

ISLINGTON BOAT CLUB

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR RESCUE BOAT DRIVING

Risks

1. Drowning
2. Falling into and immersion in cold water
3. Hypothermia
4. Fire
5. Collisions with other craft, or other water users, and canal banks.
6. Entanglement with propeller after falling in

Risk Management

All: Persons in charge of the rescue boat will hold a minimum of Royal Yachting Association Powerboat Level One. These persons are allowed to drive the boat on the canal provided the boat is not being used for rescue cover and use is more than 50m away from canoeists and sailors.

OR

ALL: Persons in charge of the rescue boat when being used for rescue cover or within 50m of canoeists and sailors will hold a minimum of Royal Yachting Association Powerboat Level Two.

All: All persons must wear a buoyancy aid at all times whilst in the boat.

All: Appropriate clothing should be worn taking into account the weather conditions and forecast.

All: A fire powder extinguisher must be carried when the boat has been rigged ready for use.

All: Smoking is not allowed on or near the rescue boat.

Safety procedures and risk disclosure will be included in the student briefing

All : The ratio of Instructors to students : See Appendix 1

1 : The Instructor is responsible for determining that all participants can swim 25 metres - this may be via written confirmation from parents/carers. It is possible to introduce non-swimmers at the discretion of the Club Co-ordinator or his designee.

1 : All students will wear buoyancy aids (or lifejackets). The instructor will check these are properly fitted.

2 & 6 Discipline of the group should ensure that participants remain seated until the boat is stationary or has been brought along side the canal towpath or Club pontoons

3 One person at a time should stand or move in the boat.

5 Except in an emergency the canal speed limit of 4mph should be observed

6 A "Kill Cord" should be attached to the engine and driver/person in charge when ever the boat is being driven.

2, 3 : On journeys away from the Club safety equipment will include spare paddles, fire extinguisher and first aid kit.