

# Risk Assessment Holme Pierrepont – Daleks Section & Back Channels Only

<b>Date:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
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<b>Assessors Name:</b>	<b>Nicky Cresser</b>	<b>Review Date:</b>	Original
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<b>Description of assessment</b>	Wild Water Event Specific Risk Assessment: Holme Pierrepont White Water Course – Back Channel & Dalek Sprint events– <b>9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>
<b>Organisers and Experience</b>	<p>The event is organised by Nottingham Kayak Club. The lead organiser on behalf of NKC is Nicky Cresser. Nicky has over 15 years experience in coaching and events organisation, running events in canoe slalom, canoe polo and WWR on a variety of venues from grass roots to national championships.</p> <p>Nicky Cresser is also a National Coach provider and National Team Coach who sits on the discipline specific committee for WWR</p>
<b>Event Safety Officer</b>	Nicky Cresser, last event Safety course completed February 2025 and stadium safety and rescue course in 2024.
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Nicky Cresser is a current secondary Maths teacher and has recently updated Paddle UK safeguarding training.

<b>Location Details</b>	<p><b>Holme Pierrepont White Water Course, Adbolton Ln, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham NG12 2LU</b></p> <p>The Dalek and Back Channel races are run on the section of water after the main Wild Water course which is mainly flat water but with a considerable flow.</p> <p>There is parking and public access to the site, with footpaths running the length of the course. The course will be closed to other paddlers during competition. Although there will be a slalom taking place on the main course.</p> <p>The location is part of a country park and there are often members of the public on the banks of the course.</p>
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<b>Safety Plan</b>	<p>Safety cover will be provided. It is planned to have on the bank safety cover with people that have completed the Stadium Safety course. It is also a requirement in the WWR racing rules that at least 2 racers remain at the finish until the next paddler completes the course. The event will also be supported by competent, experienced athletes both on and off the water.</p> <p>The Dalek and Back Channel courses have complete visibility from any point, however there will be a person posted near to the blocks at the end of the course.</p> <p>The nominated first aider is Louise Maloney</p>
<b>Emergency Plan</b>	<b>In the Event of an Emergency or suspected emergency the organisers should be notified and the emergency services called.</b>
<b>Welfare and Safeguarding Plan</b>	The event adopts the Paddle UK policy for welfare and safeguarding, in the event of a suspected incident the organisers should be notified, and the emergency services will be contacted if required.
<b>Evacuation Plan</b>	<b>CHECK HPP Site Rules</b>
<b>Incident reporting</b>	Following any Safety, Emergency, Safeguarding or evacuation incident a Paddle UK incident form shall be submitted as a record of the situation.

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing to control the risks?	What further action do you need to take to control the risks?	Who needs to carry out the action?	When is the action needed by?	Done
Lack of Paddler Competence	Paddlers	<p>All entrants or person in “loco Parentis” must complete a separate WWR entry form stating the paddler is competent and fit to race the WWR race on the conditions and distance etc. on the day.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>All Paddlers and parents must follow instructions and comply with any safety, plans</p>	<p>Any new competitors to the race are asked to come and speak to the organisers immediately after the briefing</p> <p>A briefing will take place</p> <p>The white water section of the course will be covered by qualified white water safety personnel.</p>	<p>Event Organiser and competitor</p> <p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Safety lead</p>	<p>At the briefing</p> <p>Before start</p> <p>During event</p>	

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		<p>and directions from the organisers. It is their responsibility to acquaint themselves with this.</p> <p>Event description clearly describes the severity of course, and the fact that paddlers need to be self-supporting on the river section.</p>				
Other water users	Paddlers	The daleks and Back Channel sections will be closed to other water users throughout the duration of the race, but rafts, tubers and kayakers may drift onto the course inadvertently during the race.	Paddlers to be made aware during briefing and event literature	Organiser	Before start	
Missing Paddler(s) & or Children	Paddlers	<p>Paddlers will be briefed on ensuring they do not leave the race area without first reporting their withdrawal.</p> <p>As per WWR rules, each competitor must wait on the water at the finish for the next 2 competitors to finish before leaving the water. The final 2 competitors must wait until the finisher tells them they can get off the water.</p>	<p>Event team to be in contact throughout the event to ensure that all expected paddlers are accounted for.</p> <p>Paddlers briefed as to their responsibility to others throughout the event.</p> <p>Paddlers/parents briefed on recommendation that no paddler under 16 should be allowed to move around the Venue for any reason e.g. taking canoes to the river, going to the toilets etc., on their own (nor be left on their own).</p>	<p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Start and Finish Team</p>	<p>On the day</p> <p>During event</p>	
Injury to Non-Paddlers and Members of the Public	Public Event Team Spectators	First Aider is available	<p>Paddlers briefed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- not to block footpaths</li> <li>- take care when they move boats and equipment around the site.</li> <li>- boats to be secured in windy weather.</li> </ul> <p>Event First Aid Cover in place for the event</p>	<p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Paddlers</p>	On the day	

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Moving Water	Paddlers	All WWR paddlers or officials getting on the water MUST wear a buoyancy aid and helmet.	Paddler safety to be discussed at the briefing	Safety Lead	On the day	
	Event Safety Team	It is recommended officials doing start and finish and parents, spectators etc., if on the bank and potentially prepared to intervene in a rescue wear a buoyancy aid.	Only paddlers, officials, water safety personnel and designated photographers are permitted over the barrier at the WWC. Anyone else is encouraged to vacate the area.	Safety Lead	On the day	
	Starter	Any competitor coming across another competitor in trouble must stop and give assistance.	Anyone inside the barrier at the WWC must wear a Buoyancy Aid/Life Jacket and have received a safety briefing.	Safety Lead	On the day	
	Spectators	As per WWR rules, each competitor must wait on the water at the finish for the next 2 competitors to finish before leaving the water. The final 2 competitors must wait until the finisher tells them they can get off the water.	Competent water safety team* on hand on WWC to rescue from the water where necessary.* (See Safety Plan section at start of document for specific details)	Safety Lead	On the day	
Drowning	Paddlers	All paddlers are required to wear and approved buoyancy aid, each paddler is responsible for ensuring the buoyancy aid is in good condition and suitable for the event.  Any competitor coming across another competitor in trouble must stop and give assistance.	Reminder given at the race briefing	Event Organiser	On the Day	
Head Injury	Paddlers	Helmets are mandatory at this event.	Event First Aid Cover in place for the event	Event Organiser	On the Day	
	Organisers Safety Team	<a href="#">Paddle UK Head Injury Guidance</a> to be followed  Event has an Emergency Plan to be followed, including evacuation procedures	Safety Team briefed on Head Injury Protocol and how to inform race control  Event First Aid Cover in place for the event*** (See Safety Plan section for specific details)	Safety Lead	On the Day	

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Injury - body, inc manual handling	Paddlers Event Team	All WWR canoes and Kayaks must comply with the current <a href="#">WWR safety rules</a>  Volunteers and Safety Team briefed on Manual Handling	Event First Aid Cover in place for the event	Safety Lead & First Aider	On the day	
Slips and Trips	Paddlers Event Team Spectators	HPP is open to the public, normal care should be taken  Public and Spectators informed via signage not to approach the edge	Paddlers & Volunteers briefed to take care getting in and out of WWC due to slippery banks  Event First Aid Cover in place for the event	Event Organiser/First Aider  Paddlers & volunteers	On the day	
Entrapment or injury from hazards on the course - Trees - Boats - damaged WWC - Throwlines	Paddlers Event Team	The river (Classic Course) is a natural water course which is lined by trees, bushes and other plants, under normal river conditions these pose little risk.  As the river level increases, and the flow increases, and the risk of a paddler or swimmer being inadvertently pushed into a tree or bush and becoming entrapped increases.  White Water course designed to avoid entrapment  Paddlers are able to exit their boat easily where straps are used (C1&C2) Paddlesafer guidance will be followed  Event has an Emergency Plan to be followed	River conditions are assessed on the day and competitors are advised of any specific risks at the briefing.  If necessary an alternative race course will be used.  Course recce and course walk completed prior to event to identify additional risks  Paddlers briefed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DO NOT cut over chains or ropes from moored boats</li> <li>Take care to avoid overhanging trees on the river</li> </ul> The bank-side team will be on hand to help anyone out of the water on the WWC.	Event Organiser  Event Organiser  Event Organiser  Event Organiser  Safety Lead	On the day  On the day  On the day  On the day  On the day	

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Poor Water Quality	Paddlers Event Team	NWSC site monitors water quality & will close course if levels are exceeded or make additional mitigation recommendations  Event has an Emergency Plan to be followed, including evacuation procedures	Review water quality to prepare additional mitigations if required  Paddlers briefed to wash hands and shower after being on and around the water and if it is preferred, to drink Coke	Event organiser  Event organiser	Before event  At the Briefing	
ILL HEALTH and or INJURY	Paddlers Event Team	Event has an Emergency Plan to be followed, including evacuation procedures	Event First Aid Cover in place for the event  Paddlers briefed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- pull to a safe area if possible and rest on the bank</li> <li>- Report to safety team/organisers or first aid</li> <li>- look out for each other and assist paddlers in trouble.</li> </ul>	Event organiser/First Aider Paddlers	On the Day	
HYPOTHERMIA / HEAT STROKE	Paddlers Event Team Spectators	Event Venue (HPP) has Warm areas to rewarm anyone suspected of Hypothermia. HPP has on site drinking water availability Event has an Emergency Plan to be followed, including evacuation procedures	Event First Aid Cover in place for the event  Paddlers briefed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- wear clothing appropriate to conditions and that suits your own bodily temperature control needs</li> <li>- pull to a safe area if possible and rest on the bank</li> <li>- Report to safety team/organisers or first aid</li> <li>- look out for each other and assist paddlers in trouble</li> </ul>	Event Organiser First Aider	On the day	
High water levels	Paddlers Event Team	The White water course is normally closed when the water level at Colwich reaches 2.2m. Under certain circumstances the course can	Review water levels and weather conditions in the weeks running up to the event to prepare additional mitigations if required	Event Organiser	In the run up and on the day	

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		<p>still be used with additional safety measures in place.</p> <p>Event has an Emergency Plan to be followed, including evacuation procedures</p>	Event Emergency Plan contains suspension and cancelation protocols			
Lightning Strike	<p>Paddlers</p> <p>Event Team</p> <p>Spectators</p>	<p>If there are concerns about potential storms. Lightning will be tracked using a site such <a href="http://www.lightningmaps.org">www.lightningmaps.org</a>. If lightning is within 10km of the event, racing will immediately stop, paddlers will be removed from the water as quickly as possible and all will be advised to seek shelter.</p>	Monitoring of lightning in place	Event Organiser	On the day	
High Winds	<p>Paddlers</p> <p>Event Team</p> <p>Spectators</p>	<p>Event Infrastructure (gazebos, fencing, signage) secured as per manufacturer guidance where available</p> <p>Boats and paddlers equipment secured when not in use</p>	Review conditions on the day	Event Organiser	On the day	
WEILS DISEASE	<p>Paddlers</p> <p>Event Team</p>	Washing Facilities are available on site	<p>Paddler and volunteer briefing on hazards and symptoms:</p> <p>Precautions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Avoid capsize drill or rolling in stagnant or slow moving water</li> <li>- Wash or shower after canoeing Cover minor scratches on exposed parts of the body with water-proof plaster</li> <li>- Use foot-wear to avoid cutting feet Should you become ill after canoeing (2-19 days) with a flu-like illness (temperature, aching limbs &amp; joints) call your doctor and tell him/her you are a canoeist and may have</li> </ul>	<p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Paddlers</p> <p>Event Volunteers</p>	On the Day	

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			<p>come into contact with the Leptospirosis bacteria</p> <p>Paddlers briefed to report any infection to Paddle UK incident reporting</p>			
Safeguarding or Welfare incident	Paddlers Event Team Spectators	<p>Paddle UK Safeguarding processes to be followed</p> <p>Trained Event Safeguarding Officer to manage concerns during the event.</p>	U18 or vulnerable paddlers to be the responsibility of & supervised by parent / coach / club throughout the event	Event Organiser SG Officer to be mentioned at the briefing	Monitored during the event	
Equipment Failure (Catastrophic)	Event Team Paddlers	<p>All event equipment checked and maintained to manufacturer specifications</p> <p>All Competitors are responsible for ensuring their equipment is fit for purpose and meets manufacturer specifications</p> <p>Event has an Emergency Plan to be followed</p>	Scrutineering checks will be carried out on the day.	Event Organiser	On the day	
Equipment Failure (Organisational Risk)	Event Team Paddle UK	Equipment maintained and regularly checked	Back-up manual system available if required			

Office use only (to be completed by a risk assessment sampler if selected for sampling)

<b>Sampled by</b>		<b>Position:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
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