

Date of Assessment Nov 2009

Assessment Review Date Nov 2010

Signed

Date

Activity	Club Sessions - all year	Location/Site	Club "home" stretch of the Calder. That is, just above Puzzle weir down to the egress steps below slalom course.	What further action is necessary to control the risk
Hazard	Who might be harmed	Is the risk adequately controlled		
Drowning	Club members And Guests	Buoyancy Aids to be worn at all times on the water. BAs to comply with CEA standards. BAs undergo flotation monitoring standards laid out in BCU guidelines. Kayaks are also monitored to the same BCU standard. BAs sized and fitted for individuals. Checks are made by leaders. Weather is monitored to prepare for sudden rise in water level. Coaches/ Leaders are approved by Committee to lead the sessions - see below for rules applying to the approved list.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Leader judgement calls to be upheld.
		<u>Extra precautions for the white water section</u> (Slalom course and between Puzzle weir and foot bridge) :- All paddlers in the group to have at least done a full capsized drill if they are not of one star standard or above. Recommended No-Go water levels:- a) there must be dry footing at egress steps for <u>any</u> session to take place, b) no-go for beginners if water flowing over full length of the long weir.		
Hypothermia/ Hyperthermia	Club members And Guests	All to wear warm clothing as appropriate. Leader makes judgement of length of session.		

Unintentional overtaken by darkness	Club members And Guests	Return to below County Bridge at dusk. Use river lights for slalom course after dusk. River lights to be properly maintained	See below for intentional after dark paddling
Head/Spinal injuries	Club members And Guests	Helmets to be worn at all times - checks are made by leaders. Helmets comply with BCU guidelines and are in good condition., checked by equipment officer annually.	
Entrapment	Club members And Guests	Tree debris removed from main flow of river. Group briefed on avoiding overhanging branches, and 'feet up' defensive swimming.	
Water Quality	Club members And Guests	Danger from sharp objects eg broken glass and metal on river bed. Group to be briefed about wearing sensible footwear. Danger from water-borne organisms eg Weils disease. All encouraged to wash after paddling	

Paddling after dusk

The leader or coach must, at all times, know where each paddler is and whether they are in danger. This is more difficult in the reduced visibility after dusk, even with the river side lights on, and the risk should be managed by having smaller groups.

For classes or groups which deliberately intend to paddle after dusk, the ratios of leader or coach to paddler should be half that of the normal ratios.

For paddling above County Bridge, the leader or coach should make an assessment whether there is sufficient ambient light for the purposes of the session.

Rules applying to approved list of group leaders

The white water sections (Slalom course and between Puzzle weir and foot bridge) on the home waters are classified as Grade 2. Under the BCU qualification scheme, coaches can operate at any time on the club home waters on the whole stretch if they are BCU or UKCC L3 & above, or they are UKCC L2 with moderate water endorsement.

UKCC L1 coaches & above, and old BCU L2T coaches & above can operate on the flat water stretch.

There are members of the club who have skills and experience that the committee recognises are capable of assisting on the white water section, and are in the process of gaining coaching qualifications. A list of coaches and assistants is maintained by the committee and is published in the club house. Coached club sessions operate under the following conditions:-

White water section- L3T coaches can operate at a ratio of 1 coach to up to 6 paddlers. Otherwise, there must be at least 2 leaders from the list, of which at least one must be BCU L2 or UKCC L1 coach, the other may be a coach or an approved helper and they can operate at a ratio of 2 leaders to up to 8 paddlers.

Bank-based Coaching

This is particularly pertinent to slalom coaching, but also applies to general white water or freestyle coaching on home water.

Coaches may undertake bank based coaching of their group on the white water course based on the above ratios of coaches to paddlers. The exception to this is that a BCU Level 1 Slalom Coach (or above) is qualified to coach a group on their own from the bank.

When undertaking bank-based coaching the lead coach must undertake a risk assessment of the activity (based on the ability level of paddlers in the group and the conditions/water level) and ensure that adequate safety cover is in place for the duration of the activity and brief paddlers accordingly. This safety cover could range from additional competent paddlers acting as safety boats, the coach on bank with a throwline, or competent paddlers within the group providing safety cover

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