

## RISK ASSESSMENT : Draycote Water

# RUGBY CANOE CLUB

**DATE CARRIED OUT: 25.04.2025**

**ASSESSMENT CARRIED OUT BY:** Gary Wakelin, H&S Officer

<b>HAZARD</b>	<b>WHO MIGHT BE HARMED?</b>	<b>HOW MAY THE RISK BE ADEQUATELY CONTROLLED?</b>	<b>WHAT FURTHER ACTION MAY BE REQUIRED?</b>	<b>REVIEW COMMENTS</b>
DROWNING	Paddlers                       Others	Wearing of buoyancy aid. Instruction in capsize procedures. Relevant supervision for novices. No paddler to launch prior to a Coach being on the water. Coach to Paddler Ratio of 1:8 & 1:6 (open boat). Regular checks on equipment during the season. All paddlers are able to swim a minimum of 25m. Duty person to ensure RCC buoyancy aid is correctly fitted. Induction sessions for beginners and new members. Discipline of the group should be such that paddlers do not get spread out, away from the coach. Coaches are to restrict swimming to after a capsize only. There are stones, metal pins, ropes and weed growth that could cause injury Advised to keep away from the water's edge.	All RCC equipment inspected annually.  Coaches to ensure members' buoyancy aid correctly fitted.  Buoyancy Aid to be worn if standing by water's edge for a prolonged period.  Emergency Procedure tested and trained annually.	

HYPOTHERMIA	Paddlers	<p>Advised on the correct clothing to wear.</p> <p>Adjustment to clothing as required.</p>	Continuous dynamic risk assessment to be carried out by Coaches during each session.	
SLIPS TRIPS AND FALLS	Paddlers, Parents Coaches & others	<p>Monitor Sailing club areas and report hazards to the Water Manager.</p> <p>Clear excess water from changing room floors.</p> <p>Keep the footpath around the boat store clear of equipment.</p> <p>Exercise caution on slipways that will be slippery from algae.</p>	<p>Appropriate cleaning/maintenance equipment available</p> <p>Prevent running and any play on slipways</p>	
SPRAINS, STRAINS AND SOFT TISSUE INJURIES	Paddlers, Parents Coaches & others	<p>Trained to lift boats correctly.</p> <p>Paddlers to assist each other if requested.</p> <p>Encouraged to warm up before getting on the water.</p> <p>Duty Person to request assistance where necessary.</p>	<p>Ongoing training and regular checks of procedures.</p> <p>Appropriate checks on storage facilities.</p>	
HEAD INJURY DUE TO CAPSIZE	Paddlers and Coaches	<p>During coaching sessions, helmets will be worn at all times.</p> <p>Stand up paddle-boarders may remove helmets only in a water depth of &gt;2m.</p> <p>Safety equipment on shore will include a throw line &amp; first aid kit with Duty Person.</p>	<p>All RCC equipment inspected annually but equipment officer.</p> <p>Any faulty equipment identified by the duty person to be placed out of service and reported to committee or equipment officer.</p>	

ENTRAPMENTS DUE TO CAPSIZE	Paddlers and Coaches	<p>Coaches must be satisfied that all canoeists have the knowledge to perform a capsize drill.</p> <p>Course / training will be organised so as to ensure paddlers are directed away from known obstacles.</p> <p>Duty Person/Coaches to inspect the coaching area prior to session start.</p>	<p>All RCC equipment inspected annually by equipment officer.</p> <p>Any faulty equipment identified by the duty person to be placed out of service and reported to committee or equipment officer.</p>	
SUNBURN	Paddlers, Coaches and Duty Person	<p>Beginners to be advised of the risk of sunburn and to use a high factor sun screen.</p>	<p>Individuals responsible for their own control measures.</p>	
WEATHER AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS	Paddlers and Coaches	<p>Duty Person and Coaches will complete a dynamic risk assessment before and during sessions based on current conditions.</p> <p>High winds may result in SUP sessions being cancelled.</p>	<p>Review short-range weather forecasts for risk of lightning.</p>	
POLLUTION AND WATER QUALITY	Paddlers and Coaches	<p>Recommend to bathe soon after immersion.</p> <p>Made aware of flotsam or blue algae risk when present.</p>	<p>Avoid intentional capsizes in poor conditions</p>	
OTHER WATER USERS	Paddlers and other users	<p>Paddlers instructed to be aware of other water users and how to take appropriate/avoiding action.</p>		
INJURY FROM TRAFFIC	Paddlers, Coaches and Other Users	<p>Low Volume of Traffic.</p> <p>Drop off area not to be used for parking.</p> <p>Vehicles to be parked in designated areas.</p> <p>Speed limits in operation.</p>	<p>Where possible reverse park.</p>	

PROPERTY & FACILITIES	Paddlers, Coaches and Other Users	Report any hazard to the Bosun or Water Manager.  Cordon off or remove any unsafe condition to prevent access.		
LAUNCH SLIPWAYS	Paddlers, Coaches and Other Users	During summer months the slipways can become slippery due to algae growth and also as water levels lower.  No running to be permitted down the slipways.	Remind paddlers especially new starters that the slipways could be slippery near and in the water.	

## NOTES

All persons with responsibilities for the operation of Rugby Canoe Club sessions at Draycote Water, **MUST** be fully conversant with RCC Operating Safety Procedure which includes Appendix A - Draycote Paddle Around Scenarios.