

GB Wild Water Racing

Site Specific Risk Assessment: The River Dee, Llangollen

Risk Assessment completed by: Peter Schofield

Date: 28th September 2013

Reviewed and updated by: Jamie Christie 28th September 2021

| Hazard (Step 1) | Who might be harmed? (Step 2) | How is the risk controlled? (Step 3 & 4) | Review & revision (Step 5) |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Being hit by vehicle when crossing the road | Athletes, coaches, spectators | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juniors advised to be careful crossing the road on the Town bridge, primary aged children supervised when crossing | October 2013 |
| Slipping on rocks at lower water levels | Athletes, coaches, spectators | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take particular care at low water when rocks are greasy. . If the rocks are washing over on the Serpents tail take particular care because of large pot-holes | October 2013 |
| Slipping on the foot bridge from the upper car park down to the access road for the Chain Bridge Hotel | Athletes, coaches, spectators | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take particular care if the bridge is wet and there are fallen leaves. When carrying boats it is advised that athletes double up and carry two boats, taking care when passing other bridge users. Where appropriate non-slip footwear | October 2013 |
| Entrapment on rocks / stoppers. Impact on major obstacles | Athletes and coaches on the water | <p>Serpent's Tail and JJ's / Mile End Mill are assessed as moderate hazard and coaches should walk the course before paddling. Rescue in both locations is possible</p> <p>If forced to take the left hand route on the right hand corner rapid 300m beyond the serpent's tail due to low water, paddlers should be aware that there is a concrete slab at the exit that it is possible to get pinned on.</p> <p>The race will not take place over Town Falls. The Pot and the approach to Town Falls have deteriorated over recent years. It is difficult to cover in terms of safety either from the bank or from a boat. The river bed, particularly the slabs over the main drop have deteriorated and are different to what many would remember.</p> | October 2013 updated October 2019 |

| | | | |
|--|---------------|---|--|
| | | <p>Slalom have now stopped running their events over this part of the river for these reasons. It is not recommended that competitors paddle on this part of the river. At medium and high levels there is a route to go down close to the island rather than over the slab – but this is not recommended, Egress from the river above the falls is river right on the rock slabs just above the Corn Exchange at the old Div. B race finish</p> <p>Athletes should also be aware to avoid the Stopper below Town Falls (right across river except obvious chute on river left). This is particularly dangerous because of the risk of entrapment and is another reason to avoid Town falls.</p> <p>When water levels are changing, dynamic risk assessment will alter the structure of sessions or competitions to control hazards</p> | |
| | More details: | http://www.ukriversguidebook.co.uk/rivers/wales/north/river-dee-horseshoe-falls-to-llangollen-town-weir | |