

GB Wild Water Racing

Site Specific Risk Assessment: Daleks

Risk Assessment completed by: Kerry Christie

Date: 3rd June 2024

Reviewed and updated before race

RISK ASSESSMENT

L=LOW RISK (IF ADVICE FOLLOWED); M=MEDIUM RISK AND H=HIGH RISK (IF ANY RACE RISK DEEMED HIGH THEN RACE TO BE MOVED OR CANCELLED DUE TO BEING ADVERTISED AS SUITABLE FOR NOVICES)

HAZARDS	RISK TO WHOM	RISK AVOIDANCE, ACTIONS AND ADVICE	RATING IF PRECAUTIONS ETC FOLLOWED
PADDLER CONTROL	Paddlers	Paddlers and parents etc. to follow instructions and safety, site etc. plans and directions from the organisers. It is their responsibility to acquaint themselves with this.	L
RACE ORGANISER	Organisation	Nottingham Kayak Club on behalf of Wild Water Racing Committee as part of British Canoeing either individual or as a member of a British Canoeing affiliated club: Hold a 10 million pound third party liability insurance. It is a BC requirement that the event has a designated safety officer who has completed the "BC event safety course". Ian Tomlinson and Jamie Christie have met the requirements and will be designated safety officers.	L
INSURANCE COVER CHECKS	Organisation and Paddlers	All competitors will be checked for insurance cover at race entry as either having: <input type="checkbox"/> British Canoeing membership. <input type="checkbox"/> Affiliated club British Canoeing membership.	L
COMPETENCE	Paddlers	Paddlers are solely responsible for their own competence, medical fitness, endurance to complete the race and issues and welfare undertaking the race in the conditions present on the day.	L
START AND FINISH NUMBERS MATCHING	Organisation and Paddlers	All paddlers will have a start number. Start and finish numbers will be compared. Paddlers will be briefed on ensuring they do not leave the race area without first reporting their withdrawal. Contact details will be held on entry forms if needed. There is also a line of sight from start to finish, and competitors walk back up the side of the course between runs.	L

GAZEBO	Organisation and Paddlers	Gazebo will be pegged down from its legs and guy ropes and the gazebo will be taken down if the weather/wind is too bad, to prevent the gazebo from blowing away. The gazebo will be situated on the grass on the river right bank of the course just above the last bridge.	L
SITE SPECIFIC			
NON PADDLERS & MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC		The location is popular with dog walkers, so there can be plenty of people in the vicinity of the race.	L
PROTECTED LAND AND PRIVATELY OWNED LAND		The race course is in a country park and has a footpath along one bank of the course and the other is accessible although not officially a footpath, so surfaces are more uneven	L
WATER GETTING IN AND OUT			
GETTING IN AND OUT	Paddlers and spectators	All WWR paddlers and spectators or officials getting on the water MUST wear a buoyancy aid. Spray decks are highly recommended, but not essential. It is recommended officials doing start and finish and parents, etc., if on the bank and potentially prepared to intervene in a rescue wear a buoyancy aid. Paddlers to be careful getting in and out and request assistance if required, although there are steps at the get in and out.	L
MUDDY BANKS	Paddlers and Spectators	Although the sides are concrete and purpose built for access/egress, they can be slippery in places through algae growth. Paddlers should take care when walking on wet surfaces.	L
RIVER CONDITIONS	Paddlers	River Trent is an offshoot from a natural river and after the finish is wide and lined with trees and other hazards. There is a low fence along both banks and at low water these present no risk to water users, however in high water the river rises the risk of becoming entangled and entrapped in on land obstructions and other hazards increases. In these circumstances the race would be cancelled.	L
CONDITIONS WIND,WEATHER ETC., E.G.	Paddlers and Spectators	Review on day of race. Option includes course changes to back channels or cancellation.	L
RIVER TRAFFIC	Paddlers	There is little traffic on the river. Competitors are reminded to treat all other user with respect.	L
OVER HANGING TREES BRANCHES ETC	Paddlers and Spectators	In low water the risk is low and most trees and obstacles are above the water, as the river rises the risk of becoming entangled and entrapped in the on land obstructions and other hazards increases. Any specific hazards will be highlighted during the briefing.	L
CAPSIZE			

CAPSIZE	Paddlers	<p>IN ALL CASES THE PADDLER TAKES PRIORITY OVER SAVING BOAT AND/OR EQUIPMENT</p> <p>WWR code of conduct requires all paddlers to offer support to other paddlers when requested or if they see someone in potential difficulty with penalty of disqualification for life from competitive canoeing unless at risk/danger themselves.</p> <p>The paddler should get to the bank as quickly as possible with their canoe and paddle if they can. If they need help they MUST stop the next paddlers by calling for help from them. The water current may be strong and some paddlers may have difficulty in swimming against this. The finished paddlers must be alert to the paddlers on the race course and go to help immediately. Experienced paddlers will be asked to stay on the water (if they agree) to assist with safety in addition to the two finish paddlers on standby.</p> <p>NB: If a boat is lost downstream then please let the race organisation know so emergency service can be notified to prevent any unnecessary searches being started.</p>	L
BOAT SPECIFIC			
SAFETY CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT		<p>CHECK YOUR KIT BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME THOSE 40 YEAR OLD WOODEN PADDLES MAY HAVE BEEN GOOD 40 YEARS AGO BUT ARE THEY NOW!!!!</p> <p>Paddlers are required to ensure their safety clothing and equipment is in accordance with current safety regulations in WWR.</p>	L
CANOE FLOTATION	Paddlers	All boat must comply with the current wwr safety rules	L
HELMETS	Paddler	The race encompasses a section of the National Watersports Centre with deep slow flowing (but powerful) water. All paddlers are expected to wear helmets in any craft.	
ILL HEALTH INJURY			
ILL HEALTH and or INJURY	Paddlers	If you can pull to the side or safe bank area, or an area you can beach boat or hold on safely to something if you can get out and rest on bank. Call for help in any situation and report to the race organiser for first aid or treatment on site or wider help. Contact to race first Aider.	L
HYPOTHERMIA/HEAT STROKE	Paddlers and spectators	<p>Paddlers can withdraw from race by attracting other paddlers' attention.</p> <p>Wear clothing appropriate to conditions and that suits your own bodily temperature control needs.</p>	L
WEILS DISEASE	Paddlers	WEIL'S DISEASE	L

		<p>Weil's Disease is a RARE but very serious illness which is caused by bacteria carried in the urine of rats (and some other animals). It can be contracted anywhere but especially around waterways. The descending scale of risk is: Stagnant water, canals and slow moving rivers (particularly after flash floods), swifter streams.</p> <p>Precautions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid capsize drill or rolling in stagnant or slow moving water • Wash or shower after canoeing Cover minor scratches on exposed parts of the body with water-proof plaster • Use foot-wear to avoid cutting feet <p>Should you become ill after canoeing (2-19 days) with a flu-like illness (temperature, aching limbs & joints) call your doctor and tell him/her you are a canoeist and may have come into contact with the Leptospirosis bacteria - see your Yearbook Contact the British Canoeing Office for more information – see for standard handout please.</p>	
WATER QUALITY	Paddlers	<p>Paddlers will be made aware at the event briefing of the current water quality and risks associated. Paddlers will be advised to wash and shower after paddling and to wash hands often and before eating. For more information on water quality and related illnesses paddlers and anyone involved will be directed to this link: https://www.nwscnotts.com/nwsc/policies-documents/water-quality/ where they will find information on potential illnesses and what to do if they believe they have contracted them, and the site specific water quality ratings.</p>	
FIRST AID	All Participants	<p>Nicky Cresser (07983 316 444) is one of the qualified first aider on site for the event.</p>	
WELFARE AND SAFEGUARDING	All Participants	<p>Nicky Cresser (07983 316 444) has welfare and safeguarding training and will be on site for the event.</p>	
EMERGENCY			
EMERGENCY	Paddlers and Spectators	<p>Call 999 or 112 and request the correct service, explain the situation and contact the race organiser as soon as possible.</p>	L