

Risk Assessment

Venue: Forth Canoe Club, Harrison Road, Edinburgh

Date : April 2010

What are the Hazards?	Hazard today Y/N comment	Hazard to who? Eg student / coach	Is the risk adequately controlled?	Further Action Necessary?	Review, Comments, Dates
Site Specific					
Water Temperature	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to advise students of conditions during briefing and to decide if session is safe to continue. Session activities appropriate to conditions and session cancelled if conditions are inappropriate	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Air Temperature	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to advise students of conditions during briefing and to decide if session is safe to continue. Session activities appropriate to conditions and session cancelled if conditions are inappropriate	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Wind Speed (not possible to manoeuvre the boat as desired)	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to advise students of conditions during briefing and to decide if session is safe to continue. Session activities appropriate to conditions and session cancelled if conditions are inappropriate	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Ice / entrapment	As required	Student / coach	Coach to advise students of risk if necessary. Session activities appropriate to conditions and session cancelled if conditions are inappropriate	No	Agreed by FCC committee

					April 2010
Overhead dangers – eg slalom gates / branches	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to advise students of risk if necessary	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Boats coming down the canal	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to advise students of risk and what to do if boats approach	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Floating objects / branches / underwater obstructions	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to advise students of potential risk	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Slippery steps at the put in	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to advise students of potential risk	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Weils disease	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to advise students of potential risk, and to advise washing hands after the session.	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Trip hazards	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to ensure that floor area of the boat house and surrounding is free from rubbish and other items that may pose a risk of a trip or fall. Students to clean up the site after use. Club to ensure that bins are provided and emptied regularly.	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Swans	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach briefs students about what to do if they encounter a swan.	No	Agreed by FCC

					committee April 2010
Fire	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach briefs students about fire procedure.	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Bridges	As required	Student / coach	If session will go under bridges then coach to warn students about objects being thrown from bridges.	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Boats secured safely in the boat house	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Members to ensure that boats are secured safely especially where they are stored above head height and may pose a risk of falling on someone.	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
General Risks					
Drowning	Yes (always)	Student / coach	All participants to wear a buoyancy aid. Coach to check that buoyancy aids are worn correctly and are in good working order.	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Capsize / entrapment	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to check equipment (boats/footwear). Coach able to attempt to rescue entrapped paddler.	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Capsize	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Boats fitted with buoyancy as required, coach trained to empty boats / rescue crews. Coach checks that boats are appropriate for water conditions and that activities are appropriate for the group's ability.	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Hypothermia	Yes	Student / coach	Session activities and clothing are appropriate	No	Agreed by

	(always)		for the conditions; cancel the session if clothing / activities are inappropriate for the conditions. Leader's safety equipment reflects the conditions of the group.		FCC committee April 2010
Impact injury – paddle	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to exercise proper group control	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Inherent medical risks of canoeing (blisters, joint injury, minor cuts etc)	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach's safety briefing to include disclosure of risks and highlight any specific hazards. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coach to promote safe paddling practice. • Ideally coach to be first aid qualified and to carry first aid kit. • Coach to point out the location of first aid facilities. • Coach to point out the location of an emergency phone. • Coach to ascertain if there are any medical reasons which they should be aware of. 	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Lifting injuries (including trailers and roof racks)	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach demonstrates and promotes safe lifting	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010
Collision	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach briefs group about collision risks with third parties	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010

Session parameters	Yes (always)	Student / coach	Coach to set out the physical boundaries for the session and any verbal or physical commands that will be used.	No	Agreed by FCC committee April 2010