, death or damage to equipment and structures.	Low	Club captain and / or coaches to check weather forecasts, tides and river conditions.	All senior rowers carry equal responsibility to ensure their safety.	Low
Thunder Storms Lightning	Severe injury, death or damage to equipments and structures.	Low	Club captain and /or coaches to check weather forecasts and current conditions. When gap between visible lightning and thunder is 30 seconds or less, water to be cleared.	All senior rowers carry equal responsibility to ensure their safety	Very Low

## ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENTS FOR REGATTAS

<b>Hazards Identified</b>	<b>Potential Outcome</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Control Measures</b>	<b>Review &amp; Audit Measures</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Fall hazard while Unloading boats	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats	Low	Reliance on competency of crews and Coaches. The ARA provides guidelines on Trailers and towing.	Caution to be taken While unloading Boats off trailers in the public car park.	Low / Moderate.
Collision hazard due to trailers, boats and cars.	Injury to rowers and/or damage to boats.	Moderate	Car park marshals to ensure trailers and cars are parked to allow adequate space to manoeuvre boats and people and that no speeding is allowed.	Traffic to Longmarsh car park is restricted to trailers and cars with boats.	Low
Collision with Public Traffic	Injury to rowers and general public	Moderate	Club captains to advise rowers of potential risks from manoeuvring traffic and members of public gaining access to car park by driving around barriers.	Boats to be rigged leaving access route around boats	Low
Launch and recovery of boats on steps and slipway	Injury to rowers from tripping on oars, kit etc.'	Moderate	Launch marshals to help with launching, they advise if and when it is safe to launch or return to slipway and steps.	Rowers to move away from launch / recovery area a.s.a.p.	Low / Moderate
Collision with members of the public whilst crossing public right of way alongside the river.	Injury to members of the public.	Moderate	All crews to follow instructions given by launch marshals and follow any instructions / posters erected for the event. Be aware that members of public may not recognise the dangers to themselves or you.	Rowers to be vigilant when transporting boats to and from the water.	Low/ Moderate

Collision with passenger ferry	Injury to rowers and /or damage to boats.	Moderate	All boats to maintain vigilance of any passenger ferries or other craft. Follow instructions issued by umpires / officials / marshal's.	Cooperation between all parties using the river that day. Ferry companies to be advised.	Low / Moderate
Collision with other boats on way to start or in starting vicinity.	Injury to rowers and / or damage to boats.	Moderate	On water safety to be provided 30 min.' prior to start of event.  Traffic rules are circulated to athletes prior to event, non-compliance may lead to race penalties being applied.	Reliance on competency of crews & coaches and compliance with ARA 'Row Safe' guidelines.	Low
Collision after finishing race	Injury to rowers and / or damage to boats	Moderate	Rowers and coxswain to ensure boat is clear of finish line and follow route advised at commencement of event. Thus avoiding collisions with other boats racing.	Reliance on crews to get off the water as quick and safely as possible.	Low
Delays while on water prior to start of race	Potential for hypothermia	Low	Rowers to ensure they choose the right time to go on the water.  Rowers to ensure that they take appropriate clothing to warm up and row in.	Reliance on competency of crews and coaches supported by ARA Coach Education programme.	Low

## ADDITIONAL FACTORS FOR 'HEAD OF THE DART' RACE

Debris in the river	Potential hypothermia if capsized, damage to boat.	Moderate	All competitors to be vigilant, where a hazard appears advise safety boat(s) at the earliest opportunity.	Reliance on competency of crews and vigilance of safety boats.	Moderate
Launch and recovery of boats on higher ferry slip at Dartmouth.	Injury to rowers from tripping on cables, collision with ferry.	Moderate	Marshals to help with launch and/or recovery, they advise if safe to do so without hindering the ferry operation.	Rowers to move away from ferry path a.s.a.p. crews to vacate area promptly.	Low / moderate
Competitor(s) in difficulties.	Injury to rowers, hypothermia and or damage to boat.	Moderate	All competitors to be vigilant and advise first safety boat of the incident / location if a safety boat is not already in attendance.	Reliance on adequate safety boat cover over the full length of the course and competency of crews.	Low / Moderate

<b>Definition of Risk Categories</b>	
Low	<p>Previous experience would indicate an incident resulting from the risk is unlikely to occur.</p> <p>Should an incident occur the outcome is not likely to be serious.</p>
Moderate	<p>There is an increased risk of occurrence especially by inexperienced individuals and juniors.</p> <p>Could result in serious injury or trauma if not managed properly.</p>
High	<p>A very likely possibility of serious injury and / or death as an outcome.</p> <p>Under no circumstances must the club fail to address this issue.</p> <p>Risk factor to be reduced to an acceptable level before allowing any event to continue.</p>