

**River Conditions Risk Assessment and guide - 14th Richmond Scout Boating Centre**

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 Last Update: 5th March 2026

acknowledgment: Based on Risk Assessment table from Twickenham Rowing Club (with permission)

Notes: All coxes for Young people (<18) need to hold valid Scout "Adventurous Activity" Pulling Permit  
 All coxes for older Scout Members need to hold valid Scout "Adventurous Activity" Pulling Permit  
 All Coxes for Senior crews (>18) require Scout Pulling permit, L1/L2 British Rowing Coach or significant experience- permission of Centre Manager

Key	
	No Special restrictions
	Experienced crews smaller boats
	Experienced Crew Large boats ( rowing should keep above Twickenham Bridge)
	Advise no Rowing (Power with "L2 RYA power" or experienced groups -permission of Centre Manager)

PLA Ebb Warning Flags

RED no HPV craft
Yellow - Experienced crews only
Black - OK but watch depth

Environment Agency see for full description <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/river-thames-current-river-conditions>

Red Boards- No craft should navigate
Yellow Increasing - No HPV to navigate, Power with caution and find safe mooring
Yellow Increasing - No HPV to navigate, Power with caution

**RiverFlow rate measured at Kingston Hogsmill in CUMecs - cubic metres /second**

Risk for River Flow to be added to Wind and Visibility for overall score

		Risk Score	0	1	2	3	4	5	Notes					
Tidal Status	Flood(incoming) 2h or less before HW	<100	100-150	150-200	200-250	250-280	>280		Tidal Curtain open, Flood will neutralise fluvial flow of river					
	Ebb (Flowing out) 2h or less after HW (or "RunOff period)	<20	20-50	50-100	100-140	140-160	>160		Tidal Curtain open, Fluvial flow plus tidal flow					
	2h or more after HW -> Richmond tidal curtain closed	<50	50-75	75-120	120-150	150-280	>280		normal fluvial flow of river					
									River level is maintained , so normal fluvial flow(see above)					
									Tidal Curtain is the Richmond Half Tide Lock river gates					

## Wind Conditions and Direction (use Gust figures) Km/h

Risk for River Flow to be added to Wind and Visibility for overall score

	Risk Score	0	1	2	3	4	5	Notes
Wind Gus W/SW		Light (<50)	Windy (50-60)	Strong (60-70)	>70 score 5	>70 score	Storm(>70)	
E/NE		Breeze (<40)	Light Wind (40-50)	Windy (50-60)	>60 score5	>60 score	Strong(>60)	

**weather/Visibility conditi visibility in m**

**Risk for River Flow to be added to Wind, Weather and Visibility for overall score**

		Risk Score	0	1	2	3	4	5	Notes
Visibility	Fog/rain/mist		>250m	100-250				<100	Distance from Turks pontoon to downstream Corporation Island is 250m
				Lights required					Distance from Turks Pontoon to upstram Corporation Island is 100m
Lighting	Day		Overcast	Overcast twilight		Night			
				Lights Required		Lights Required			
Hot Weather	Temperature					32-38		>38c	
Storms						Squalls		Lightning	

	Total Risk Score	0	1	2	3	4	5 and greater
Crew/Cox/Boat							
Novice under 10 (beavers/ Cub Scouts)							
Junior 10-15 (Scouts) Novice							
Explorer 15-18 Novice							
Adult Novice							
Experienced Crews -with Adults							
Power Craft (with Novice passengers)							
Power Craft ( safety /maintenance crew)							