

BCU Site and Activity Risk Assessment - BCCC Winter Marathon

Record of Risk Assessment		Club/Centre	Basingstoke Canal Canoe Club
Activity	BCCC Canal Challenge 3 November 2019	Site	Double loop between Runway's End and Deepcut Lock 24; start and finish at canal centre
Date of Assessment	29 October 2019	Assessment Review Date	01 April 2020
Assessment Undertaken By	Bill Hansell	Signed By	James Freemantle

Hazard	Water Level Variance	Who Might be Harmed	Risk L/M/H	Severity L/M/H	How is the Risk Controlled Generally	Action By Whom	Special Circumstances Control variance	Outcome <u>Probability</u> <u>Severity</u>
Obstructions & trip hazards, collisions with canoeing equipment on land	none	Other canal & area users; towpath users (tripping, aggression, injury, falling into canal)	L	M	Canoeists encouraged to control kit, put kit away, not obstruct paths & towpaths. Canoeists need to take care when using the towpath to enter or exit the water	Coaching team & activity organisers. Safety included in race briefing by race organisers		L
General boat handling risks	none	Canoeists, helpers and visitors	L	M	'Best practice' lifting and handling encouraged throughout BCU.	Coaching team & activity organisers		L

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Boat handling during event.	none	Anyone	L	M	Canoeists will carry boats to and from canal and at the portages. They will be reminded to be aware of other canal users.	Coaching team & activity organisers. Safety included in briefing by race organisers	Portages at Ash Lock over the road will be marshalled. Canoeists to be reminded to exercise great care when portaging at locks. Portaging protocol to be published as part of Race Rules.	L
Reduced water level at Deepcut makes canal banks higher making it harder to get in / out boats	none	Competitors	M	L	Course inspection to check water levels. Canoeists advised where lock portages maybe high / undercut.	Activity organisers	Marshall on the Deepcut flight. Competitors reminded to take care on the portages. Portage protocol as part of Race rules	L
Running during event	none	Competitors Spectators (risk of tripping, injury, collision)	L	L	Competitors may run at the portages. They will be reminded to be aware of other canal users.	Activity organiser, Marshals	Canoeists to be reminded to exercise great care when portaging at locks. Portaging protocol to be published as part of Race Rules.	L
Generic environment risks - hypothermia.	None.	Canoeists.	L	L	All canoeists encouraged to wear clothing and footwear appropriate for prevailing weather conditions.	Coaching team & activity Organisers.	Race Rules document will specify recommended protective equipment but onus is on individual to carry same.	L

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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	We rely on general canal housekeeping: The section being used is paddled regularly during normal training. In the event of capsize there is easy access to the towpath and nowhere is more than 4.5 miles from the centre or 2.0 miles from a marshal.	Canal rangers, canoeists and other volunteers. Coaching team & activity organisers	All canoeists are reminded of their responsibility not to pass a fellow canoeist in distress. A ‘sweeper’ cyclist marshal will be deployed. All canoeists will be accounted for irrespective race performance. The course will be inspected one week prior to the race.	L
Oncoming craft.	None.	Canoeists – collision & capsize; cuts,: bruising; hypothermia.	L	H	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.	Event organiser Coaching team & activity organisers.	Little other traffic anticipated in November	L
Inexperienced & junior paddlers on marathon - generic hazards (additional).	None.	Inexperienced & junior marathon/ racing paddlers.	L	M	Control: Being a competition canoeists may paddle alone as part of the organised event. All except the most experienced marathon canoeists required to wear buoyancy aids. Starts and finish will be monitored and there will be check points along the route.	Event organiser. Coaching team & activity Organisers.	Marshal(s) at Turn A, Ash Lock/road crossing and Turn B. ‘Sweeper’ cyclist. Cyclist marshal at Deepcut lock flight.	L
Weil’s disease	None.	All paddlers.	L	H	Training and literature/notices on Hygiene and specific risks.	Canoeists, coaching team & activity organisers.	Particular risk under bridges and areas where rats pass.	L

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Swing bridges (low).	None.	Canoeists - (head injury.)	L	L	There is one swing bridge at Mytchett. This is adjacent to the centre	Activity organiser	Advise competitors of low bridge in briefing.	L
Anglers lines.	None	Canoeists capsize; entrapment & drowning cuts,; bruising; hypothermia.	L	L	Canoeists encouraged to look out for fishermen, communicate appropriately and minimise disturbance; avoiding lines. This does control this in practice.	Canoeists, coaching team & activity organisers.	Event organisers should co-ordinate with BCA/fishermen to ensure fishing match dates are avoided for events. There is no match on 26 Jan.	L
Paddlers Exhaustion / Distress	N/A	Paddlers	L	M	All canoeists understand the need to support those in distress. Paddlers will be encouraged to carry a mobile phone. There will be control points along the route.	All involved	Marshal(s) at Turn A, Ash Lock/road crossing and Turn B. 'Sweeper' cyclist. Cyclist marshal at Deepcut lock flight. Motorised support with roof bars to extricate retiring canoeists.	L
Support crew misbehaviour.	n/a	Support crew	L	M	The race is generally intended to be un-supported and most areas are marked as out of bounds. Support crews are encouraged to remain at Mytchett as this will allow them to see their crews at start. Mid-point and end allowing sufficient access to hydrate and fuel..	All involved.	Support crews are addressed in race rules and briefing. Paddlers can be disqualified should their support crews break the rules. Support crews are required to give car registration numbers and a contact telephone number. Marshals at the portages have been briefed to ensure support crews do not impede other paddlers or members of the public.	L

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Marshals hypothermia	n/a	Volunteer Marshalls	L	M	Marshalls at the centre can take a break in the main room. Remote marshals drive to the location and can therefore take refuge in their car if necessary. Marshals are generally in pairs and can look out for one another.	Marshals		L