

GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT – Ulverston CC Paddling Activities

Activity : Paddlesport (kayak, canoe, sit-on-top, stand-up board) **Venue :** Generic
Assessor : Barry Curley **Assessment Date :** 23 August 2019 **Review Date :** 22 August 2022

HAZARD	RISK	PEOPLE AT RISK	LIKELYHOOD	CONSEQUENCE	CONTROL MEASURES
Activity	Drowning, hypothermia, injury due to contact with equipment, etc.	Entire Group	Low	Low - High	Core skill set of competent leaders and coaches. Briefings to be given prior to any activity, group management maintained during activities and PPE correctly worn by all involved. Activity only within remit of leader qualifications or competence
Weather	Exposure to strong winds, cold, rain, etc. Hypothermia / Hyperthermia	Entire Group Individuals	Low - Medium Low - Medium	Medium - High Medium - High	Leader to check weather conditions before planning activities and adjust plan accordingly. Ongoing assessment of conditions and group dressed appropriately. Group shelter & spare clothing to be carried by leader and or individuals. Ongoing assessment of conditions and flexibility in delivery of activity as required
	Change in conditions (may be rapid) such as off-shore winds	Entire Group	Low - Medium	Low - High	
Environment	Drowning	Individual	Low	High	Clear briefings, appropriate PPE correctly used & properly fitted. Leader trained in CPR. Awareness of conditions underfoot, esp. when lifting / carrying on beaches / slipways. Advise on correct actions. Appropriate behaviour in car park / high risk areas. Awareness of wildlife; take reasonable precautions to avoid contact. Promote use of repellent / barrier creams. Regular checks for bites. Encourage regular hydration. Leader to consider carrying spare fluids for group use.
	Injury due to Slips, Trips and Falls	Entire Group	Low – Medium	Low - High	
	Injury due to collision with vehicles	Entire Group	Medium	Medium - High	
	Injury due to Local wildlife	Entire Group	Low	Low - Medium	
	Illness due to Insect bites	Entire Group	Low	Low - Medium	
Illness due to dehydration	Entire Group	Low - Medium	Medium		

Equipment	Injury from poor manual handling	Entire Group	Medium	Medium - High	Adequate briefings, use warm-up routines. Appropriate numbers to carry canoes & kayaks. Loads broken down and relayed. Club equipment to be checked by Leader prior to use; personal kit to be checked by user and advice sought as necessary. Ongoing checks during activity
	Injury due to poor / faulty equipment	Entire Group	Low	Low - High	
People	Separation of group	Entire Group	Low	Low	Adequate briefings & group management. Head count to account for all present.
	Behaviour of other paddling groups	Entire Group	Low	Medium - High	Adequate briefing, planning, group management and avoidance measures
	Collision with other boat or water users	Entire Group	Low	Medium - High	Adequate briefings, leader and individuals to maintain awareness throughout. Use collision avoidance protocols
Group Kit	Leaders to ensure adequate First Aid Kit(s), Group Shelter(s), Repair kit, Communications (Mobile Telephone(s), VHF Radio(s), EPIRB(s), etc) available. Leader to ask group members to consider carrying spare clothing, food and drink and to consider carrying same for group use.				
Group member kit	Individuals to consider carrying food and drink, additional waterproofs, spare clothing, suncream, sunglasses or any additional equipment which will assist in their safe inclusion in club activities .				

Additional notes: Note that this is a generic Risk Assessment and site and/or activity specific Risk Assessments are to be undertaken by club activity leaders to compliment it. When paddling in the marine environment tidal streams can be very powerful and fickle with tidal effects (overfalls, rips and eddy lines) developing and changing rapidly. Wind is a major factor in all aspects of paddling. Due consideration must be given by leaders AND participants to all environmental factors at the planning stage and diligent observation of conditions and changing conditions must be maintained during activities.

This Risk Assessment Form is an assessment of generic perceived hazards only, their potential impact and steps to be taken to mitigate them. Ongoing assessment of perceived hazards at any given venue will be made during club activities and the Activity Leader is empowered and expected to take whatever actions deemed necessary to reduce any risk arising from such hazards.