



AVON COUNTY ROWING CLUB – EQUIPMENT RULES APRIL 2019

The Club strives to ensure that its equipment is both functional and safe. Rowing equipment is often expensive and inconvenient to repair, particularly when it has to be taken to, and collected from, the original boat builder. Below are the rules the Committee has agreed for the use and care of equipment.

All members are requested and required to please note the following Rules and act accordingly

1. Damage

- 1.1 All damage should be noted and reported - A damage report book is situated on the table in Bay 1, near the signout book.
- 1.2 If damage occurs and the Captain or another Committee member does not know about it, repair may be delayed. Please inform a member of the Committee.
- 1.3 Unreported damage and wear could lead to a boat being unsafe - broken heel restraints or bow ball could place you or others at risk.
- 1.4 If damage or injury occurs, a written report may be needed for insurance purposes. If you are involved, please keep a note of the relevant details such as date/time/circumstances/location/others involved/witnesses etc.
- 1.5 If damage makes a boat unsafe or unusable, please ensure that the boat is marked or labelled appropriately and visibly on the rack so that it is not used.

2. Safety

- 2.1 You must check your equipment before you go afloat - as a minimum you should check bow ball, heel restraints, the quick-release pull cord on shoes, the hull, and buoyancy compartment covers. Check that blade collars and adjustable blade handles are secure. Rudder, top and rigger nuts should also be checked. Please read the British Rowing Water Safety Code.

3. Privately owned boats

Owners of private boats are asked to ensure that their property conforms to the same safety standards as club boats.

4. Care

- 4.1 Please try to move, lift and store equipment with consideration for you,

your crew, others and the equipment itself. Do not hesitate to ask for help carrying boats

- 4.2 Please wipe all boats after outings. This is the time to check for damage.
- 4.3 If you change riggers – for example from sculling to sweep - please store the surplus riggers at the rear of the boathouse. Please do not leave them anywhere else.
- 4.4 Please do not use “Gaffer” or parcel tape on boats or blades - PVC insulation tape is OK.
- 4.5 Boats should be stored with gates closed, to prevent damage to boats on adjacent racks.

5. Rigging set-up

- 5.1 Do not adjust the rig on boats and blades without prior approval from the Captain.

6. Appropriate use of equipment

- 6.1 When taking blades or boats please ensure that they are appropriate and available for you. A blade and boat list is displayed on the noticeboard between Bays 1 and 2. Privately owned blades are stored in Bay 4.
- 6.2 Please note that the boathouse contains boats that are privately owned (racked at the rear of Bays 3 and 4), or are for specific use only. If you are in any doubt please check with the Captain or a Committee Member before taking any equipment.
- 6.3 Please use appropriate tools when rigging boats. Ratchet and adjustable spanners should not normally be used. It is important not to overtighten any of the nuts. A half turn with the rigger spanner after reaching finger tight is sufficient, otherwise the plates are damaged.

7 Racing at Regattas and Heads

- 7.1 If you are entered at an event it is your responsibility to ensure that you know that a boat is available; how it is to be transported to the event; and that your crew is available to de-rig and load the boat, and to unload and rereg it on its return to the boathouse.
- 7.2 It is very important that boats that have been taken to events are re-rigged upon return to the boathouse. This ensures that being stored inappropriately does not damage them, any missing bits such as seats or riggers are quickly identified and the boats are available for others to use.