

Venue / Activity / Group Specific Risk Assessment

Designated Coach(es) / Centre / Club Frome Canoe Club

Specified nature of paddlesport activity and environment/venue Langham Farm Slalom & WWR

Session Aims and Objectives Ranking Division 3 and 4 Slalom

1. Significant hazards and identification of risks <i>See overleaf – add any hazards peculiar to the specified session, activity or group</i>	2. Those who might be harmed <i>Number and age of the participants. Number of coaches/leaders. Any others at risk.</i>	3. Control measures	4. Residual risk rating <i>must be low otherwise reassess controls</i>
Personal injury whilst carrying crafts	All, particularly smaller paddlers	Slalom canoes are relatively light, plastic craft are heavier. Organiser/Pre-Starter to advise two per canoe where appropriate.	Low
Slips and trips. Location of boats near Start area.	All	Sign to state no boats to be left on the weir, pre-starter/starter will alert control as to any issues which need addressing. Concrete steps and a gravel path have been constructed to improve access to weir/launch area	Low
Unable to exit canoe on capsize	Young/inexperienced paddlers	Where a neoprene or other potentially tight spraydeck is used, Pre-Starter to check that paddler can release it, or advise on alternative spraydeck. At least one designated safety person in close proximity of course at all times during official practice and race runs.	Low
Drowning	All	All participants must wear an approved buoyancy jacket. Pre-Starter to ensure correctly fitted.	Low
Head injury	All	All participants must wear an approved crash helmet. Pre-Starter to ensure correctly fitted.	Low
Damage to feet from sharp objects in river and river bank	All	Pre-Starter to ensure appropriate footwear to be worn.	Low
Hypothermia	All, particularly young paddlers	During periods of bad weather – heavy rain / wind, monitor for inappropriately dressed competitors, and advise parent / coach as necessary, either through personal contact or through PA system.	Low
Medical incident	All	A designated First Aider is identified at Control. First aid kit available, AED is located at village hall (0.5mile drive, directly opposite end of track) There is emergency vehicle access.	Low
High water	Inexperienced paddlers	In high water flows we will a position competent adult at bridge prepared to prevent or rescue a capsize or pin. Organiser to review daily or in anticipation of river level change.	Low

Canoeing and Kayaking are “Assumed risk” – “Water contact sports” that may carry attendant risks. Participants should be aware of and accept these risks, and be responsible for their own action and involvement.

		In higher flows Organiser to consider postponement or cancellation, this would be likely if river rises above level of weir, upstream monitoring gauges will be used to assess if river is rising or falling. The river at Langham rises approximately 3 hours after the guage at Rodden meadows in Frome town Centre. The weir is covered at a level over 1m at Tellisford. High water would be any level over 0.7m at Tellisford.	
Fall from ladder	Course erectors	A ladder is required for setting out the electrical cable for the food tent. Ladder to be placed on firm ground and steadied by a second person. There are permanent wires for the gates so ladder / tree climbing not required for that.	Low
Weil's Disease	Competitors	In 2022 a case of weils disease was reported after capsiz practice at Langham Farm. The standard slalom safety sign will be displayed and a reminder especially about wearing shoes will be made in the pre-race information.	Medium
Covid 19	All	Persons with symptoms asked not to attend event. Hand washing with warm water and soap and hand gel available. Measures will be reviewed immediately prior to event.	Low at present
Narrow bridge at entrance to site	Large or wide vehicles	Caravans and large motorhomes are not to try to cross the bridge, parking for these vehicles is available elsewhere. This is communicated in the pre-race information.	Medium
Bridge between car parking island and camping island has only a handrail and no enclosed sides	All	We will add temporary fencing on the bridge to help prevent people from falling between the hand rail and the bridge.	Low
Electrical installation	All	Electrical installation by qualified electrician and protected by RCD's. Extension leads and portable equipment visually inspected prior to use, care taken to avoid electrics coming into contact with wet conditions.	Low
Bottled LPG used in catering	All	Used only with intended appliances and in well ventilated areas. Visual check of equipment and pipe work before use.	Low

5. Risks not adequately controlled and the action to take when practicable to do more None.....

6. Procedure for risk assessment review (eg any special briefings?) Review at event After Action Review.....

Canoeing and Kayaking are “Assumed risk” – “Water contact sports” that may carry attendant risks. Participants should be aware of and accept these risks, and be responsible for their own action and involvement.

Completed by Chris Wilde

Signed Chris Wilde

Date 03/11/2025

Canoeing and Kayaking are “Assumed risk” – “Water contact sports” that may carry attendant risks. Participants should be aware of and accept these risks, and be responsible for their own action and involvement.