

HXCC Warley Moor Reservoir Risk Assessment

Date of Assessment 2 March 2021

Assessment Review Date March 2022

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Activity: Club activities sessions on Warley Moor reservoir

Hazard	Who might be harmed	Is the risk adequately controlled	What further action is necessary to control the risk
Weather Conditions	All paddlers	All club activities to be run in accordance with Club's Warley Moor Conditions Policy for the prevailing weather conditions. Sessions to be led by appropriately qualified Coaches/ Leaders approved by Committee – see below for rules applying to the approved list. Coaches must be familiar with the Conditions Policy and must check conditions prior to sessions starting. Recent / forecast weather to be monitored and sessions shortened / amended as required	Coach Induction and annually policy updates. Leader judgement calls to be upheld.
Manual Handling	All paddlers and parents/ volunteers	All paddlers to be taught good lifting techniques and used throughout activities. Young people to carry kayaks in pairs (with other paddlers / parents). Team lifts / assistance to be used as appropriate. Additional care to be taken carrying and loading boats in windy weather.	Good practice to be reinforced by coaches throughout all activities
Drowning	All paddlers	Participants should be able to swim in canoeing clothing (inc Buoyancy Aid) Buoyancy Aids complying with CE standards to be worn at all times. BAs to be sized and fitted for individuals. Checks are made by leaders. BAs undergo flotation checks annually as laid out in BC guidelines. Club sessions to be led by appropriately qualified Coaches/ Leaders approved by Committee – see below for rules applying to the approved list. There must always be at least three people (boats) paddling. <i>(This can be reduced to 2 only when the sailing club's safety boat is on the water during sailing sessions).</i>	Coaches to ensure all paddlers wear buoyancy aids. Coaches to ensure minimum numbers
Hypothermia / Hyperthermia	All paddlers	All to wear warm clothing as appropriate to the weather conditions – coaches to advise paddlers accordingly. <i>Note:</i> water temperature is very low all year Leader to make a judgement on shortening / cancelling sessions.	Coach advice and judgement calls to be upheld.
Equipment	All paddlers and parents/ volunteers	All equipment to be checked regularly as per Equipment Policy. Coaches to visually inspect equipment prior to use. Any defective equipment to be clearly marked and put out of use and	Ongoing inspection and removal/reporting of defective equipment

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		reported to Equipment Officer for repair / replacement. Coaches to check and replace defective airbags in kayaks.	
Head injuries during capsizes	All paddlers	Coaches to check water depth before any capsizing drills are undertaken.	Coach judgement calls to be upheld.
Entrapments	All paddlers	Ensure all paddlers know how to exit their boats prior to paddling.	Coaches to check with paddlers.
Foot Injury	All paddlers	Suitable shoes to be worn at all times to protect feet from broken glass / sharp debris.	Coaches to reinforce to all paddlers
Slips, Trips & Falls	All paddlers and spectators	Advice to be given by coaches on potential hazards especially when wet or icy.	Coaches to brief groups accordingly.
Water Quality	All paddlers	All groups (and parents) to be made aware of risk of water-borne diseases and encouraged to shower / wash after paddling. Cuts to be covered while paddling in accordance with BC guidance.	Coaches to reinforce to all paddlers
Darkness	All paddlers	Ensure adequate daylight for the proposed activity and egress the water well before dark.	Coaches to plan appropriately
Restricted visibility due to Fog / low cloud	All paddlers	Check of forecast and conditions before activity, and monitoring throughout. Where conditions are possible, coach to brief group if actions to stay in contact and if separated. Consider following edge of reservoir rather than an 'open crossing' to reduce opportunities for losing paddlers in fog.	Coach judgement on whether to continue or cancel session
Intentional Swimming	All paddlers	Swimming to only be done as part of rescue / safety training. Coaches ensure participant are suitably equipped for being in very cold water. Such training should not be done in areas where paddlers could drift into sailing areas.	Coach judgement on location used and when such activities are appropriate.
Collision between sailors or windsurfers	Paddlers and sailors	Paddlers to check what sailing activities are taking place or planned and in which parts of the reservoir. Paddlers to operate outside of these areas. All paddlers to be made aware that they should give way to those under sail.	Check sailing activities before going afloat. Coaches to brief groups to give way to sailing boats.
Spillway & Water extraction point	All paddlers	Keep clear of these areas to avoid entrapment or being washed over Spillway – located in SouthWest corner of reservoir Extraction point – approx. middle of dam wall – area is identified by railings on the dam wall	Coaches to ensure paddlers are briefed to keep clear when in the relevant areas

Approved list of coaches, leaders and helpers on Warley Moor Reservoir

In certain weather conditions Warley Moor Reservoir will exceed 'sheltered water'. The Club Committee recognises that there are members of the club who have the skills and experience to lead or assist on club sessions at the site even though they do not have the coaching/leading qualification required to have a remit in this environment.

Therefore the club committee (Coaching Officer) maintains a list of coaches and Club Activity Assistants who can operate within certain limits on Home Waters. See the **HXCC Coach and Leader Policy** for full details.

Halifax Canoe Club – Warley Moor Reservoir Map

