

Risk Assessment

Type of Trip: Friends recreational kayak trip Venue: River Conwy – Ysbyty-lfan & A5 Section Grid Reference: 842488 Access 810536 Egress Date of visit: 09/09/17 Ysbyty-lfan http://rainchasers.com/river/conwy/ysbyty-ifan-a5-bridge A5 –Penmachno Bridge http://rainchasers.com/river/conwy/a5-penmachno-bridge Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pbK-fX3Mgzk&t=639 EA http://rloi.naturalresources.wales/ViewDetails?station=4145				
	2	3	4	5
What is the hazard?	Who might be harmed?	How may the risk be adequately controlled?	What further action is necessary?	Review comments Review date
Access: Opposite Car park the other side of bridge at Ysbyty-lfan	Club Members	S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low River Level = 1.3	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	
Egress: Left side of River Conway, well signposted at Dinas before the Conway Falls section.	Club Members	S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low River Level = 1.7 rising again	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Ysbyty-lfan Section Grade 2-3+ (Hargreaves Folly depending on river level) Rapids. Route: Hargreaves Folly; take Left side drop as the channel is shorter than the right side. Boof off rock on the left side before drop, you may need a “Low brace” to assist into deep water. Note: main danger is “Overhanging” branches, particularly in the Spring, Summer & Autumn months.	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 High	Check Environment Agency or Rain chasers for Current River levels at Llanerfyl for appropriate levels Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	

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<p>A5 –Penmachno Bridge Section Grade 3-4 (Bryn- Bras Falls) A5 -1st Bridge: drops & wave trains, “S” bends, left side for passing through bridge. 1st Bridge – 2nd Bridge: as before but there was a tree on the opposite side of bridge, managed to “Bounce” over 2nd Bridge – 3rd Bridge: as previous, take left side route. 3rd Bridge: “The Cannon” start right to left, straighten up can central right position, be aware of “Plume” in 1.3 level as current as it can push to the right. Find eddy on right. Bryn- Bras Falls – start right to left onto “S” bend move between rocks, straighten up keep tight to right side then turn about 5m. But if you miss there is another gap, straighten up and head down succession of mini drops, big eddy on the left. Bryn- Bras Falls – Egress, as previous grade 3, drops, wave trains</p>	Club Members	<p>S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low River Level = 1.3</p>	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	

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Drowning - "Overhanging" branches	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 High	Check Environment Agency for Current River levels at Llanerfyl. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Apply "Buddy" checks on helmets & buoyancy aids, boats	
Over hanging tree or strainers	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 High Identify hazard areas to paddlers.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Advised to avoid & informed how to escape entrapment.	
Medicinal risks	Club Members	S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low Friends not taking necessary medication. Unauthorised consumption of medication	Agreed action between participants & instructors of routine consumption of necessary medication. Instructors may hold any necessary medication on request/agreement of participant involved.	
Weather & Environmental Conditions	Club Members	S = 5 L = 5 = 25 High Floods	Check weather forecast & river levels. Dynamic risk assessment. Re-locate or cancel if inappropriate to group ability	

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Weather related injury Hypothermia Hyperthermia.	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med Advised on appropriate clothing to wear. Adjustment to clothing as required, e.g. use of wet to dry suit depending on weather forecast, temperature & time of year.	Check weather forecast. Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief; recommended kit to wear. Sun block, extra water, hot drink, change of clothing Group shelter	
Slips, trips & falls	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med Identify hazard areas to paddlers.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Dynamic risk assessment.	
Sprains, strains, soft tissue injuries	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 8 Low Trained to lift correctly. Ask for help. Trained to paddle correctly.	Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. On-going training in manual handling	
Pollution & water quality	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 mod Advised to bath/shower after paddle. Made aware of flotsam	Risks higher in "Spate" conditions. Avoid intentional capsize in poor conditions	

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Other river uses	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med Paddlers instructed to be aware of other uses & how to take appropriate action to avoid them.	Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Illness & fatigue	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med Paddlers to inform instructors	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Dynamic risk assessment. First aid kit, food and water, evacuation procedures and assistance.	
Road Traffic accident Breakdown	Club Members	S = 5 L = 4 = 20 High Paddlers to follow instructions from leaders	Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. First aid kit, food and water, evacuation procedures and assistance.	
Equipment: unserviceable	Club Members	S = 2 L = 3 = 6 Low Loose seat, footrest, ratchets, missing bung,	Periodic safety checks of equipment, qualified instructors.	

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Fisherman; various spots below & above rapids; line & hook causing facial injuries		S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low Identify & inform participants & instructors.	Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Bridge Stanchions'	Club Members	S = 4 L = 3 = 12 Med Avoid paddling in front of bridge Stanchions, as this may lead to a capsize.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Dynamic risk assessment.	

Handout (1) CALCULATION OF RISK SEVERITY

In assessing a RISK you need to take into account two factors:

- (1) How serious could an injury be?
- (2) How likely is it to occur?

The following would be a rough guideline:

High Risk: A very serious injury that had a high probability of occurring.

Med. Risk:

- Either (a) A serious injury unlikely to occur
(b) A lesser injury likely to occur

Low Risk:

Would be a slight injury that was unlikely to occur.

- If you take (1) above as a scale of 1 to 5 (5 = high) Seriousness
(2) above as a scale of 1 to 5 (5 = high) Likelihood

Then, multiply them together, this would give a scale as follows:

Translating into: LOW (1-8) MED. (9-17) HIGH RISKS (18-25)

SERIOUSNESS OF INJURY

- 5 = Very high potential for multiple death and/or wide spread destruction.
- 4 = High causing death or serious injury to an individual, i.e. reportable accident under the RIDDOR regulations.
- 3 = Moderate causing injury or disease capable of keeping an individual off work for three days or more, may require reporting under RIDDOR regulations.
- 2 = Slight causing minor injuries, i.e. person able to continue work after first aid.
- 1 = No risk of injury or disease.

LIKELIHOOD OF THE EVENT OCCURRING

- 5 = Very likely, almost certain.
- 4 = Likely to occur, i.e. easily precipitated with slight carelessness for external event, e.g. vibration.
- 3 = Quite possible, the accident is only likely to occur with help, i.e. if somebody slips, failure to replace a light, etc.
- 2 = Possibly - probably is low or minimal.
- 1 = Not likely at all, there is really no risk and accidents will only occur under freak conditions.

