

Risk Register: On-Water Activities

The key risks associated with on-water activities at ESC are summarised in the table below. For a more extensive list of risks and further details, including mitigating measures and controls, please refer Risk Management Plan.

Risk #	Hazard /Risk	Comments
OW1	Drowning	Everyone must wear a correctly fitted PFD when sailing or in a RIB. Users of Club SUPs shall wear a PFD when more than 200m from shore. Users of Club Windsurfers must wear a PFD at all times when on the water
OW2	Entrapment and Entanglement after capsize	Keep a tidy boat. In case of entrapment, stay calm and think your way through it. In most situations, rescue crews should first try to right the boat. Knife and wire cutters carried on safety boats
OW3	Person Lost at Sea	Sign-on/off requirement for all organised on-water Club activities. Use of Club Windsurfers not recommended when the wind is blowing offshore or more than 15kts in any direction. Use of Club SUPs not recommended if wind is blowing offshore or more than 10kts in any direction
OW6	Propeller Strike	Authorised powerboat operators only. When recovering people from the water with the RIB, nose in and turn the engine off within one boat length, throw a line to bring the person alongside. Avoid jumping into the water from a powerboat when the engine is running. Don't sit on the bow of a powerboat when under way
OW10	RIB Launch and Haul Out – being crushed between RIB and trailer, run over, pinned under water, or hit in the head by winch handle	Authorised operators only. Trailer and boat safety chains must be connected. Check all-clear (including behind trailer) before moving tow vehicle on ramp. No one to stand down hill of trailer when being moved on boat ramp. Do not drive RIB onto trailer. If sea conditions are unfavourable use St Kilda marina ramp. Ensure ratchet mechanism is engaged when winching the RIB back onto the trailer.
PP1	Collision with Cyclist When Crossing Path to Beach – pedestrians, RIB trailer, sail boats	Awareness - watch out and remind others of risk. Witches hats at main crossing point on race/training days. For regattas, student training courses and on Discover Sailing Days, string up a flag barrier parallel to bike path. Use a spotter when moving RIBs across bike path
OW4	Hypothermia	Sailors and volunteers to be advised of expected conditions and risks at pre-activity briefings. Instructors to make sure students dress for the conditions
OW5	Collision with Swimmer - sail boat, RIB	Strictly no boats in designated swimming area. Slow approach departure from beach
OW7	Boom Strike while sailing, rigging, launching and retrieving boats	If concerned, wear a helmet – Club loan helmets available. Sailors, students and trolley volunteers to be made aware of the risk, how best to avoid and where to stand when launching/retrieving boats
OW8	Crushed by Sailboat in Shore Break	Watch out and remind others of risk. When beach conditions are rough, avoid standing on the beach side of sailboats being launched/retrieved
OW9	Fire/explosion on Safety Boat	Authorised operators only. Pre-start checks. Fire extinguishers on board. Only one person on board whilst refuelling. Do not to start engine if petrol vapours evident
OW11	Safety Boat breakdown – insufficient safety support	Pre-departure checklist and logbook on all powerboats. Boats professionally serviced. Potential to launch Ron Ekberg. If required, RO to abandon on-water activities
OW12	UV Exposure – Skin cancer	Slip, slop, slap. Sunscreen available in change rooms, boatshed and on powerboats
OW13	Insufficient supervision of students - Resulting in accidents	Safety ratios in place - Student : Instructor, and Safety Boat : Dinghies. Training wind limits apply. In event of insufficient supervision in place, on-water activities must be cancelled
PP2	Falling Masts – while rigging / de-rigging	Sailors to double check setup and get help when conditions require. Instructors to supervise and assist students as required
PP3	Manual Handling – lifting boats and pushing boats	Be careful not to lift or move anything that could cause strain. Use ramps for dinghies in second level storage bays. Ask for help and help others as required
CE4	Wet change room floors – slips and falls	Don't rush. Sailors advised to sit down when putting on / taking off wetsuits
CE5	Child Abuse – change rooms are not always secure / public may access	Guidelines for use of change rooms in place, electronic access only. Whenever possible, children to be accompanied by an adult carer or guardian. Instructors to schedule group toilet breaks for Tackers and ask multiple adult carers to assist