

BCU Site and Activity Risk Assessment - BCCC Hasler Marathon 2009

Record of Risk Assessment
 Activity: - BCCC Hasler Marathon 17 May 09
 Date of Assessment:- 13th March - 2009
 Risk Assessment owner:- Howard Smith

Club/Centre:- Basingstoke Canal Canoe Club.
 Site:- Mytchett Boathouse, Canal Centre area and Basingstoke Canal
 Assessment Review Date:- March - 2010
 Signed

Author: - Jonathan Mudd (v.0.7 - 2009)

Hazard	Water Level Variance	Who Might be Harmed	Probability L/M/H	Severity L/M/H	Actions controlling / mitigating risk	Action By Whom	Special Circumstances affecting controls	Residual Risk level
Movement of cars and people in parking area	N/A	Anyone	L	H	Car marshal's support both movement and control of parking in lines allowing correct visibility of shared use. Significantly large area allows sensible distribution Organisers ensure club marathon date avoids other significant events at the Canal Centre	Marshals stationed in car park area	Adverse weather requires thought from marshals	L
Obstructions & trip hazards, collisions With canoeing equipment on land	None	Other canal & area users; towpath users (tripping, aggression, injury, falling into canal)	L	M	Announcements encourage canoeists to control kit, put kit away, not obstruct paths & towpaths Canoeists need to look all ways and take care when crossing the towpath to enter or exit the water Organisers monitoring pathways around Mytchett	Coaching team & activity organisers. Safety announcement by race organisers	Caution required in windy conditions	L
General boat handling risks	None	Canoeists, Helpers and visitors	L	M	'Best practice' lifting and handling - encouraged throughout BCU. Experienced paddlers supporting youth by ensuring carrying by two people. Monitoring by organisers supporting less experienced paddlers	Monitoring by coaching team & activity organisers	Caution required in windy conditions	L

Generic environment risks - hypothermia, sunburn, hyperthermia. (links with increased risks of dehydration in hot weather)	None.	Canoeists.	L	L	All canoeists encouraged to wear appropriate clothing and footwear & adopt use of sunscreen when appropriate Announcement by race organisers IF APPROPRIATE	Coaching team & activity Organisers.	Seasonally the risks in May are minimal	L
On water - fallen trees & floating debris; trees & bank-side plants, water-weed.	Also submerged debris at lower water levels.	Canoeists – collision, Capsize. & drowning. Cuts, bruising & hypothermia.	L	H	Canal housekeeping throughout the year - specific housekeeping of all areas used prior to the event . Course will be inspected prior to race and obstacles removed.	Canal rangers, canoeists and other volunteers. Coaching team & activity organisers	Higher risk during crowded marathons- speed and numbers. Special efforts to Stagger events	L
Oncoming craft.	None.	Canoeists – collision & capsizing; cuts, bruising; hypothermia.	L	H	Announcement by race organisers - Activity leaders and canoeists encouraged to be aware of other canal users and 'rule of road' – keep right & avoid sudden manoeuvres, be aware of line-of sight restrictions/placement. Local Canal and Boat rentals are temporarily closed at key race times	Event organiser Coaching team & activity organisers.	Good weather will increase likelihood	L
Portage at Bridge with two way traffic and poor line of sight for one race only.	None.	Canoeists – falling in, capsizing, crushing. Public hit By portage boats	L	M	Canoeists encouraged to portage safely, Taking care of public concerns. Portages are only used in race with experienced paddlers. Rules of appropriate behaviour are monitored Area concerned is controlled by signage and marshals.	Coaching team & activity Organisers / marshals.	Only experienced paddlers undertake Portage Wet weather can intensify slipping risks	L
Ash Vale railway bridge is narrow with potential for two way traffic and poor line of sight.	None.	Canoeists – falling in, capsizing, boat damage	M	M	This bridge will be specifically covered in race briefings. Race modelling minimises risk of two way race traffic occurring. Area concerned is controlled by a marshal. More experienced competitors are used to dealing with obstacles during all races. Youth and Fun races turn before this area	Coaching team & activity organisers / marshals .		M

Inexperienced & junior paddlers on marathon - especially in single occupied boats.	None	Inexperienced & junior marathon/ Racing paddlers.	L	M	Race rules require that slower/ Inexperienced participants wear buoyancy aids and that their start and finish are staggered and monitored. Timing of youth events reduces risks Event organisers use marshals at turns. Water and bank based safety cover provided for under 12-year races.	Event organiser. Coaching team & activity organisers / marshal's.	Note – lower risk of entrapment in racing boats.	L
Swing bridge by Mytchett permanently open for needed public movement. Bridge being closed during race	High water may increase impact.	Canoeists - (head injury.) People on bridge whilst – entrapment of limbs during opening/ closing.	L	M	Bridge is very visible and avoided for competition. Announcement of race organisers to make canoeists aware of inherent risk. Bridge is clearly marked with warnings to keep off whilst bridge is in motion. Bridge is also locked by BWB padlock. - monitoring of Narrow-boat movement during race.	Coaching team & activity organisers	High Water requires thought in announcements.	L
Anglers lines.	None CLOSED SEASON	Canoeists - capsized; entrapment & drowning cuts.; bruising;	Nil	Nil	Canoeists encouraged to look out for fishermen, communicate appropriately and minimise disturbance: avoiding lines. Rogue anglers (as out of season) will be asked to disperse by marshals	Canoeists, coaching team & activity organisers.	Event organisers should co-ordinate with BCA/fishermen to ensure fishing match dates are avoided for events (THIS HAS BEEN DONE).	N/a
Paddlers Exhaustion / Illness / Injury	N/A	Paddlers	L	M	Emergency contact numbers available at base All canoeists understand the need to support those in distress. Marshals number identify all paddlers on Turns with a communication link to base site where First Aid available Numerous paddlers have coaching status with associated First Aid qualification	All involved	Less fit/able paddlers are on shorter distances	L
Weil's disease	None.	All paddlers.	L	H	Training and literature/notices on hygiene and specific risks around cuts.	Canoeists, coaching team & activity organisers	Particular risk under bridges and areas where rats pass.	L