

GDR Cold Water Guidelines

If the water is below 40°F (4.4°C), then rowing is not recommended.

If the water is between 40 and 50°F (4.4 and 10°C), then Cold Water Guidelines should be followed , specifically:

Launches when water between 40 and 50°F:

- (1) Everyone in a launch must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type I, II or III PFD.
- (2) Every launch must carry:
 - space blankets for largest crew on the water,
 - PFDs for largest crew on the water,
 - cell phone,
 - horn, whistle or megaphone with a siren,
 - anchor & two oars,
 - throw rope.

Adults when water between 40 and 50°F:

- (1) Only rowers with more than 3 months on-the-water experience should row without a launch.
- (2) Singles and pairs should wear a PFD.
- (3) Singles, pairs and doubles should be accompanied by a launch, or at least one other boat, in close proximity.
- (4) Rowers who have been in the water should not continue rowing, except to return to the boathouse.

Common Sense:

Just because you are “permitted” to do something, does not mean that you should. Always consider all other factors, such as wind, river height and crews experience. If in doubt, don’t go out.

Scope:

Cold Water Guidelines are voluntary recommendations for all boats associated with rowing on Island Park, including privately owned shells.