

Leeds Canoe Club Risk Assessment

River Aire Sessions

General Information

Date of risk assessment	March 23		
Activities	Paddling activities on the River Aire between Kirkstall Abbey and the bottom of the island below Boomer and St. Anne's mill weirs where the river joins back together		
Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment			
Likelihood (L)	1 = Low	2 = Medium	3 = High
Severity (S)	1 = Slight	2 = Serious	3 = Major
Risk level = Likelihood X Severity			
Overall Assessment of Risk			
Overall risk level with existing controls	Low		
Overall risk level after all actions completed	Low		
Is this acceptable?	Yes		
Date assessment due to be reviewed	April 24		

March 23 reviewed by Duncan - safety officer

Leeds Canoe Club Risk Assessment

River Aire Sessions

Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

Hazard	People at risk	Existing controls	Risk level (RL)			OK?	Recommendations
			L	S	RL		
Drowning	Participants	<p>Adequate levels of supervision at all times.</p> <p>Ensure all coaches/leaders are working within their ability/remit.</p> <p>Before participants get on the water ask them if they have any medical issues or injuries.</p> <p>Discuss with participants all foreseeable hazards, including what to do in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>Participant's buoyancy aids should be correctly fitted.</p>	1	3	3	Yes	trips to be run by remitted leaders approved by committee

March 23 reviewed by Duncan - safety officer

Leeds Canoe Club Risk Assessment

River Aire Sessions

Children (under 18's) and vulnerable adults	Under 18's and vulnerable adults	<p>Children and vulnerable adult protection policy and procedure in place.</p> <p>Parental consent for all under 18s (part of membership form, or paper consent form for non-members).</p> <p>Parents/carers to be responsible for getting children/vulnerable adults to and from sessions. They should not arrive unaccompanied unless with prior agreement from session leader.</p>	1	3	3	Yes	
Injury (due to inappropriate use of equipment)	Participants	Adequate levels of supervision at all times.	1	2	2	Yes	
Injury (due to alcohol)	Participants	Consuming alcohol immediately prior to paddling is not advisable. Anyone obviously drunk will be turned away.	1	3	3	Yes	

March 23 reviewed by Duncan - safety officer

Leeds Canoe Club Risk Assessment

River Aire Sessions

Minor injuries on the water	Participants	<p>Helmets are mandatory for all kayaking. Optional for open boating on flat water.</p> <p>Helmets should be a good fit, and properly secured.</p> <p>A first aid kit is available in the clubhouse.</p> <p>Leaders working away from the flat water outside the clubhouse advised to carry their own first aid kits.</p>	1	2	2	Yes	
Infections, leptospirosis (Weil's disease) and other water borne diseases.	Participants	<p>Participants made aware of dangers of leptospirosis and other waterborne diseases.</p> <p>Recommend participants shower after paddling, and/or wash hands before eating.</p>	1	3	3	Yes	
Hypothermia	Participants	<p>All participants should wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions.</p> <p>Coaches/leaders should ensure that paddlers do not get on the water in unsuitable clothing.</p> <p>Ensure that a first aider is available at all times.</p>	1	3	3	Yes	

March 23 reviewed by Duncan - safety officer

Leeds Canoe Club Risk Assessment

River Aire Sessions

Giant hogweed	Participants	Paddlers are made aware of giant hogweed and its dangers.	1	3	3	Yes	
Trapping (caused by trees)	Participants	Ensure that paddlers are aware of the hazards on the water and what to do in the event of an emergency.	2	2	4	Yes	
Entrapment in canoes and kayaks	Participants	Capsize brief given prior to participants first getting on the water, including use of spray deck if appropriate.	1	3	3	Yes	
Heat/sun stroke	Participants	Drinking water available. First aider to be available at all times.	1	3	3	Yes	
Changing weather conditions	Participants	Weather forecast is checked before the event and changing weather conditions are monitored throughout the event. If the weather becomes unsuitable, paddling will be stopped.	1	2	2	Yes	
Water conditions	Participants	If the water conditions become unsuitable, paddling will be stopped.	1	3	3	Yes	
Weirs	Participants	All weirs are only paddled in the appropriate water levels, i.e. below the wooden step at the Club.	1	3	3	Yes	
Manual handling	Participants	Participants are instructed in safe manual handling techniques.	1	2	2	Yes	

March 23 reviewed by Duncan - safety officer

Leeds Canoe Club Risk Assessment

River Aire Sessions

Slips, trips and falls	participants	Horseplay discouraged. Clearing of steps prior to session.	1	2	2	Yes	
Flood works (wall +ramp)	All users	Members to use ramp to access waterside	1	2	2	yes	Advice members correct manual handling for boats placing them on wall in aid of accessing river or carrying over the ramp

March 23 reviewed by Duncan - safety officer