

Risk Assessment

Type of Trip: Friends recreational kayak trip **Venue:** River Wye; Marteg to Rhayader **Grid Reference:** Access: 952715 Egress: 967678 **Date of visit:** 09/02/19
Location: <http://rainchasers.com/river/wye/llangurig-rhayader>, <http://wyeuskfoundation.org/navigation/downloads/Marteg%20to%20Newbridge.pdf>
River Level: <https://rloi.naturalresources.wales/ViewDetails?station=4011> Drol Farm **See video** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyWkbtgU0sc> Part A
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=li8pBPVCTnk> Part B,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okkUPwqSh3w&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2SUXajxrJ1iiYOvhJ7qN9SdeAbPLR21RdvQnzvq6SG5212WYrRyENEGs0> Rich

	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: see Wye Usk Foundation link. Note information about navigating river	Club Members	S = 3 L = 4 = 12 Med. Gauge 0.98	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	
Egress: As above before bridge at Boothroyd by school & parking area. Steep stepped path to road.	Club Members	S = 2 L = 3 = 6 Low Need team support to carry boats up steep path. Gauge 1.0 rising	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Letter Box section; 1st drop before letter Box, see Part A video 6.48 minutes, follow tongue down centre, be aware of curving wave from the left and bubbly water after. Eddy on the right to aim for before curving wave. Start from left to right as your descent, see 8.25 minutes. Letter Box: see video from 10.05, descend from right to centre, straighten up and paddle through the bubbly waves. See descent at 16.50 minutes.	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med.	Check Environment Agency or Rain chasers for Current River levels at Corwen. Appropriate levels Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	

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<p>Rhayader Falls: See Video Part B at 4.28 minutes for route under bridge near to the rock, be careful of corkscrew flow from the right as you enter can flip you. Can take route left of boulder.</p> <p>Falls: Easy route to the left down "Chicken Run or right over drop, for the latter take channel left of island bush and right ledge, see video Rich at 19.30 minutes, be aware of bubbly water at the bottom between gap!</p>	Club Members	S = 4 L = 5 = 20 High	<p>Check Environment Agency or Rain chasers for Current River levels at Corwen. Appropriate levels</p> <p>Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief</p>	
Drowning	Club Members	<p>S = 4 L = 2 = 8 Low</p> <p>Kayak 3*Whitewater paddlers only to play in identified "Surf" areas & grade 2-3 water.</p> <p>S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med.</p> <p>Establish a boundary sheltered area.</p> <p>Instructions given on capsiz procedure.</p>	<p>Check Environment Agency for Current River levels at Corwen.</p> <p>Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Apply "Buddy" checks on helmets & buoyancy aids, boats</p>	
Over hanging tree or strainers	Club Members	<p>S = 4 L = 2 = 8 Low</p> <p>Identify hazard areas to paddlers.</p>	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Advised to avoid & informed how to escape entrapment.	
Weather & Environmental Conditions	Club Members	<p>S = 5 L = 5 = 25 High</p> <p>Floods</p>	<p>Check weather forecast & river levels.</p> <p>Dynamic risk assessment.</p> <p>Re-locate or cancel if inappropriate to group ability</p>	

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What is the hazard?	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	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 capsizes 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.	
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.	

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.

