

Monmouth Rowing Club	
Flood Plan	
Adopted: November 2025	
Revision: 1	

1.0. Communications

- 1.1. River level data is provided by Natural Resources Wales [NRW] for the Monmouth area [and, importantly, Builth Wells]; the Environment Agency issues similar for other Wye towns in England [such as Hereford & Ross]. Both organisations provide access to their monitoring station data, which we can use to predict forthcoming floods/water levels, these can be accessed via the MRC website [see links below].
- 1.2. Natural Resources Wales [NRW] provides text and voicemail alerts when floods are expected in Monmouth; it is free to sign-up to the alerts. An alert is also issued when the flood gates are to close, often with little warning. It should be noted that once the gates are closed, vehicles and trailers cannot be moved easily off the flood plain, as the path through the fields can be difficult to drive through/under water in wet weather.
- 1.3. The Club maintains a WhatsApp Flood Response Group, which is open to all members to join. It aims to share flood information and views on how to respond, allows us to quickly marshal help to move equipment before and after a flood, and marshal help for the post flood clean up. Contact the Chair or Secretary if you cannot access the group.
- 1.4. River Wye heights and flood warning information at Monmouth are predicted in flood warnings and can be accessed by MRC members via our website [tab is "Community"]; you will also be able to see the live streaming of the river level on the steps. Link is:

[River Webcam | Monmouth Rowing Club](#)
- 1.5. We use upstream data to help us understand the level of threat and timing of river height peaks at Monmouth. Links to three key sites we use can be found via the link above. or

[Builth Wells: Wye at Builth Wells - River levels, rainfall and sea data](#)

[Hereford: River Wye level at Hereford Bridge - GOV.UK](#)

[Ross: River Wye level at Ross On Wye - GOV.UK](#)
- 1.6. We anticipate at least matching the peaks at each of the upstream locations [36-48hrs after Builth, 24-36hrs after Hereford, and 12-24hrs after Ross]. In the past we would match the heights at Builth, but more recently we have peaked above the Builth levels and tend to track closer to those at Hereford. This is not an exact science, flood risk increases if there is a significant flow on the Monnow, causing the Wye to slow down/back up.



- 1.7. Unfortunately, the frequency of flooding is increasing. Flood resilience work has been undertaken at the Club, including the moving of electrical sockets, the use of PIRs in place of light switches and the replacement of old wooden partitions in the showers/toilets. Making the ground floor flood proof would be a significant expense, and questionable in terms of effectiveness.
- 1.8. Members can do our bit by making sure the ground floor is kept clear of “lost property, and by keeping the medical room clear of junk.

2.0. Key River Heights

- 2.1. The key river heights to be aware of are approximately as follows:

Gym floor	4.20 metres
Dry access to club	4.60 metres
Changing room floor	4.60 metres
Wellie depth to club	4.80 metres
Changing room benches	5.00 metres
Top of gym ramp	5.15 metres
Lowest rack in the compound	5.20 metres
Windowsills	6.00 metres
Electrical sockets	6.20 metres
Three racks in the compound	6.50 metres

- 2.2. The highest recorded river level at Monmouth was 7.15m in 2020, very slightly below the height of the first floor.



Actions at Anticipated River Heights

4.20 metres	☐ Switch off sewage pumps [control panel in boathouse. ☐ Drainage bungs need inserting with concrete blocks/weights on bungs to hold them in for a "light flood [this keeps the water silt-free and much easier to clean up]. ☐ All equipment in the Gym removed. • Ergs/Static Bikes to Lounge. • Weights & other training equipment to upstairs. • All notice boards to upstairs. ☐ Floor of medical room cleared.
4.60 metres	☐ Any remaining weight equipment in changing rooms move to the boat house. ☐ Clear downstairs floors, including around toilets.
5.00 metres	☐ Lowest boats in the compound racks to trailer and remove trailer to safety.
5.60 metres	☐ All shelves in medical room cleared room. ☐ Electrical supply to downstairs turned off at the mains, remove further boats from compound racks to second trailer and remove to safety. ☐ Ensure any launches in the compound have bungs in, and are tethered to a fence, or move into the boat house.
>5.65 metres	☐ Remove further boats from the compound.

3.0. Cleaning After a Flood

- 3.1. Use the river water pump to clear mud from around the club/hard standing/steps.
- 3.2. Use a low power jet wash to clean walls and floors AS SOON AS POSSIBLE after the flood before the mud dries.
- 3.3. Squeegee the resulting water into the drains. Use VAXs to pick-up the remaining water.
- 3.4. Clean and flush all sinks and toilets [remember to turn the sewage pumps on first].

4.0. Policy Accessibility and Review

- 4.1. This policy will be available online to all members and prospective members. This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as needed.

Date of most recent review: 13 Nov 2025