

# BRADFORD & BINGLEY CANOE CLUB

## RISK ASSESSMENT

Location: Wagon Lane Slalom Site – River, Bank & Steps

Date: 31/12/14

Review: 31/12/15

Assessors: Paul Ford

Hazard	Possible Outcome	Likelihood Rating	Severity Rating	Risk (LxS)	Suggested Action	Post Action Risk Level	Due	Who
1) Numerous obstacles on river bed	Entrapment	2	1	2	Risk dependent on conditions and ability. Defensive swimming techniques to be taught and practised. Attentive adults on bank during junior sessions. Safety and Suggestions paddlers briefed. Bank box on site during session.	2	Ongoing	JP
2a) Numerous obstacles on river bed	Collision	3	1	3	Risk dependent on conditions and ability. Defensive swimming techniques to be taught and practised. Attentive adults on bank during junior sessions. Safety and Suggestions paddlers briefed.	2	Ongoing	JP
2b) Numerous obstacles after high water levels	Entrapment	1	6	6	After high flows visually inspect river for obstacles and issue warnings or clear before allowing paddlers on river.	2	After flood	PF WR
3) Overhanging trees, particularly river left	Collision & Entrapment	3	1	3	Risk dependent on conditions and ability. Adequate supervision and observation when novices are on the water. Management of trees.	2	Ongoing	PF
4) Undercut banking – badly defined bank edge, particularly near steps	Spectator - fall into river or onto rocks	3	2	6	Cut back foliage during spring & summer. Add edge marking strip to the steps. Use hivy tape at high population events.	4	Ongoing	PF
5) Undercut banking	Entrapment	2	1	2	Risk dependent on conditions and ability. Adequate supervision and observation when novices are on the water. Safety and Suggestions paddlers need briefing. Manage areas.	1	Ongoing	PF
6) Low poles & top wires when in flood ie. >1.8m.	Entrapment	3	2	6	Cancel paddling in high water. Text/e-mail all members.	0	When nec.	JP
7) Fishing hooks suspended from top wires	Get caught on clothing or body	2	1	2	Raise awareness, pre-session check. Remove when found.	0	Each session	All
8) Sharp objects on riverbed	Injury to paddlers in the water	3	2	6	Recommend paddlers wear footwear and helmets at all times. Checks and regular clearance.	4	Ongoing	All
9) Rainwater outflow rocks are	Minor fall	3	2	6	Rocks should not be used to access	2	Done	

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slippery and uneven					bank. Additional access points have been provided.			
10) Light failure leading to secondary incident as a result	See entrapment and collision dangers, Max ratings = 2	3	1	3	Extra vigilance & safety cover when inexperienced paddlers on water at night. Lights on separate circuits.	2	Ongoing	All
11) Unlit section of river below bridge	As 10)	3	1	3	Additional lighting has been installed. Use lamp from bank box.	2	Done	JP
12) Dropped boats from steps	Paddlers in eddy can be hit by falling boat	3	2	6	Paddlers in eddy should be aware of people accessing/egressing on the steps. Smaller paddlers should seek assistance when getting in/out here. Wear helmets.	2	Ongoing	All
13) Slippery Steps	Slip and fall	3	2	1	Check steps' non-slip surface intact	2	Ongoing	PF
14) Tree at steps overhanging and becoming undercut, may fall	Crush injury	2	3	6	Concrete protection at river level has been replaced to reduce wash out. Consider tree surgery.	3	Ongoing regular visual inspection	PF
Regular report on Chair's schedule								
15) Slipping on muddy bank at the middle access point.	Fall	3	1	3	Visual check and clear if necessary, middle access point.	1	Regular visual inspection	PF
16) Seal launching on disabled access ramp.	Launch into other boats on the water	2	2	4	Cut back grass and bushes to allow clear visibility around the landing site and prevent depositing of decaying leaves.	2	Ongoing	PF
17) Seal launching on disabled access ramp	Pedestrians slipping on ramp	2	1	2	The astro turf at the top of the ramp does not present a slip hazard. Warn members.	2	Coaches, Trustees	WR JH PF
18) Seal launching on disabled access ramp	Paddlers colliding with floating ramp	1	1	1	Ramp end is aligned with trees.	1		PF
19) Far bank is useful for rescue	Late rescue	2	1	2	Bridge gate to be unlocked during open sessions. Key in bank box.	1	Ongoing	JP

This risk assessment has been carried out to the best ability of the assessors. The hazards identified are those perceived by the assessors to pose a potential safety risk. This assessment may not necessarily have identified all possible hazards.

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Risk rating matrix. Multiply "Likelihood" by "Severity" = Risk level			
Severity of Effect			
Likelihood of Exposure	Slightly harmful = 1	Harmful = 2	Extremely harmful = 3
Highly unlikely = 1	1 Trivial risk	2 Tolerable risk	3 Moderate risk
Unlikely = 2	2 Tolerable risk	4 Moderate risk	6 Substantial risk
Likely = 3	3 Moderate risk	6 Substantial risk	9 Intolerable risk

RISK LEVEL	ACTION AND TIMESCALE
<b>TRIVIAL</b>	No action and no documentary records need to be kept.
<b>TOLERABLE</b>	No additional controls are required. Consideration may be given to a more cost effective solution or improvement that imposes no additional cost burden. Monitoring is required to ensure that the controls are maintained.
<b>MODERATE</b>	Efforts should be made to reduce the risk, but the costs of prevention should be carefully measured and limited. Risk reduction measures should be implemented within a defined period.  Where the moderate risk is associated with extremely harmful consequences, further assessment may be necessary to establish more precisely the likelihood of harm as a basis for determining the need for improved control measures.
<b>SUBSTANTIAL</b>	Activity should not be started until the risk has been reduced. Considerable resources may have to be allocated to reduce the risk. Where the risk involves activity in progress, urgent action should be taken.

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### INTOLERABLE

Activity should not be *started or continued* until the risk has been reduced. If it is not possible to reduce risk even with unlimited resources, activity has to remain prohibited.

- Likely - Typically experienced at least once every six months by an individual
- Unlikely – Typically experienced once every five years by an individual
- Highly unlikely - Typically experienced once during the working lifetime of an individual
  
- Slightly harmful – (**Safety**) = Superficial injuries; minor cuts and bruises; eye irritation from dust. (**Health**) = Nuisance and irritation (e.g. headaches); temporary ill health leading to discomfort (e.g. diarrhoea).
- Harmful – (**Safety**) = Lacerations; burns; concussion; serious sprains; minor fractures. (**Health**) = Partial hearing loss; dermatitis; asthma; work related upper limb disorders; ill health leading to permanent minor disability.
- Extremely harmful – (**Safety**) = Fatal injuries; amputations; multiple injuries; major fractures. (**Health**) = Acute fatal diseases; severe life shortening diseases; permanent substantial disability.