

Putney Town Rowing Club – Protocol for rowing outside hours of daylight

Rowing at night involves increased risk. The night-time rowing protocol explains how this risk is managed at Putney Town RC.

Dawn/twilight rowing: The 20 minutes before sunrise and the 20 minutes after sunset. This night-time rowing protocol applies in addition to the club's standard safety procedures.

Night rowing: From 20 minutes after sunset until 20 minutes before sunrise. This night-time rowing protocol applies in addition to the club's standard safety procedures.

Dawn/twilight rowing

During the **20 minutes before sunrise** and the **20 minutes after sunset** there is some natural light and so the risk is less than during darkness. During these times rowing may take place on the following basis:

- The steers-person is steer-certed
- Boat lights must be visible for 800m, and bright clothing is worn
- A coach is in attendance

Any non steer-certed steers, or crews without a coach in attendance must boat after sunrise and be off the water before sunset.

Night rowing

Night rowing is any rowing more than 20 minutes before sunrise or more than 20 minutes after sunset. **Night rowing is only by Captain's Permission**, which must be requested in advance. Permission will be considered on the following basis:

- Only eights, fours and quads will be permitted
- Experienced Tideway steers and crew
- Accompanied by an experienced Tideway coach/launch driver:
 - For each coxless four/quad, there must be one launch
 - For coxed boats, one launch may accompany two rowing boats, but only if of similar speed
- Subject to the tide status (see below)

The primary responsibility of the coach at night-time is to assist the steers in safe navigation

- The steers and coach should undertake a risk assessment together and agree the outing plan beforehand
- Boat lights must be visible for 800m, and bright clothing is worn
- Rowing boat(s) and launch are to remain in close proximity throughout the outing. Rowing boat(s) must be within hearing distance of the coach at all times
- The rowing boat(s) must stop if the launch stops for any reason
- A mobile phone is to be carried on both launch and rowing boat(s)
- The console driven launches are to be used, or otherwise two people must be in the launch

Night rowing is not permitted in the 90 minutes before low tide and in the 45 minutes after low tide

The following variations apply:

- When the black ebb tide flag is showing, there is to be no rowing in the three hours before low tide and in the 90 minutes after low tide
- When the amber ebb tide flag is showing, the pre-outing risk assessment (for an ebb tide outing) must also include the captain or other senior and experienced steers club member, who is not taking part in the outing
- No night time rowing is permitted on the ebb tide if the red ebb tide flag is showing.

Rowing is not permitted during the following times:

	3 hours before		90 minutes after
	90 minutes before	LOW	45 minutes after
	90 minutes before, with external risk assessment input	TIDE	45 minutes after
	NO ROWING ON EBB TIDE		45 minutes after