

**Clifton Pilot Gig Club**

Risk Assessment for Rowing in Bristol Harbour

The following Risk Assessment has been undertaken to identify possible hazards with regards to the rowing of a Gig in Bristol Docks and the movement of the Gig on a trailer.

The possible hazard has been assessed firstly without any Control Measures in place, and then following the introduction of clear Control Measures.

**Key and Abbreviations**

The following abbreviations have been used

L = Likelihood of Risk Happening.

**1 = Unlikely, 2 = Likely, 3 = Highly Likely**

S = Severity of Risk

**1 = Slightly Harmful, 2 = Harmful, 3 = Very Harmful**

R = Overall Risk = Likelihood x Severity

**1, 2 or 3 = Low, 4, 5, or 6 = Medium, 7, 8 or 9 = High**

All members and users must read and understand this Risk Assessment and ensure that the identified Control Measures are maintained at all times.

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| **No** | **Hazard** | **Risk** | **L** | **S** | **R** | **Overall Risk without CM** | **Control Measure (CM)** | **L** | **S** | **R** | **Overall Risk with CM** |
| 1 | **General rowing** | * Injury * Fatality | 2  2 | 2  3 | 4  6 | Medium  Medium | * An experienced cox and enough experienced rowers in attendance * Any restricted times or areas notified by the Harbourmaster known in advance and understood * Assessment of conditions made prior to departure * Weather forecast known prior to session * Weather conditions to be reviewed * All crew able to swim * Cox and juniors to wear lifejackets * Sufficient bailers to be in Gig * Experienced rowers only to row at night * Floatable VHF radio or mobile phone to be on gig * Mobile phone to be carried in waterproof envelope * Cancel session if any unsuitable conditions exist or any Control Measures not in place | 1  1 | 2  3 | 2  3 | Low  Low |
| 2 | Strong currents from sluice gates and locks | * Capsizing * Exhaustion * Drowning | 2  3  2 | 3  2  3 | 6  6  6 | Medium  Medium  Medium | **All General Rowing Control Measures Apply plus**   * Cox to ensure beginners avoid locks and sluice gate areas * Ensure sufficient experienced rowers in gig to control any currents | 1  1  1 | 3  2  3 | 3  2  3 | Low  Low  Low |
| 3 | Strong Winds | * Water ingress to craft * Sinking * Drowning * Water spray * Hypothermia * Drifting | 3  2  2  3  3  3 | 2  3  3  2  3  2 | 6  6  6  6  9  6 | Medium  Medium  Medium  Medium  High  Medium | **All general rowing control measures apply plus**   * Cancel session if winds too strong, before or likely during session * Experienced cox and rowers only * Windproof clothing worn * Cancel session if winds pick up * Tie up if unable to continue | 1  1  1  2  1  2 | 2  3  3  2  3  2 | 2  3  3  4  3  4 | Low  Low  Low  Medium  Low  Medium |
| 4 | Collision with other craft | * Skeletal injuries * Bodily injuries * Capsizing * Sinking * Drowning | 2  2  2  2  2 | 3  3  3  3  3 | 6  6  6  6  6 | Medium  Medium  Medium  Medium  Medium | **All general rowing control measures apply plus**   * Cox to be in control at all times * Crew members advise cox of approaching craft * Hold water if unsure of other crafts movements * Assessment of craft numbers made prior to departure * Cancel sessions if docks / harbour too congested * Sufficient bailers to be carried * Light to be used as dusk and night | 1  1  1  1  1 | 2  2  3  3  3 | 2  2  3  3  3 | Low  Low  Low  Low  Low |
| 5 | Slipway launching and recovery | * Skeletal injuries * Bodily injuries * Drowning * Slips & trips | 2  2  1  3 | 3  3  3  2 | 6  6  3  6 | Medium  Medium  Low  Medium | **All general rowing control measures apply plus**   * Coxes and crew understand and experienced with launch and recovery procedures * Sufficient people available to control launch * Assessment of craft numbers made prior to departure * Cancel session if insufficient people available to control launch or recovery * Experienced rowers warn beginners of slippery areas on pontoons * Help rowers out of the gig at pontoons | 1  1  1  2 | 2  2  3  2 | 2  2  3  4 | Low  Low  Low  Low |
| 6 | Cold Weather | * Hypothermia * Slips & Trips | 3  3 | 3  2 | 9  6 | Medium  Medium | **All general rowing control measures apply plus**   * Cancellation of session if too cold * Suitable warm clothing to be worn * Cox to be aware of deterioration of crew conditions * Cancellation of session if any crew member exhibits any signs of hypothermia * Cancellation of session if slipway or footpaths covered in ice * Thermal blankets to be available | 1  2 | 3  2 | 3  4 | Low  Medium |
| 7 | Hot weather | * Dehydration * Sunburn | 3  3 | 3  3 | 9  9 | High  High | **All general rowing control measures apply plus**   * Plenty of drink breaks for crew * Suitable light clothing to be worn * Suitable sun cream to be used * Hats and sunglasses to be worn * Cox to be aware of deterioration of crew | 1  1 | 2  2 | 2  2 | Low  Low |
| 8 | Broken Oars  Broken rudder  Broken pins | * Crew stranded off shore * Hypothermia | 1  1 | 3  3 | 3  3 | Low  Low | **All general rowing control measures apply plus**   * Regular recorded inspection of all equipment and gig * Carry spare pins on gig * First aid kit available in gig | 1  1 | 1  1 | 1  1 | Low  Low |
| 9 | Large Flotsam | * Sinking * Bodily Injuries * Drowning | 2  2  2 | 3  2  3 | 6  4  6 | Medium  Medium  Medium | **All general rowing control measures apply plus**   * Cox to be alert at all times and avoid * Crew to alert cox * Fend off with oars if collision likely | 1  1  1 | 3  2  3 | 3  3  3 | Low  Low  Low |
| 10 | Fog and Mist | * Disorientation * Sinking from Collision * Exhaustion * Hypothermia | 3  3  2  2 | 2  3  2  3 | 3  9  4  6 | Medium  High  Medium  Medium | **All general rowing control measures apply plus**   * Cancellation of session if fog exists and visibility is less than 200m * Suspend session if fog appears * Keep within sight of shore * Crew members and Cox advise of approaching craft | 1  1  1  1 | 2  3  2  3 | 2  3  2  3 | Low  Low  Low  Low |
| 11 | Boarding and leaving gig | * Slips, trips and falls * Bodily injuries * Skeletal injuries | 3  2  2 | 3  3  3 | 9  6  6 | High  Medium  Medium | * All persons to know launch and recovery procedure * Cox to control boarding and alight gig * Wear suitable footwear * Gig to be under control as people board and alight * Only one person on or off at a time * Help one another on and off | 2  1  1 | 2  3  3 | 4  3  3 | Medium  Low  Low |