

## Risk Assessment Chelmsford Canoe Club

| <b>Organiser: Owen Shephard-Wyatt</b><br><b>Activity:</b> Chelmsford Winter Series Race<br><b>Date:</b> 11.1.2025<br><b>Location:</b> River Chelmer and Cam |                              |   |   | <b>SIGNED: Owen Shephard-Wyatt</b> <b>DATE: 28/11/2025</b> |                               |               |                     |
|---|------------------------------|---|---|--|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| What are the hazards?   | Who might be harmed?         | What are you doing to control the Risk  | What further action do you need to take to control the risk?  | Who needs to carry out the action?                         | When is the action needed by? | Date complete | Additional comments |
| Drowning through capsize<br>(Generic Risk)  | Competitors and safety boats | All paddlers able to swim 50m in clothing, high walled channel has ropes either side and ladders. River approx. 15-20 m max wide. All Under 16s to wear buoyancy aids and anyone in Division 7 or below.<br>All boats to be fitted with buoyancy sufficient to support craft and paddler. Competition rules are to aid any paddler in distress. | Briefing to remind paddlers of requirement to aid paddlers in distress. Rescue boat at Start, turn, through the Channel and sweeper boats. Marshalls with throw lines at turn.<br><br>Race Organiser can make BA compulsory for all, if conditions require. | Race organiser   | Before boats get on water     |               |                     |
| Hypothermia/<br>Hyperthermia.   | All                          | Briefing advises paddlers to wear appropriate clothing. First Aiders to be present.   | Review of conditions and changes made if needed.<br>Briefing to remind. First aiders will have mobile phones and basic first aid pack including Emergency Blanket   | Race organiser   | On going                      |               |                     |

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|--|--|---|---|----------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| Collision with other paddlers, overhanging trees & bushes, bridges | Competitors and Safety Boats                       | Paddlers to be reminded at briefing of river right rules, turn directions and obstacles. Low bridges have signage.                        | Briefing to cover turn and low bridge reminder. Race Committee to look at check and if necessary, cut back trees along route prior to race. Safety boats at start , turn and in the Channel (high risk areas) | Race organiser | Before boats get on water |  |  |
| Debris/obstructions  | Competitors  | Contact with surface debris and / or sub surface objects  | Course to be checked on day when putting turn buoy out.   | Race organiser | Before boats get on water |  |  |
| Injury from Lifting/Carrying Equipment                             | Competitors  | No portages, risk of injury is from lifting boats on and off vehicles to put in only.   | Check condition of pontoon before event, sign post to first aid.  | Race organiser | Day before event          |  |  |
| Other River users  | Competitors and other river uses                   | Signage warning off race put up the week before   | Marshal talk to river users   | Safety Team    | On going                  |  |  |
| Moving water River in flood  | Competitors  | Dynamic Risk Assessment Check of weather and river height readings up stream prior to race.   | Making changes if conditions need it.   | Race organiser | Before boats get on water |  |  |
| Vehicle Traffic  | Competitors<br>Bankside<br>Officials<br>Spectators | Good parking and direct access to river from car park. No road crossings involved in race. Signs to be put up that canoe race in progress | Signage warning members of the public. First aid team made aware  | Race organiser | Before competitors arrive |  |  |

|  |                                  |  |   |                |                           |   |  |
|--|----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|---------------------------|---|--|
| Injury to Public   | Pedestrians, cyclists on towpath | No point of crossing in race, Signage on path leading to get in point.   | Signage warning members of the public. First aid team made aware  | Race organiser | Before competitors arrive |   |  |
| Trips, slips and falls on paths, towpath                       | All                              | Danger of slipping at Put in/out and club if wood/plastic wet  | Check for hazards morning of race, Marshalls to contact race control for first aid response. Broken section of pontoon condoned off from use. | Race organiser | Before competitors arrive |   |  |
| Refreshments – Food Poisoning, Burns from Cooking              | All                              | Staff at refreshments to keep hands clean with gel or soap/water. BBQ away from club and public access limited to serving table. | Report issues and provide first aid if needed   | Safety Team    | On going                  |   |  |
| Wildlife & Pollution, Weils Disease etc                        | Competitors                      | Outside of nesting season. Showers and wash facilities available at club.  | Report issues and provide first aid if needed   | Safety Team    | On going                  | . |  |
| <b>THIS AREA IS FOR ADDITIONAL RISK ASSESSMENTS ON THE DAY</b> |                                  |  |   |                |                           |   |  |