We used heuristic evaluation.

Visibility of system status - Due to time constraints we weren't able to write up any of the system status features. Since there are a limited number of pages this shouldn't hopefully cause a major issue. The major bottleneck in this context would be the data retrieval from APIs, which in hindsight, a notification to the user about the status of data retrieval may have been useful.

The app currently does not implement the desired progression indicators, improvements to the design would be the inclusion of a progress bar when waiting for a record to upload, and whilst records are displayed when information is correct, some formal confirmation, like a pop up could better assure users.

Match to the real world - Much of the complexities of the program are hidden to the user, reducing their need for technical or specific knowledge, with the option to go into more detail about rowing technicalities, but since our users are at least familiar with rowing and the performance impacts this shouldn't be an issue.

The design uses simple titles to ensure there is no technical jargon to confuse users. The records icon could be updated to be a book to more clearly indicate the users the purpose of the button (navigating to the records page)

User control and freedom- The home button is always available in the top right allowing the user to return to the main screen. We could implement a button to delete records to accompany the "add" button, which will improve the UX.

Recognition over Recall - Our app's design is intuitive. We have icons to navigate the app, and not too many screens so the app's design isn't convoluted.

We have used conventional icons in order to navigate to and between different pages, and

Flexibility and Efficiency:

The app has been implemented such that regardless of experience using it, the important features are easy to navigate to; the app opens on the main page which contains the main features applicable to a novice: weather information, wind conditions, UV conditions and flag information, and places the records information into a toolbar such that it is easily accessible for experienced users but not directly presented to novice users to simplify the experience, as well as scrolling for more detailed information. Improvements could be allowing advanced users to incorporate their calendar so that rowing data automatically saves for those dates.

Documentation and tools- Externally created a READ_ME file which explains how to use the app and all the features. If we were to be rolling out this app to users we could implement this within the app as a help button.

Aesthetics and Minimalist Design-

The design uses the Gestalt principles, such as grouping together similar objects and using simple, recognisable icons to make it both aesthetic for the user and making it clearer as to how to use it. Removing the detail of certain areas to a second screen ensures that the home screen is not cluttered removing unnecessary detail for any given user.

Consistency and standards - The majority of standards will be based upon users' knowledge of other weather apps, such as what the symbols mean and how the data is presented. For example, we used standard images of weather states such as sunny and cloudy, and standard concepts such as wind and temperature.

The layout of each page is consistent- the home button remains in the top right corner for backwards navigation, aesthetically the different pages are consistent with each other, following a horizontal layout of information.

Need for recovery and diagnosis of errors - Mostly a weather app doesn't have cases where errors are an issue. The only place where we could improve is in the records section of our app. A potential improvement is that we could have a help button explaining all the parts of the app which would help users avoid making mistakes from not understanding.

Error prevention - Clear icons ensure the user doesn't misunderstand what is being displayed. When the user is entering records, the data types are checked, however the data should be sanitised to ensure that legitimate dates are entered, this can be facilitated by prompting the user and overlining the box in red to indicate an incorrect input. Additionally, if  a user attempts to input unrealistic times or tries to enter 2 records at the exact same date and time then we could see these as errors and not allow them to be inputted.

Did you need to deviate from your lo-fi design in any other way? If so, why? (150 words max)

Certain methods that we thought could be useful in displaying such as UV index or an overall performance effect based on wind we ended up not including due to the fact that it increased the complexity of the project beyond our capabilities in time constraints. It also would have potentially cluttered the screen and upon re-evaluation we thought that the right decision was to not include these in the current design.

From the evaluation we have learnt the importance of icons and widgets to ensure that any user regardless can use our app. We have designed a very aesthetically pleasing app that follows key design patterns, is clean and user-friendly making it easy to understand and intuitive. Overall we learnt the importance of simplicity and useful, necessary features without overcomplicating and convoluting a design.