

RISK ASSESSMENT (MODRATE WATER PADDLESPORT - GENERIC)



ESTABLISHMENT: Ibex Canoe Club, Brixham ASSESSMENT DATE: 11 March 2025 COMPLETED BY: Robert Bazeley (Club Chair/Safety Officer)

ACTIVITY/ENVIRONMENT: Kayaking/ canoeing at Moderate Venues on the River Dart up to and including Grade 2

VENUES INCLUDE: The middle section (Holne Bridge-Buckfastleigh), the lower section (Buckfastleigh-Staverton) and Staverton to Totnes Weir

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

DATE FOR REVIEW: 10 March 2028

1. Hazard	2. Who might be harmed?	3. Is the risk adequately controlled?	4. What further action is needed to control the risk?
<i>List significant hazards which may result in serious harm or affect several people.</i>	<i>List groups of people who are especially at risk from the significant hazards identified.</i>	<i>List existing controls or note where the information may be found. (e.g. Information, instruction training, systems or procedures)</i>	<i>List the risks which are not adequately controlled and proposed action where it is reasonably practicable to do more.</i>
Drowning	Participants Leaders	Participants will all have prior experience in kayak/canoe on sheltered water. Participants will be briefed on specific techniques - defensive/aggressive swimming, use of throw lines, eddy's and strainers, etc	Buoyancy Aids will be issued and worn by all participants. Staff will have appropriate qualifications and/or experience for the session being run
Strains/ Back Injury	Participants Leaders	Warm up prior to session. Correct lifting technique demonstrated and monitored by Instructor. Lifting shared as appropriate.	Extra buoyancy placed in rear of kayaks and buoyancy bags or blocks fitted to open canoes, to ease rescue if capsize
Hypo/hyperthermia	Participants Leaders	Group informed of correct clothing needed for an activity that could see prolonged periods in the water or wet. Instructor to ensure correct clothing is worn by participants. Group shelter/survival bag carried with first aid kit.	Weather forecast checked prior to activity Extra clothing advised and provided where possible (eg cags, wet suits)

Entrapment	Participants Leaders	Clear briefing given to group regarding capsized drill prior to launching. Foot entrapment risks covered in the briefing prior to the activity.	All staff appropriately qualified or experienced in white water safety and rescue techniques. Group are closely supervised at all times
Fatigue	Participants Leaders	Leaders/ Instructor / Coach monitors condition of group during session. Activity appropriate to condition of participants.	
Failing Equipment	Participants Leaders	Safe stowage areas used. Coach/Instructor/ Leader to check equipment prior to use. Ensure is up to standard requirements. Use/return of equipment supervised and rechecked by Instructor(s).	
Weather	Participants Leaders	Leader/ Instructor / Coach to have information regarding current and predicted weather conditions for the day of activity.	
Other Injuries Cuts/ abrasions etc	Participants Leaders	Leaders/ Instructor / Coach first aid trained and qualified, carrying a first aid kit.	
Head Injuries	Participants Leaders	Helmets will be worn by all at all times on the water and when scouting river bank.	
Obstacles in the River	Participants Leaders	Leaders/ Instructor / Coach to have a thorough knowledge of the section of river being used. Group managed so that they are able to avoid/get out if unexpected obstacles arise.	Local knowledge for current and up to date info to be sourced prior to activity