

# Water Safety for Rowers



**FALCON**  
BOAT CLUB

## RIVER FLOW RATE

### GREEN FLAG

All rowers and boat classes with suitable permissions and supervision

### BLUE FLAG

All experienced rowers and any crews coxed or bow-steered by experienced persons

### AMBER FLAG

No coxless boats without prior permission from a suitable risk assessor - i.e. probably limited to experienced crews of a competitive standard

### RED FLAG

Dependent on dynamic risk assessment, no rowing except in circumstances of very high competency / experience and low river traffic *and only with prior permission of a suitable risk assessor.*

### BLACK FLAG

**NO ROWING UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES**

## FIND THE FLAG

Falcon Boat Club



Scan Me

OURCs Flag Status



Scan Me

EA River Conditions



Scan Me

ANU's River Flow



Scan Me

## WEATHER RISKS

### Water Temperatures

Between 3° and 8° C **Amber flag rules apply**, single scullers should try to buddy up.

Below 3° C water temperature, **no scullers out on their own.**



Scan Me

Water temperature at Shiplake

### Wind & Gusts

Consider wind speed, gusts, and direction before boating. A dynamic risk assessment may be needed.

### Ice

If there is ice on the water **Black Flag rules apply.**

### Fog/poor visibility

**Wear high viz. Use boat lights.**

Remember—conditions may vary or get worse along the stretch.

If both lifebelts (the Gut and below Donnington Bridge) are not visible from the hard,

**DO NOT GO OUT**

### Lightning

**Black flag rules apply.**

If already on the water, leave the water immediately and seek shelter in a suitable building (not necessarily your home boathouse), if available. Do not return to the water until at least 30mins has passed without thunder or lightning flashes.

Suitable risk assessors include:

Senior Coaches: John Hill, Jeff Bethray, Nick Kenworthy-Browne (also for juniors), and rowing Captain and Vice-Captain.

Guidance outlined above is strongly advised for users of private equipment, **but for all club equipment it is mandatory.**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T GO OUT!**