

## Risk Assessment

**Type of Trip:** Friends recreational kayak trip **Venue:** River Usk–Talybont on Usk to Crickhowell <http://rainchasers.com/river/usk/llangynidr-bridge-crickhowell>  
**Location:** see <http://wyeuskfoundation.org/navigation/downloads/Talybont%20to%20Crickhowell.pdf>  
**Grid Reference:** NB Access 122234 Egress 213182 Crickhowell **Date of visit:** 16/03/19  
**River Levels:** <https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/maps/check-river-levels/?lang=en> Llandetti  
<https://rloi.naturalresources.wales/ViewDetails?station=4041>  
**See Videos:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETPqrlY21sc&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0X0i1uEkJ7l-epMIS9gLEFcDpz4YA0v5zkmAo7yY4UOUSNunRgMtg-J9l>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UW-kaw7J6bA&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR18qE2qxG5p5NJ7pogLog6C3voPi5GZJ01sWoiwaTviOk4RxdziJWh24U>

	2	3	4	5
What is the hazard? <b>Specific</b>	Who might be harmed?	How may the risk be adequately controlled?	What further action is necessary?	Review comments Review date
<b>Access: Talybont</b> see wye-usk foundation map for access period restrictions	Club Members	<b>S = 2 L = 3 = 6 Low</b> River Level = 2.8	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	
<b>Egress: Crickhowell</b> , see wye-usk foundation map for access period restrictions.	Club Members	<b>S = 2 L = 3 = 6 Low</b> River Level = 2.4	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Grade 3 Rapids; continuous wave trains at this level <b>Mill Falls - 1<sup>st</sup> Drop before Llangnidri Bridge</b> , take left hand side route by the mill, succession of wave trains for 1/2K. <b>After Llangnidri Bridge - 2<sup>nd</sup> Drop</b> , take left hand route between bank and submerged trees through a wave train, move the right before ledge. Then move left of centre after 1-2k, angle boat between 90 – 180 degrees see video Part B from 3.30 – 4.10 minutes.	Club Members	<b>S = 5 L = 4 = 20 Very High</b> <b>NB.</b>  <b>S = 4 L = 4 = 16 medium</b>	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	

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What is the hazard? <b>Generic/Dynamic</b>	Who might be harmed?	How may the risk be adequately controlled?	What further action is necessary?	Review comments Review date
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Drop</b> , see video from 12 minutes, angle the boat to the left passed submerged trees, left of centre nearer to the bank over a ledge, avoid large hole and tow back, see video at 12.10 minutes.	Club Members	<b>S = 4 L = 4 = 16 medium</b> <b>NB.</b>	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	
Drowning - "Overhanging" branches or strainers	Club Members	<b>S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med</b>	Check Environment Agency for Current River levels at <a href="#">Trallong</a> Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Apply "Buddy" checks on helmets & buoyancy aids, boats	
<b>Llangnidri Bridge:</b> tree trapped behind stanchions of bridge from left to right – 1-2, take third for route through bridge, see Part A video from 15.30 – 16.22 minutes. Or egress left to eddy before bridge and portage this section.	Club Members	<b>S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med</b> 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	<b>S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low</b> 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.	

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What is the hazard? <b>Generic/Dynamic</b>	Who might be harmed?	How may the risk be adequately controlled?	What further action is necessary?	Review comments Review date
Weather related injury  Hypothermia  Hyperthermia.	Club Members	<b>S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med</b> 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	
Weather & Environmental Conditions	Club Members	<b>S = 5 L = 4 = 20 Very High</b> Floods	Check weather forecast & river levels. Dynamic risk assessment. Re-locate or cancel if inappropriate to group ability	
Pollution & water quality	Club Members	<b>S = 3 L = 3 = 9 mod</b> Advised to bath/shower after paddle.  Made aware of flotsam	Risks higher in “Spate” conditions.  Avoid intentional capsizes in poor conditions	
Slips, trips & falls	Club Members	<b>S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med</b> Identify hazard areas to paddlers.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Dynamic risk assessment.	

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Other river uses	Club Members	<b>S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med</b> 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	<b>S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med</b> 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	<b>S = 5 L = 4 = 20 High</b> 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	<b>S = 2 L = 3 = 6 Low</b> 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		<b>S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low</b> Identify & inform participants & instructors.	Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Bridge Stanchions'	Club Members	<b>S = 4 L = 3 = 12 Med</b> 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.	
Sprains, strains, soft tissue injuries	Club Members	<b>S = 3 L = 3 = 8 Low</b> 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	

# 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.

