

ISLINGTON BOAT CLUB

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR RESCUE LAUNCH TRIPS AND TUNNEL TRIPS

Risks

1. Drowning
2. Falling into and immersion in cold water
3. Collisions with other craft
4. Head injuries and hand injuries
5. Engine failure

Risk Management

All : Instructors will hold Royal Yachting Association Powerboat Level 2 Award.

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

All : The ratio of Instructors to students : 1 : 12

ALL : A "Kill cord" must be fitted to the engine and attached to the Instructor when the engine is running.

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 to launch trips 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.

1, 2, 3 : Discipline of the group should be such that participants are aware of their effect and possible consequences on the group and the rescue launch

2.1 When the rescue launch is set up safety equipment will include spare paddles and powder fire extinguisher.

2, 3 : On journeys away from the Club additional safety equipment will include torches, lock key, first aid kit, and sharp knife with locking and retractable blade. These should be kept in a "trips box" until required.

2.4 To avoid collisions with other craft in the tunnel the Instructor must ascertain that the tunnel is clear before entry. A forward facing light must be shown at all times in the tunnel.

2.5 To avoid head, hand and arm injuries all passengers must be made aware of the need to keep with the outline of the rescue launch. All passengers must remain seated throughout the journey to remove the risk of falling into the water.

2.6 Engine failure. An alternative means of propulsion must be carried. This will normally be in the form of 2 single-bladed canoe paddles.

2.7 Fouling of the engine propeller. A sharp knife must be carried to cut away rope and plastic bags from around the propeller.