

Ross-on-Wye Angling Club - Bailiffing Risk Assessment

| Hazard | Person(s) at risk | Potential Consequences | Existing Control Measures | Likelihood (L,M or H) | Severity (L,M or H) | Overall Risk Rating | Recommendations to further control risk |
|--|-------------------|--|---|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| Person / persons fishing without permission or conducting fish theft | ROWAC Bailiff | Confrontation with unauthorised anglers / poachers | Experienced bailiff must exercise own discretion when approaching persons suspected of fishing illegally or poaching. Bailiff to carry mobile phone so assistance can be summoned. Ring police on 101 for non-emergencies or 999 if a crime is in progress. | Low | Medium | Medium | Be polite and courteous at all times and recognise signs of potential conflict. If the response is favourable bailiff may, at their discretion, approach the persons with the intention of asking them to leave. Should the response seem confrontational, maintain distance, request the person(s) leave. Report to committee ASAP. Do not get involved in argument. At all times maintain a safe distance and have an escape route planned |
| Bad weather & floods | ROWAC Bailiff | Slips, trips and falls on river bank | Wear appropriate clothing and footwear for conditions. Take extra care on steep, wet muddy banks, especially following a flood. Personal assessment of conditions. | Medium | High | Medium | Avoid the water edge. Consider wearing a life jacket. Suspend bailiffing duties if conditions are particularly poor. |
| Carrying out bailiffing duties in darkness | ROWAC Bailiff | Potential for accidents in remote locations | Bailiff to carry mobile phone so assistance can be summoned. | Medium | High | Medium | Bailiff to notify another person where they are going and likely return time. Carry a torch if their duties are likely to extend into hours of darkness. |
| Working Alone | ROWAC Bailiff | Medical emergencies or accidents in potentially remote areas | Bailiff to carry mobile phone so assistance can be summoned. | Medium | High | Medium | Preferably patrol in pairs. Bailiff to notify another person where they are going and likely return time. |
| Weil's disease (leptospirosis) - spread in urine of rats, mice, cows, and dogs | ROWAC Bailiff | Serious illness - potentially life threatening in extreme cases. | Wash hands after contact with river water and cover all cuts. | Low | High | Medium | Good hygiene. Recommend carrying medicated wipes or antiseptic spray. |
| Animals (horses, cattle, dogs) | ROWAC Bailiff | Being trampled or bitten | Use recognised pathways. Avoid contact / confrontation whenever possible. | Low | Medium | Low | Make personal assessment of risk and if in doubt, avoid dogs and livestock. |
| Noxious plants - e.g Giant Hogweed has toxic sap. Stinging Nettles. Brambles | ROWAC Bailiff | Severe blistering / stings | Avoid contact. Report to sightings of Giant Hogweed to ROWAC committee. Safety bulletin issued to raise awareness of Giant Hogweed. | Low | Medium | Low | Regular bank maintenance by ROWAC work parties |
| Assessed by Adrian Williams on behalf of the ROWAC committee. April 2024 | | | | | | | Revision: 1 |