

Risk Assessment Chelmsford Canoe Club

Organiser: Owen Shephard-Wyatt Activity: Chelmsford Hasler Race Date: 15.10.2023 Location: River Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation					SIGNED: Tim Chamberlin Owen Shephard-Wyatt			DATE:	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed?	Likelihood	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		
Drowning through capsizes (Generic Risk)	Competitors	1	5	0	All paddlers able to swim 50m in clothing, River approx. 15 to 20m max wide Junior competitors and paddlers in divisions 9-7 + Geoff Sanders to wear buoyancy aids. All canoes to be fitted with buoyancy sufficient to support craft and paddler. Competition rules are to go in aid of any paddler in distress. Geoff Sanders will be fully marshalled Support boats at start and to sweep lightning race. Marshalls with throw lines and rescue boat at Barnes Lock portage. Marshalls at Turns	Briefing Notes. Rescue boat at Start. Marshalls with throw lines and rescue boat at Barnes Lock portage. Marshalls at turns. Sweep boat for Geoff Sanders races			
Hypothermia/ Hyperthermia.		1	3	3	Briefing advises paddlers to wear appropriate clothing. First Aiders to be present.	Briefing			
Collision with other paddlers, overhanging trees & bushes, bridges	Risk area at start, and portages and turns	4	3	12	Support boats to be in place at start. Paddlers to be reminded at briefing of river right rules and turn directions. Narrow bridge at Sandford to be highlighted in briefing pack	Briefing on overhanging tree 200m from start			

Injury from Lifting/Carrying Equipment	Competitors especially young and those not used to portage	1	4	4	Briefing notes and prior to race to remind paddlers of portage at Barnes Lock for Div 7-9. Marshalls also present to manage crossing. Also briefing advises where support is needed to carry boats at portage this is allowed.		
Other River users	Barges, Boats, SUPs, Fishermen,	1	2	2	Essex Waterways informed of race.		
Moving water River in flood	Competitors	1	5	5	Dynamic Risk Assessment Check of weather and river height readings up stream of automatic weir prior to race		
Vehicle Traffic at Start and Sandford Portage	Competitors Bankside Officials Spectators	1	3	3	Good parking and direct access to river from car park. Marshalls at road crossing Sandford Lock Have "canoe race in progress" signs at Sandford Bridge/Crossing		
Injury to Public	Pedestrians , cyclists on towpath	1	2	2	Briefing to advise Paddlers and spectators to be aware of public at portages. Have "Canoe Race in Progress" signs at Bailey Bridge/ERO footpath/cycle path and at Sandford Lock road crossing		
Trips, slips and falls on paths , towpath	All	1	3	3	Briefing pack to draw attention to rollers at ERO portage for start and dependent on weather briefing to cover awareness of slip hazard on wooden/plastic portages and grass .		
Refreshments – Food Poisoning, Burns from Cooking	All	1	4	4	Staff at refreshments to keep hands clean with gel or soap/water. Consumers to be reminded to clean hands after paddling and before eating. BBQ away from club and public access limited to serving table.		
Wildlife & Pollution, Weils Disease etc	Competitors	1	5	5	Outside of nesting season for swans. Showers and hand gel available at club.		

THIS AREA IS FOR ADDITIONAL RISK ASSESSMENTS ON THE DAY				0			
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

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.

- Canoeing and kayaking is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk.!
- Note that as a club affiliated to the British Canoeing, CCC has public liability insurance. All competitors must be members of BC and thus also have individual insurance cover.
- Name of assessor: (Race Organiser for and on behalf of Chelmsford Canoe Club)
- (Print) signature: