**Wombourne Kayak Club Risk Assessment**

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| **Location:** | River Dee –Horseshoe Falls to Mile End Mill  <https://www.ukriversguidebook.co.uk/rivers/wales/north/river-dee-corwen-to-horseshoe-falls>  Paddle points:  <https://gopaddling.info/paddlepoints/>  <https://gopaddling.info/rivers/river-dee/> | **Grid Reference:** | Access  195433  Egress  211521 |
| **Types of Trip:** | Club Night or Friends recreational kayak trip |  |  |
| **Video Footage:** | **See Videos:**  (1) Specific risk assessment 19th June 2021 - John  [https://youtu.be/BwKD1Q0aPd8](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2FBwKD1Q0aPd8%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR14j62X-8UZfZnfDZqFu0C9rR0ijHcf1j2Z8eCGXnSZm1ZNu2ETLByXUV4&h=AT3DPgpgOSuZGhF21y2Ijo9-puoUbK4LTq3MGvGynzU_sRMVNleNbPktrJRrbcp3j5KWQZnu9kzdSvvI9CIMJg5BUfVJIaSzJRKAZcVBgHk3h8bpHPf1FuMQ8IrMzwrNCI_x&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT1P1-07X3xPsPmuIz54khiBJ9gePaGs0ZbGCfhf2yuNihSmkfdFUZddJRhd3vLKwGEiQ7CLBejPlwEouYuC55iSUbU0WExlbhI5WAjmMyGoPVAJalilcEjuBnIHO1eWnNeRvjfP6NbNmbbFW2Ymyznf3QEomMQ1pIC8YCm8VCI3djEu9DnyRx-IxFKcVOQrMlKmw5fYj-hiXGWgMA)  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrv8CFSJjsE> Rich | **Date:** | 19/06/21 |
| **Assessor Name:** | John Teuwen | **Review:** | 11/11/20 |
| **Position in Club:** | Health & Safety | **Date Checked & updated:** |  |
| **Date Completed:** | **John Teuwen** | **Signed:** | 19/06/21 |

**Wombourne Kayak Club Risk Assessment – COVID 19 Specific Risks**

**Risk ratings Low, medium or high:** 3 \* 3 Risk Matrix

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| What is the hazard? | Who might be harmed? | How may the risk be adequately controlled? | Risk Ratings:  Low, Medium, High  **Grade based 3\*3 Risk Matrix & calculation of risk severity chart** | Action by whom | What further action is necessary? |
| COVID 19 Transmission – travel to and from Llangollen | Club Members | All members to travel independently to and from the location– no shared vehicles  Any member displaying symptoms, or who thinks they may have been in recent contact with somebody with symptoms, should not attend the session  All briefings and buddy checking to be done in compliance with 2m distancing  Members to arrive as prepared as possible to avoid long changing periods in shared areas  Debriefing to be done after the session if necessary, by WhatsApp or conference call | **S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Medium**  **Unlikely, Harmful** | Club coaches & senior members. |  |
| COVID 19 Transmission – shared equipment | Club Members | Members to bring all own equipment. Any equipment that needs to be loaned from the club should only be used by that member for that session, and should be cleaned before returning to store | **S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Medium**  **Unlikely, Harmful** | Club coaches & senior members. |  |
| COVID 19 Transmission –rescue | Club Members | All club members to paddle strictly within their own ability, in river levels that are manageable and unlikely to lead to capsizes, injuries or incidents. In the event of a capsize, members should be encouraged to self rescue to the bank with boat and paddle if possible. If required another member should rescue the boat and paddle using their own boat to move the equipment | **S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Medium**  **Unlikely, Harmful** | Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. |  |

**Wombourne Kayak Club Risk Assessment – COVID 19 Specific Risks**

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| What is the hazard? | Who might be harmed? | How may the risk be adequately controlled? | Risk Ratings:  Low, Medium, High  **Grade based 3\*3 Risk Matrix & calculation of risk severity chart** | Action by whom | What further action is necessary? |
| COVID 19 Transmission from club members to members’ family who may be at risk or vulnerable | Club Members’ household | Ask each member attending if they are part of a household which contains somebody who is categorised as “at risk, “vulnerable”, or “shielding”. If they are then that member should not attend the session | **S = 4 L = 3 = 12 Medium**  **Unlikely, Extremely Harmful** | Club coaches & senior members. |  |
| COVID 19 Transmission –first aid | Club Members | All club members to paddle strictly within their own ability, in river levels that are manageable and unlikely to lead to capsizes, injuries or incidents.  In line with government advice, make sure you wash your hands or use an alcohol gel, before and after treating a casualty also ensure that you don’t cough or sneeze over a casualty when you are treating them  Wear gloves or cover hands when dealing with open wounds  Cover cuts and grazes on your hands with waterproof dressing  Dispose of all waste safely  Do not touch a wound with your bare hand  Do not touch any part of a dressing that will come in contact with a wound  Observe the below protocol for CPR: | **S = 4 L = 3 = 12 Medium**  **Unlikely, Harmful** | Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. |  |

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| What is the hazard? | Who might be harmed? | How may the risk be adequately controlled? | Risk Ratings:  Low, Medium, High  **Grade based 3\*3 Risk Matrix & calculation of risk severity chart** | Action by whom | What further action is necessary? |
| Weather & Environmental Conditions: Floods/  Spate conditions | Club Members | 1. Check weather forecast & river levels. 2. Dynamic risk assessment. 3. Re-locate or cancel if inappropriate to group ability  * **Weather Forecast:**<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/> * **River Levels:**<https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/station/2086?direction=u> | **S = 5 L = 5 = 25 High**  **Likely, Extremely Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. |  |
| Drowning | Club Members | 1. Buoyancy Aids & Helmets must be worn & fitted correctly for all paddlers. 2. All club buoyancy aids & helmets are checked & their condition recorded annually. 3. Apply “Buddy” checks on helmets & buoyancy aids, boats 4. Parental Consent Forms T4 & Adult T4a Trip Participant Statement signed | **S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Medium**  **Likely, Slightly Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. 2. Club equipment officer to undertake checks. 3. Club members. 4. Club coach’s/secretary |  |
| Weather related injury  Hyperthermia.  Hypothermia | Club Members | 1. Check weather forecast. 2. Dynamic risk assessment 3. Advised on appropriate clothing to wear. 4. Adjustment to clothing as required, e.g. use of wet to dry suit depending on weather forecast, temperature & time of year. 5. Sun block, extra water, change of clothing, 6. Hyperthermia; offer a cold drink 7. Hypothermia; offer a hot drink, Group shelter or emergency bag | **S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Medium**  **Likely, Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members |  |

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| Sprains, strains, soft tissue injuries | Club Members | 1. Trained to lift boat correctly 2. Ask for help. 3. Trained to paddle correctly. 4. Dynamic risk assessment | **S = 2 L = 3 = 6 Low**  **Likely, Slightly Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. 2. Include in initial Induction & Club Training |  |
| Medicinal risks | Club Members | 1. Members inform club on Application form. 2. Ensure Members have and are taking necessary medication. | **S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low**  **Likely, Slightly Harmful** | 1. Agreed action between participants & coaches of routine consumption of necessary medication. 2. Coaches may hold any necessary medication on request/agreement of participant involved. |  |
| Slips, trips & falls  **NB –** Steep steps from egress, use sling & carabineer | Club Members | 1. Safety Brief 2. Create awareness of river/bank hazards 3. Identify hazard areas to paddlers. 4. Dynamic risk assessment. | **S = 3 L = 3 = 6 Med.**  **Likely, Slightly Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. |  |

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| What is the hazard? | Who might be harmed? | How may the risk be adequately controlled? | Risk Ratings:  Low, Medium, High  **Grade based 3\*3 Risk Matrix & calculation of risk severity chart** | Action by whom | What further action is necessary? |
| Pollution & water quality | Club Members | 1. Risks higher in “Spate” conditions 2. Avoid intentional capsize in poor conditions 3. Advised to bath/shower after paddle 4. Made aware of flotsam 5. Dynamic risk assessment | **S = 4 L = 3 = 12 Medium**  **Likely, Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. |  |
| Water borne disease’s | Club Members | 1. All paddlers should shower after paddling and wash their hands before eating. 2. Cover cuts with waterproof plasters to prevent infection. | **S =4 L = 2 = 4 Low**  **Likely, Harmful** | 1. Club Safety Officer to publicise guidelines and provide hand washing and shower facilities on site |  |
| Fisherman; various spots below & above rapids; line & hook causing facial injuries | Club Members | 1. Identify & inform participants & instructors. 2. Safety brief 3. Dynamic risk assessment | **S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low**  **Likely, Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. |  |
| Swans | Club Members | 1. Avoid paddling near them in nesting period in Spring 2. Safety brief 3. Dynamic risk assessment | **S = 4 L = 3 = 12 Med**  **Likely, Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. |  |

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| What is the hazard? | Who might be harmed? | How may the risk be adequately controlled? | Risk Ratings:  Low, Medium, High  **Grade based 3\*3 Risk Matrix & calculation of risk severity chart** | Action by whom | What further action is necessary? |
| Other paddlers or users on the river; SUP | Club Members | 1. Safety brief 2. Navigation rules of the river & awareness of other craft. 3. Paddlers instructed to be aware of other uses & how to take appropriate action to avoid them. 4. Fraying paddles, boats 5. Dynamic risk assessment. | **S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Medium**  **Likely, Slightly Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. |  |
| Illness & fatigue | Club Members | 1. Safety brief 2. Paddlers to inform instructor 3. Dynamic risk assessment 4. First aid kit, food and water, evacuation procedures and assistance. | **S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Medium**  **Likely, Slightly Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. |  |
| Road Traffic accident  Breakdown | Club Members | 1. Dynamic risk assessment 2. First aid kit, food and water, evacuation procedures and assistance. | **S = 5 L = 4 = 20 High**  **Likely, Harmful to extreme** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. |  |
| Equipment: unserviceable | Club Members | 1. Loose seat, footrest, ratchets, missing bung 2. Periodic safety checks of equipment, | **S = 2 L = 3 = 6 Low**  **Likely, Slightly Harmful** | 1. Club coaches & senior members. |  |
| Over hanging tree or strainers | Club Members | **S = 4 L = 2 = 8 Low**   1. Identify hazard areas to paddlers. | Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Advised to avoid & informed how to escape entrapment. | 1. Club coaches & senior members. |  |

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| What is the hazard? | Who might be harmed? | How may the risk be adequately controlled? | Risk Ratings:  Low, Medium, High  **Grade based 3\*3 Risk Matrix & calculation of risk severity chart** | Action by whom | What further action is necessary? |
| Horseshoe Falls at high levels there is a dangerous tow back. | Club Members | **S = 4 L = 5 = 20 High**  Kayak 3\*Whitewater paddlers only to descend at a lower level over falls, but note Phil Hadley would fail L2 Coaches if this was advised.  **S = 3 L = 9 = 9 Med.**  Access by left side of weir opposite the launch rock slab & slip down the channel to below the drop. | * Check Environment Agency or Rain chasers for Current River levels at Corwen. Appropriate levels * 45 scrape * 0.52 low * 0.65 medium * 0.95 high * 1.25 huge   Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief |  |  |
| Avoid the two channels to the left of weir as this may be blocked with trees & debris | Club Members | **S = 3 L = 4 = 12 Med.**  Take the river route central & directly below the falls, which bends around to the left | Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief |  |  |
| Chain Bridge Rapids, grade 2-3 drop & wave train | Club Members | **S = 2 L = 3 = 6 Low**  Take the river route left after the “Road” bridge as it passes the hotel & under Foot Bridge. | Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. |  |  |

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| Serpents Tail Rapid, range from grades 2-4 depending on river levels.  0.65 to 0.85 becomes very “Sticky” at the tail. 6-9 at river gauge at Mile End Mill. | Club Members | **S = 5 L = 4 = 20 High**  At grade 4, take central position as the river pushes you to the rock face.  **S = 3 L = 4 = 12 Med.**  At grade 2-3 | Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Note at higher levels it’s down to the ability of paddler at least 3\*. Check river gauge at Mile End Mill. |  |  |
| Museum Weir grade 2 drop & wave train**. Note exposed metal in broken weir.** | Club Members | **S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med.**  Positions of exposed metal identified; central & to the immediate right of drop. Either break out into eddy on right or bear slightly to the right. | Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief |  |  |
| Grade 2-3 drop after Railway bridge.**. Note exposed metal in Bridge Stanchions.** | Club Members | **S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med.**  Take the river left route, then aim to the right channel or “Power” off the central rock. | 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. |  |  |

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| Tombstone Weir drop | Club Members | **S = 3 L = 4 = 12 Med.**  Take the river route left and eddy out. Make sure you power through “Hole”. Hole is “Sticky” at varying degrees, particularly on river left. | Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. |  |  |
| Middle Weir drop opposite Mile End Mill | Club Members | **S = 3 L = 4 = 12 Med.**  Take the river route left or right and eddy out. Make sure you power through “Hole”. Hole is “Sticky” at varying degrees, particularly on river left. | Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. |  |  |
| Bottom Weir drop at Mile End Mill | Club Members | **S = 5 L = 4 = 20 High**  Tale left route of island & avoid the right side of river prior to drop, as it is a great hazard to paddlers taking this route over a“Spiky” weir. | Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. |  |  |

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.