

Banbury & District Canoe Club Hasler Canoe Marathon Race 27th October 2024.

Risk Assessment.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed?	Likely-hood	Consequences	Score 3 X 4	Is the risk adequately controlled and how?	What further action is necessary to control the risk?	Review comments / Review date
Competition vehicle traffic access the site causing injury to someone.	Participants, spectators and public in vehicles or walking near vehicles	1	5	5	Yes. Car park marshals will be in place to guide vehicles into parking space.	There will be a designated parking area for trailers and large vehicles. Ensure marshals wear dayglow vests.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
The use of stakes driven into the ground.	Participants, spectators and public and also the possibility of disrupting the essential services.	1	5	3	We have traditionally not used stakes and are not likely to.	Volunteers to be informed.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Injury caused by collision with competitors carrying boats and kit from car park	Public, participants, marshals and spectators	1	3	3	Yes. All parking will be in easy access of the canal – no roads to be crossed	Car Park marshals will be present and will supervise this activity and advise if required	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Obstruction of the towpath.	General public	1	3	3	Spectators will be reminded not to obstruct the towpath.	There will be an announcement at the race briefing to this effect.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Injury caused by litter, debris or hazardous items on or near the Race Site or Race Start.	All	1	3	3	Inspection by race organiser at start of the set up on day of race.	Litter bins/containers positioned around the site. All litter/hazardous items collected and	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024

						stored until they can be safely removed from site after the race.	
Boat licencing. All participants must be members of British Canoeing either through full on the water membership, club associate membership or by purchasing an event ticket on the day of the race.	All competitors	1	3	3	The MRC race management system will ensure that all paddlers that have entered using the system will be members of British Canoeing. All late entries must either show their BC membership card or purchase a BC event ticket on the day of the race.		Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Injury caused by collision with competitors with boats at portages.	Public, participants, marshals and spectators	1	2	2	Yes. Marshals will be positioned at the Alcan Lock to control the passage of people. It is deemed that after Alcan Lock it will only be the experienced paddlers passing through and the density of kayaks will be low after that point. Signs and hazard notices may be posted during week of the race. All paddlers will be asked not to run the portages. This will be reinforced at the briefing prior to the start of the race.	Marshals positioned at this lock for the duration of the race while portaging is taking place. A poster will be positioned at the locks to notify the public that a race is in progress on the day.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Competitors being injured by being barefoot at portages or any slips, trips or	Participants	1	2	2	Pre-Race Instructions: "The Race organisers will recommend that all paddler wear appropriate	This is reinforced at the race briefing.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024

falls.					protective footwear throughout the event to avoid damage and injury". There are qualified First Aiders available to assist if required. Participants are made aware at the race briefing that it is in the rules of the competition that they stop and help any fellow competitors that may be injured or in difficulties.		
Hazards due to weather conditions	Participants, marshals and organizers	1	3	3	The Race Organisers will keep an eye on the weather forecast in the days prior to the race.	In addition if the weather is so inclement (thunder / hail etc) the race organisers will make a decision to either postpone or cancel the race	26 th October 2024
Hazard due to difficult access to canal bank by marshals and participants	Participants and marshals	1	2	2	Yes. There is a towpath along the entire stretch of the river, allowing good access to the canal bank.	The towpath is to be kept clear at all times.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Difficulty of paddler being able to access an easy point on the canal bank to get out of the water	Participants and marshals	2	2	4	Yes. There is a towpath along the entire stretch of the river, allowing good access to the canal bank		Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Problems caused by poor ability of paddlers/ inexperienced paddlers	Participants	1	2	2	Yes. Pre-race information states that "Team Leaders are responsible for ensuring that paddlers are properly equipped having taken into account the paddler's health, fitness, capability,	There will be safety boats plus marshals who will follow the Geoff Sanders paddlers around the course acting as sweepers. There will be either a safety boat or a marshal	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024

					<p>the course, the prevailing conditions and other risks associated with this race".</p> <p>Safety boats will be on the water for the Geoff Sanders races. In addition it is the participants clubs team leader to ensure that every boat competing is in a fit and proper state as required in the 2023 Racing Clubs Handbook.</p>	<p>on a bike that will track the Geoff Sanders paddlers.</p>	
Hazard due to poor fitness or medical condition of paddlers	Participants	1	5	5	<p>Yes. (see above) It is the responsibility of individual paddlers and team leaders to determine if they are fit to race.</p>	<p>There will be First Aid qualified officials at race control. Plus it is the responsibility of competing paddlers to go to the assistance of any paddler that requires help. This will be stated at the race briefing.</p>	<p>Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024</p>
Hazard due to paddlers not wearing buoyancy aids	Participants	1	5	5	<p>Yes. Pre-race information states that "Buoyancy aids are compulsory for all Lightnings, Hodys as well as Division 7, 8 9,10 paddlers whether they are racing in those divisions or higher divisions" And that "Team Leaders are responsible for ensuring that paddlers are properly equipped having taken into account the paddler's health, fitness, capability, the course, the prevailing</p>	<p>The Race Organiser will insist on paddlers wearing buoyancy aids if deemed necessary due to weather conditions. Entry will be refused for anyone not wearing one.</p>	<p>Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024</p>

					conditions and other risks associated with this race".		
Taking care of stragglers who are not in the main racing group	Participants	2	2	4	Yes. There will be a safety boat on the water to act as a sweeper at the back of the Geoff Saunders races.	Marshals will be positioned along the route to assist along side the safety boat as required for the Geoff Sanders race. Marshalls will be located at turn points with mobile phones.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Hazards due to fallen trees, blockages, debris etc	Participants	2	2	4	There will be a course inspection and clearance one week prior to race, one day prior to race and early on race morning.	The Hazard if not removed will be mentioned at the race briefing. But if deemed too dangerous by the race organisers to the participants then the race will be cancelled or that section of the course will be amended.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Risk of hypothermia	Participants, marshals and spectators	1	5	5	Yes. If conditions are poor then paddlers will be advised regarding wearing appropriate clothing at the race briefing. Survival blankets will be available at race control.	First Aiders will be available to assist if required.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Collisions with other competitors or narrow- boats	Participants and public	2	4	8	Yes. Other canal users (narrow-boats). Notices may be placed at the locks and also permanent moorers will be informed. Paddlers will be reminded at the briefing that the		Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024

					"rules of the river" must be observed noting the inability of narrow-boats to stop of manoeuvre quickly. Paddlers to give all boats a wide berth, including moored boats.		
Action of other river or bank users (fishermen, punts, swimmers etc)	Participants, spectators and public	1	3	3	The local fishing community have been informed about the race.		Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Hazard due to aggressive swans	Participants on the water	1	2	2	The course will be checked in advance for any aggressive swans.	If necessary, participants will be briefed on the hazard.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Overhanging trees	Participants	1	3	3	Yes. Any such obstacles will be dealt with during the course clearance the day before the race.	If the overhang is deemed dangerous to the participants by the race organisers then either hazard tape will be used to mark the overhang or the race will be cancelled or the course amended.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Pollution (including animal and bird waste/excreta). Diesel fuel leaking from motorised craft. Weils disease.	Participants and Spectators	1	2	2	Assessment of pollution levels made. The hazards and symptoms of Weils disease will be stated at the race briefing.	If pollution is deemed to be of such a high state or deemed dangerous by the race organisers then the Event will be cancelled. Water and canal bank animal/bird faeces cannot realistically be removed. Therefore, all briefings will make public announcements	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024

						advising people to regularly wash their hands prior to touching their face, any food item, any drink or should they touch any waste, excreta, and/or hazardous items. There will be hand sanitiser available for the participants at race HQ.	
Access to Race HQ	Participants and spectators	1	2	2	Yes. Access to Race HQ will be restricted on the day. Access to race officials only. Check-in will be by Team leaders on the morning of the race.		Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Provision of Toilets / hygiene	Participants and spectators	1	2	2	Yes. Toilets are available in the Castle Quay shopping centre and also via portaloos on the race site.		Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Gazebos (hazards while erecting them)	Participants and spectators	1	2	2	Yes. The organisers will be using tentage that they are familiar with erecting. An appropriate number of people will help to erect the tents.	BDCC Members will be in the vicinity of the gazebos the whole time and any guide lines etc that are deemed to be a hazard will be marked of with hazard tape or coned off. All gazebos will have fire extinguishers or fire blankets positioned at or close to their entrance.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024

Food poisoning	Participants and spectators	1	3	3	<p>Yes. Food will be prepared in clean and hygienic conditions.</p> <p>Alternative diets will be catered for if known in advance and, in these cases, cross contamination will be avoided (eg nut, dairy or gluten free foods). Dietary specialist foods will be clearly labelled.</p>	<p>All Food prep will be carried out by volunteers but food hygiene regulations will be strictly adhered to at all times.</p> <p>Food hygiene protective clothing and gloves will be worn.</p> <p>A fridge and cold storage containers will be available to store meat and dairy items.</p>	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Burns/scalds	Participants, organizers and spectators	1	3	3	<p>Yes. Access to the food preparation areas, gas burners, water boiler etc will be restricted to the catering team. There is a first aid kit in the results caravan. There is also access to cold water, a fire blanket and a fire extinguisher. If it is windy then the sides of the gazebos will be erected. If there is still a danger regarding the wind then the gas appliances will be disconnected.</p>	<p>First Aiders will be available to assist if required.</p> <p>Fire extinguishers and clean cold water will be positioned near to all cooking areas.</p>	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Contact details for emergency response	Participants	1	3	3	<p>Yes. The race organiser will have access to the contact details of the emergency services, and all marshals on route. A telephone list will be</p>	<p>The Race Organisers will have mobile phones for use if required. Telephone list to be distributed to marshals and officials</p>	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024

					prepared prior to race.		
Access for emergency vehicles	Participants and spectators	1	2	2	Yes. There is access to the race site for emergency vehicles.		Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
First Aid coverage	Participants	1	2	2	Yes. There will be first aid kits at race control. Marshals will have access to a basic first aid kit which will include a survival bag or blanket plus a throw line.	First Aiders will be available to assist if required	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Communication between Marshalls	Participants	1	2	2	Yes. One of the organisers has been designated to co-ordinate all the marshals and to make sure all safety issues are communicated between them. A telephone list will be prepared prior to race.	Mobile telephone numbers will be passed between all Marshals & race organisers so full communication between all persons will be available at all times, Mobile phone coverage within the race location is currently of a satisfactory level.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Priority and courtesy to others.	Participants, supporters and volunteers,	1	2	2	Part of the race briefing.	At the race briefing.	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024
Paddler and Participant Protection: (Child and Vulnerable paddler safeguarding) P1-British-Canoeing-Safeguarding-Children-Policy-	All on site.	1	5	5	BDCC Child (Paddler) Protection Officer and Junior Coordinator will be on site. Marshals will be clearly visible in Hi-Visibility Tabards.	Highlight to Parents and team leaders in pre-race briefings their responsibility to supervised and account for all of their paddlers (and family members).	Week commencing Monday 21 October 2024

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LIKELIHOOD - SCORE 1-5 – the more likely it is that the hazard occurs the higher the score

CONSEQUENCES – SCORE 1-5 – the level of harm that will arise – the more harm the greater the score

Multiply the Likelihood score by the Consequences score to assess whether the risk is acceptable and the level of action required to control the risk.

Total Score = 1-6 low risk activity can take place, 8-15 medium risk put extra measures in place for activity to continue, 16-25 high risk activity should not take place as planned.

Signed.

Graham Warland. 17 May 2024.