

Risk Assessment Shropshire Paddlesport



Date:	19.05.26
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Assessor's Name:	Bill Norris	Review Date:	19.05.27
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Description of Assessment:	Session at Club House, covering all craft (kayak, canoe, SUP, raft, bell boat)
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Location Details:	Queens Head, Montgomery Canal. Boundary set as A5 Bridge to Farm Bridge. Any paddling outside this area to be accompanied by Instructor / Leader or Coach
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What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing to control the risks?	What further action do you need to take to control the risks?	Who needs to carry out the action?	When is the action needed by?	Done
Injury or drowning while paddling	Participants and Volunteers Drowning, Secondary drowning,	Buoyancy aids (BA)/Personal Flotation Device (PFD) appropriately sized and fitted Appropriate First Aid kits available In BA store. WiFi calling available and phone in Office for emergency use Safety Brief at start on session	Inexperienced paddlers to be supervised at all times	Instructors and Coaches	At start of session and on going dynamic assessment	
Other water Users	Participants and volunteers Contact injuries	Avoid other water users including swimmers, anglers, powered & unpowered craft Interaction between craft eg rescue training to be supervised by suitably qualified Leader /	Part of Safety Brief	Instructors and Coaches	As above	

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		coach				
Microorganisms (infection)	Participants and volunteers. Leptospirosis, Viral/bacterial illness Blue green algae	Participants advised to wash their hands before eating Discourage capsize or swimming practice after heavy rainfall	Part of Safety Brief	Instructors and Coaches	As above	
Slip, Trips and Falls	Participants and volunteers	All members to be briefed at the beginning of activity Care to be taken at launching/egress points to reduce the possibility of slips/trips while entering/exiting boats SUP paddlers to wear helmets Suitable footwear to be worn to protect against submerged hazards in the canal	Part of Safety Brief	Instructors and Coaches	As above	
Manual Handling	Participants and Volunteers	Members briefed on good manual handling techniques for boats/kit. Tying boats onto cars is left to the discretion of individual car owners Members to be advised to share carrying boats	Part of Safety Brief	Instructors and Coaches	As above	

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Hypothermia & Hyperthermia	Participants and Volunteers	Members briefed at start of session as appropriate for weather conditions,	Part of Safety Brief	Instructors and Coaches	As above	
Change in Weather Conditions	Participants and Volunteers	Members suitably equipped for prevailing conditions and groups	Part of Safety Brief	Instructors and Coaches	As above	
Lightning strike	Participants and Volunteers	The safest option is to check in advance and not to get on the water if thunder and lightning are forecast. Delay or cancel session.	If thunder and lightning are audible/visible, there is a risk of a lightning strike. Get off the water	Instructors and Coaches	As above	
Pre-existing medical conditions and recent injuries	Participants and Volunteers	Understanding who is on the trip and their needs.	Emergency contact details collected on the day of the trip. Participants requested to disclose any medical conditions in confidence to the Trip Leader(s)	Instructors and Coaches	As above	
Safeguarding Failure	Participants and Volunteers	Compliance with Club & British Canoeing Safeguarding policies and procedures	Action to be taken by Directors if appropriate	Instructors and Coaches	As above	
Illness & fatigue	Participants and Volunteers	Paddlers to inform leader	First Aider to provide appropriate support	Instructors and Coaches	As above	

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Equipment: unserviceable	Participants and Volunteers	All members encourage to report defective equipment as part of Safety Brief	If identified take out of use, mark as defective and email all coaches	Instructors and Coaches	As above	
Defective Building / Facilities	Participants and Volunteers	All members encourage to report concerns as part of Safety Brief	If identified take out of use, mark as defective and email all coaches	Instructors and Coaches	As above	
Locks	Participants and Volunteers	All craft to be portaged around locks except Bell Boat. Bell Boat must be helmed by qualified Helm if transiting a lock		Instructors and Coaches	As above	

Office use only (to be completed by a risk assessment checker if selected for sampling)

Checked by:		Position:		Date:	
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