

Worcester Canoe Club - Reviewed Nov 2025 – Next Review Nov 2026

General Risk Assessment Sheet. Appendix 8

Project Title: Coaching for New Participants.		Assessors:	Risk Assessment		
Hazard & Likely Outcome	Persons Affected (member, public, contractor)	Description of Control Measures (note: ERICPD!)	P	S	Risk Rating
Water - Drowning	Participants	Sessions are run under recognised Club Coaches. Parental or self declaration of the ability to swim 50 metres in light clothing. Minimum Coaching Ratios of 1:8 in K1's, in crew boats 1:12 for experienced coaches in good conditions. Change to lower ratio as conditions or abilities necessitate. Buoyancy Aids to be worn. Pre existing medical conditions or disabilities are to be declared on the registration form and the lead coach must be aware of any such circumstance. In the event of challenging conditions then the lead coach must employ a dynamic risk assessment on the occasion which may result in a dry land session or a restricted river area.			
Other River Users – Collision / Capsize/ Physical Injury.	Participants	Lead Coach to ensure participants are aware of; Relevant Waterway Laws. Personal Awareness. Next of Kin notification of expected time duration. Knowledge of Riversports Guidelines. Group Buddy system of awareness.	1	3	LOW
Debris – Collision / Capsize/ Physical Injury.	Participants	Lead Coach to ensure participants are aware of; Personal Awareness. River awareness and River condition knowledge. Group Buddy system of awareness.	1	3	LOW
Temperature – Heat Exhaustion or Hypothermia	Participants	Lead Coach to ensure participants are aware of; River awareness and River condition knowledge. Prevailing weather conditions. PPE – correct clothing for the prevailing / expected conditions. Knowledge of Hydration and Exposure symptoms.	1	3	LOW
Specific Rowing Clubs – Collision / Capsize / Physical Injury.	Participants	Lead Coach to identify specific areas to be aware of / avoided. Participants to be wearing high visibility vests as issued by the Coaches.	2	3	LOW
River Weirs – Entrapment / Capsize / Drowning / Physical Injury,	Participants	Lead Coach to identify the whereabouts of the local weirs and the safe turning points to preclude any danger.	1	3	LOW

Infection e.g. E.coli, Leptospirosis – Gastronomical Illness etc.	Participants	Local River is a reasonably well maintained water course, Lead Coach to ensure that Paddlers understand the importance of hand washing and showering.	1	3	LOW

Notes on Use:

1. Identify all significant or potentially significant hazards associated with an item or activity
2. Apply hierarchy of control ERICPD (Eliminate, Replace, Isolate, Control, PPE, Discipline)
3. Assign probability (P) of harm occurring (1 to 4)
4. Assign likely severity (S) of harm (1 to 4)
5. Identify risk rating from the matrix
6. Identify any **significant** information that needs to be passed on and recorded.

P \ S	Negligible 1	Minor 2	Major / Severe 3	Extreme 4
1. Improbable			LOW	MEDIUM
2. Remote			LOW	MEDIUM
3. Possible		LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
4. Probable		MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH