

Risk Area: Dinghy

Owner: Head of Operations

Date of next review: 08.04.26

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done
Drowning Drowning is an inherent risk in all water activities	Staff and Visitors by falling out of vessel or during capsizes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buoyancy Aids must be worn, include CE mark and 50N RYA Trained and Qualified Instructors VHF Radio carried or appropriate means of communications Roll mats in safety craft EAP is in place Staff trained in EAP process Staff trained in MOB recovery Buoyancy Aids are checked and issued by instructors before use. Self-inflating lifejackets are available for guests that have injuries or disabilities which prevent them from turning themselves face up after falling in the water. Where appropriately risk assessed. Water confidence sessions provided prior to going afloat if required. Capsize drills covered promoting student safety Safety signals communication Regular headcounts are conducted during the sessions 				
Towing See Towing Risk Assessment RAW-011						

Collisions	Staff and visitors by colliding with other craft, or head injuries resulting from contact with booms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RYA Trained and Qualified Instructors supervising the sessions • Helmets must be worn (See helmet / head wear RA). • EAP is in place • Courses are to be set providing room for maneuver appropriate to the craft and conditions • Effective briefing to be given to ensure boundaries are set and courses are explained. • Where IRCPS is delivered, strong briefings ashore delivered first. 				
Man Overboard	Staff and visitors risk drowning or injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guests are to leave the man overboard recovery to the safety craft and RYA Instructor for retrieval. • In the events of a capsize, the MOB should try remain with the vessel. Where not possible, they should remain calm and drift downwind to await recovery. • If one of the two students is MOB, the remaining student is to depower the vessel and remain in close proximity to the situation. • No going about to be attempted in the event of 1 student of 2 going MOB. Vessel to remain stationary to avoid further issues. • If both students are MOB, they are to leave the vessel to drift down wind and await recovery from the safety boat (the dinghy will drift faster than students can swim) • Only on Instructor training and under correct supervision can students attempt 'live' MOB recovery. Simulated or actual. • MOB briefing to be covered prior to going afloat 				

Entrapment due to Capsize	Staff and visitors risk drowning due to entanglement with rigging when capsized.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RYA Trained and Qualified instructors • Instructors to carry knives • EAP is in place • All guests are briefed in capsized recovery before going afloat. • Mast head float to be used on all double handers • Mast head floats to be used on single handers where possible. • Righting lines fitted for suitable double hander craft • Instructors are to attend every capsized as soon as is practically possible to ensure safety of students, regardless of the scenario as damage or injury may have occurred. 				
Personal injury	Staff and visitors due to defective features of the boat or improper use of equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure dinghy fleet is regularly maintained • Ensure all defects are reported in a timely manner • Ensure any 'no go' defects are highlighted, and the craft is clearly taken out of service until repaired. • Ensure all defective kit is separated from the equipment in use (sin bin) • Rigging and de-rigging checks to be done by staff on a daily basis when in use. • Only manufacturer recommended repairs to be undertaken. • No repairs to be carried out by seasonal staff unless directed by CI or a member of the maintenance team. • Equipment to be used for its intended purpose only • RYA center requirements relating to kit to be adhered to. 				

Hypothermia Cold	Staff and visitors due to environmental conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RYA Trained and Qualified Instructors • Wetsuits must be worn (At CI's Discretion) • Clothing appropriate to conditions, no jeans, no foul weather gear only. This includes appropriate footwear, ideally ankle high thick neoprene boots. • Additional clothing to be brought on sessions where temperature is low • Length of sessions to be shortened to allow for colder temperatures. • Appropriate drinks and sugary food to be taken on sessions. 				
Hyperthermia Hot	Staff and visitors due to environmental conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RYA Trained and Qualified Instructors • Instructors make sure guests are drinking enough water during the day • Instructors make sure sun-cream and sun protective clothing is suitable • Water and sun-cream to be brought on sessions where temperature is high • Regular checks on students to be done • Sessions length to be adjusted to allow for comfort breaks. • Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight to be minimized. 				
Group Control Whilst Afloat	Visitors behavior and conduct impacting safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Guests receive a safety briefing before going afloat • All Guests are shown hand and whistle signals and their meaning before going afloat • All Guests are given a sailing area to stay within • IC to ensure session plans and locations are appropriate • SI Afloat to check on control of sessions and offer support where necessary • Additional staff allocated for groups Risk Assessed as requiring additional support (eg special needs or behavioral concerns) 				

Guest Medical Issues	Visitors not declaring medical info.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All guests must have completed a medical form before going afloat. • Instructors must check if there any medical issues within group they are taking out and controls are in place. • Medicines must be placed in a dry bag and kept with instructor at all times. • Medication must be given back to the student at the end of the session. • If a guest has a medical issue which may warrant an individual risk assessment the chief instructor will make sure this is completed. 				
Unstable simulator	Staff and visitors injured by improper use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up in open space • Set up on flat ground • Put tyres under the back of the boat to keep it balanced • Use of correct trolley for simulator/boat • Use during day light and sufficient lighting • Rig according to wind direction and strength. 				
Boom hitting student and others	Staff and visitors injured by improper use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up simulator in an open area • Brief students where to stand and watch • If too windy use ghost rig • Instructor to guide sail across, using strop tied to end of boom • Use of strop to control movement of boom when tacking or gybing • If instructor deems appropriate, helmets can also be worn • Applies to both double and single handers 				
Falling	Staff and visitors injured by improper use. When climbing in/off the boat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief students • Offer support to people • Dry boat and wear appropriate footwear • Additional risk assessments for those with disabilities 				
Rudder	Staff and visitors injured by improper use. Rudder Hitting others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief students to stand clear • Position group at the front of the boat as per best practice 				