



# Safe Rowing Note

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|-------------|--|---------|---|
| Subject     | <b>Safety / Coaching Launch Pre-Use Checks</b> |         |   |
| Note number | 13   | Version | 1 |
| Date        | 08 October 2024                                |         |   |

Launches are used as safety boats and for coaching.

The launch checks below should be made at the start of each outing to ensure the launch is in good condition and safe to use.

## Safety equipment

The launch must contain the following items:

- First aid kit in a waterproof bag
- Throw line or equivalent grab line
- Toolkit
- Safety knife or rope cutter
- Enough foil blankets or 'Bivi bags' for the launch's passenger capacity
- 25m of spare rope
- Spare kill cord
- Retaining strap to secure fuel tank
- Drain plug providing an effective seal.
- Bailer
- Paddle
- Suitable lights in low visibility conditions.

If the boat does not comply with any of these checks, then do not use it.

## Outboard motor

The motor should be moved safely.

- Use engine trolley to wheel engine to/from the launch.
- Move engine up/down slipway steps on trolley, perpendicular to steps.
- Two people to lift engine in/out of the launch

The motor should be securely fixed to the transom

It should start easily and run smoothly

The kill cord should be effective (the motor stops as soon as the kill cord is removed)

The gear selector and speed control move easily and smoothly

Check the boat has oars as a secondary means of propulsion

## Steering

The engine tiller is free to move through its range and there is no play in the system

## Fuel tank

The tank should be strapped or fixed into the boat so that it cannot move,

The tank vent should be open

The tank should contain sufficient fuel the planned activity (and some to spare)

Fuel pipes are installed so that they cannot be trodden on or be a tripping hazard

There are no fuel leaks

## Mooring and other ropes

Ropes should be secured out of the water so that they cannot foul the propeller.