



BEAULIEU RIVER SAILING CLUB

RISK ASSESSMENT

DATE: - 23/05/2005

Amendments – 25/05/2026

Activities usually carried out by the club:- Dinghy Sailing/Racing at Needs Ore and the Factory Fields with social events included, Cruises to the Isle of Wight, Up and Down River Races, Sail Training and a Regatta.

Main dinghies:- Scows, Lasers Toppers and Optimists

HAZARD	CONTROLS MEASURES IN PLACE	RISK FACTOR	FURTHER CONTROL MEASURES
<p>Capsize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immersion in Water • Drowning • Hypothermia • Getting Trapped • Inability to right the boat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buoyancy aids currently worn at all times which comply to RYA recommendations of greater than 50N • Sailing in a buddy system where in close proximity to other boats • Awareness of risk • Beginners shown how to right a capsized craft • Rescue boats cover, driven by people with RYA safety boat qualifications • Maintain a controlled sailing area with adequate safety craft ratio • Water quality awareness. 	<p>High</p>	<p>Race/Day/Training Officers run any briefings and will highlight the risks.</p> <p>A Safety Boat will stand by or assist. In 2022 Scow painters have been made longer so they can be used to help right the boat. The final resort is for the Mother Ship to tow the boat in.</p> <p>There are spare safety kits for when club members use their own boats for safety support. Safety kit was reviewed in 2022. See Rescue Boat section.</p> <p>The water quality has improved since the 1990s but ingesting water should be avoided.</p>

<p>Racing and Cruising Risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falling overboard • Capsizing • Physical Injury • Collision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sailors taking part should be aware of the risks and have their own boat insurance • All participants are required to wear adequate clothing and buoyancy • Race Officer to decide if conditions are suitable to hold race and should check before the start that all the Rescue Crews are familiar with their boats and their rescue equipment • The Race Officer is empowered to reduce length of course or cancel racing • The Racing Rules of Sailing are mandatory and will be obeyed by all competitors • The Race Office will maintain a controlled racing area suitable for the conditions and the time of year 	<p style="text-align: center;">High</p>	<p>The Bucklars Hard Harbour Master is advised of the Regatta, the Down/Up River Races and the Training dates. The harbour office can be contacted on Channel 68. If possible the Training/Race/day Officer will have someone with a radio who can monitor Ch68 and relay any relevant information to our ChP4.</p> <p>When venturing into the Solent a Mother Ship is used as a base for anybody who may take ill or injure themselves and thus require first aid or shelter. Communication is maintained by VHF.</p> <p>When in the Solent, Safety boats escort the fleet which is kept together in a pack and if required boats can be towed out of the path of a hazard.</p> <p>Sailors should understand the basic collision rules.</p> <p>Activities with extra risk have briefings so the the Officers can make sure all sailors are prepared.</p>
<p>Club House Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theft • Kettle and gas cooker • Vandalism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety boats and fuel should be checked before racing • All equipment must be locked away • If anyone gets burnt there is running water which should be used immediately. 	<p style="text-align: center;">High</p>	<p>Vandalism and theft are an issue due to the remote location. Secure lockers should be used at all times and no valuables should be left in the clubhouse over night</p>
<p>Collision with another boat or obstacle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boat Damage • Sinking • Physical Injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the basic RYA rules • Awareness of local hazards and manoeuvrability of other boats in the river when setting the racing courses. Navigational marks are avoided. • Helming by beginners should be supervised according to the weather conditions 	<p style="text-align: center;">Medium</p>	<p>When cruising in the Solent the safety boats scan for any dangers and will tow boats if required.</p>

<p>General Medical</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bee/Other stings • Asthma attacks • Animal bites • Panic Attacks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid available. • Awareness of risks • Parents should notify the person in charge of any relevant medical conditions • If there is a serious risk or allergy the parent should remain to supervise the child 	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Our First Aid kits have been checked for 2026. First Aid kits are in the Donkey Field hut and Needs Ore. The Rescue boats have no kit it is easier to get back to shore to apply dressings. There are now no drugs in the boxes but we have a mobile defibrillator that moves between the two sites.</p> <p>A list of first aid with instructions is with each box. When dialling 999, the ambulance instructions and the three word code for Needs Ore are required as the postcode does not give an accurate location. These are written on the box.</p>
<p>Training Risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falling overboard • Capsizing • Physical Injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants and their parents should be aware of the risks and have their own boat insurance. They are responsible for checking that their boats are in a seaworthy safe condition • All participants are required to wear adequate clothing and buoyancy and have spare clothing and snacks available on the shore • Training Officer to decide if conditions are suitable to hold training session and should check before the start that all the Rescue Crews and Instructors are familiar with their boats and their rescue equipment. The Instructors should be briefed on their charges and decide whether they are competent to deal with the conditions • The Training Officer should reduce the length of the session if required 	<p>Slight when parents observe the rules</p>	<p>There is a briefing for children, instructors and duty parents which should highlight all the risks. This is reviewed each year after the training session.</p> <p>Alice Bubear has agreed to be the contact for any Child protection issues.</p>

<p>Hypothermia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate warm clothing • Suitable wetsuit or dry suit advisable • Windproof clothing advisable • Sailing stops if too cold • Warm drinks are available ashore • Shelter available from the wind when not sailing • Rescue boat drivers are aware of the stages of hypothermia and need to be capable of returning someone to shore within the required time 	<p>Slight when appropriate measures are taken into account</p>	
<p>Dehydration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone should have access to water • In hot weather, the Safety boat crews should be aware of this and have water on board 	<p>Slight</p>	
<p>Weather</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collision • Capsize • Injury • Lightning Strikes • Cold / Snow / Ice • Strong Wind • Sunburn • Dehydration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sailing in poor visibility • No sailing during lightening • Suntan lotion • Sunglasses • Drinks available • Small sails for strong wind 	<p>Slight</p>	

<p>Changing Weather Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sudden change in wind strength leading to capsize or damage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check weather forecast before going afloat • Come ashore if conditions worsen • The Race Officer or Office of the Day should watch the weather and advice of cancellation or abandonment. 	<p>Slight</p>	
<p>Injury from equipment on the boat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazard Awareness • Wear appropriate clothing • Check the boat is properly rigged before going afloat • Helming by beginners should be supervised according to the weather conditions 	<p>Slight</p>	
<p>Infected water or mud</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquiring leptospirosis (Weils Disease) or other water borne disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cover Cuts • Awareness of dirty water • First Aid Available 	<p>Slight</p>	<p>A list of First aid with instructions is available and Lymington Hospital has a minor injuries unit.</p>

<p>Physical Injury from Launching/ Recovery of boats on slipway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall • Pulled muscles and ligaments • Cuts • Fractures • Immersion in water (cold and drowning) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members advised as to the best way to lift • Wear suitable clothing and especially footwear • First Aid Available • Warnings given of glass in the mud 	<p>Slight</p>	<p>Cuts are a Sail training hazard so we try to keep the children out of the mud. If a deep cut occurs it is best to have it checked at Lymington Hospital.</p>
<p>Rescue boats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falling overboard • Injury from propeller 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buoyancy Aid to be worn at all times • Helmsman to hold a minimum qualification of “RYA Powerboat Level 2” • Kill Chords to be worn at all times • All passengers to be seated while vessel is making way • Rescue boats should have neutral • Safety kit to be taken on the water at all times 	<p>Slight</p>	<p>The safety kit was reviewed in May 2022 and will consist of the following items:-</p> <p>25m floating throw line; towing line; knife; a whistle; a large bailer (bucket); an anchor and anchor line; and an orange smoke signal.</p> <p>There will be spare kit available so that volunteer rescue boats can make sure they have the necessary kit.</p>
<p>Pontoon Injuries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crush injuries • The seal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify novices the dangers of trapping fingers/limbs between the pontoon and the boat • Warning not to approach the seal if he is on the pontoon 	<p>Slight</p>	<p>The seal has been sighted this year (2024) so people need to be warned. June will check with the harbour master before sail training.</p>

<p>Slipway Injuries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Falling injuries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The slipway is exposed to the elements and can be slippery the appropriate foot wear should be worn 	<p>Slight</p>	<p>The slipway has been treated and high pressure hosed for 2026 (photos taken) ready for the Down River Race. Everyone should be aware of the danger and wear appropriate shoes.</p>
<p>Club House Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire in the building Hot water and stove Electrical Safety Cess Pits and drains Sail locker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Fire extinguishers and a fire blankets are provided and checked yearly Two first aid courses were run so burns should be dealt with quickly using running water. No electricity so we are covered The cess pits and drains are subject to flooding so can rust Sails are stored on racks 	<p>Slight to Medium</p>	<p>Gas cylinders and fire extinguishers have been checked for 2026, see photos.</p> <p>Discussed the use of steps or try to encourage taller members to use the top racks</p> <p>There was an incident in 2024 when a child jumped on a drain cover which collapsed. The covers have been checked for 2026.</p>
<p>Social Hazards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lost Member Mugging etc Child protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Never had a mugging and there are security gates to enter Most parents know all the children and the club house is too small No child is ever on their own with an instructor or parent 	<p>Very slight</p>	<p>We are a small club where we all know each other. Parent with any worries should sit on the shore and watch their child.</p> <p>During Sail training please feel free to stay with your child or discuss any concerns with June Kirkman (Senior Sailing) or Alice Bubear (Junior Sailing).</p> <p>Duty Mums are briefed on their duties and if an injury occurs, they will contact the parent to discuss how and where the child will be taken for treatment. In the event that the parent cannot be contacted, 2 people should accompany the child.</p>

NB. The booklet in the First Aid Kit with all the 2025 injuries was checked and no updates were required. The Risk Assessment was circulated to all committee members and no amendments were suggested.

Assessment undertaken : 25/05/2026

Signed JUNE KIRKMAN (Captain)
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