



# Safe Rowing Rule

Subject	<b>Safety / Coaching Launch Pre-Use Checks</b>		
Rule number	13	Version	2
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Launches are used as safety boats and for coaching.

The checks below should be made a launch is used to ensure the launch is 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 any of these are missing, then report missing equipment and consider whether it is safe to use the launch.

## 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.
- Carefully lift engine in/out of the launch, consider if two people are needed.

The motor should be fixed securely 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 checks

The tank is strapped or fixed into the boat so that it cannot move.

The tank vent is open.

The tank contains 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.