

## GB Wild Water Racing

### Event Specific Risk Assessment: Great Britain Wild Water Racing Training Camp Grandtully July 26

<b>Date:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
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<b>Assessors Name:</b>	Neil Blackman	<b>Review Date:</b>	18/6/27 if used for subsequent training camps
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<b>Description of assessment</b>	Wild Water Event Specific Risk Assessment: National Training Camp Grandtully 11-19 July 26 – focus WWR training and development including selection race on final weekend (individual event RA for selection race)
<b>Organisers and Experience</b>	The event is organised by the WWR Committee. The lead organiser on behalf of the WWRC is Jamie Christie. Jamie Christie, Current White-Water Coach with 40 years paddling experience and 20 years' experience running canoeing competitions, Neil Blackman Current White-Water Coach with 50 years paddling experience and 30 years' experience running canoeing competitions
<b>Event Safety Officer</b>	Jamie Christie, last event Safety course completed January 2025
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Helen Christie, is a retired primary school teacher and has completed the PUK Safeguarding training courses as identified and a Scouting Safeguarding course that is accepted by Paddle UK.

<b>Location Details</b>	<p><b>The training camp will be based on the River Tay Wild Water Racing course between Aberfeldy and Grandtully</b></p> <p>There is a 4km pre start at Aberfeldy prior to the race start point. This is used as parking and access is limited at actual race start point. The pre start has easy access to the river and ample via Breadlebain canoe club site and Beyond adventure car park in Aberfeldy. The race course uses the River Tay from Edradynate to just below forth falls in Grandtully village.</p> <p>The race course has a number of rapids ranging from grade 1 to 3. Rescue is easily facilitated by the pool drop nature of the river (large eddies and slow moving sections or river)</p> <p>There is parking and public access at both pre start and finish, with footpaths running the length of the course.</p>
<b>Safety / Emergency Plan</b>	<p>Safety cover will be limited to the on the water coaches and other experienced paddlers who will be in attendance at the camp. Both on the water coaches are first aid trained.</p> <p>First aid kits available at Beyond Adventure, Grandtully Campsite and PUK mini buses. Deliberator at Grandtully village hall.</p> <p>Aberfeldy Health Centre, Taybridge Road, Aberfeldy, PH15 2BH. 01887 820366</p> <p>Nearest A &amp; E location - Taymount Terrace, Perth, PH1 1NX. Distance 31 miles</p>

	Guidance by emergency services if required
	The nominated first aiders will be Jamie Christie, Neil Blackman
<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>	Open site – guided by emergency services if required
<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
Lower Paddler Competence	Paddlers	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. 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. All Paddlers and parents must follow instructions and comply with any safety, plans and directions from the organisers. It is their responsibility to acquaint themselves with this. Event description clearly describes the severity of course, and the fact that paddlers need to be self-supporting on the river section.	A briefing will take place prior to each training session.  Briefings will include any safety / hazard info and instructions for rescue in the event of a capsize and their responsibility to others whilst on the water.	Event Organiser and competitor  Safety lead  Coaches	At the briefing  During event	
Missing Paddler(s) & or Children	Paddlers	Paddlers will accompanied by on the water coaches on each session and will be accounted for on and off the water.	In the event of a missing person. PUK policy will be followed and an immediate search initiated.	Event Organiser  Safeguarding lead Coaches	During event	
Injury to Non-Paddlers and Members of the Public	Public Event Team Spectators	First Aiders available  First aid available at Beyond Adventure (Pre start) and Grandtully campsite (near Finish)  First aid kits carried in PUK minibuses	Paddlers briefed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>not to block foot-paths, roads access ways</li> <li>take care when they move boats and equipment around the venue.</li> </ul>	Event Organiser Paddlers  Coaches	During event  At the Briefing	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>boats to be secured in windy weather.</li> </ul>			
Moving Water	Paddlers Coaches	<p>All WWR paddlers and on the water coaches MUST wear a buoyancy aid and helmet. 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.</p> <p>On the water participants must assist a fellow participant in the event of a capsize and adhere to instructions by water and bank based coaches.</p> <p>Bank based coaches who are in close proximity to the river must wear a buoyancy aid.</p>	<p>Paddler safety / hazards to be discussed at the briefing</p> <p>First Aiders available</p> <p>First aid available at Beyond Adventure (Pre start) and Grandtully campsite (near Finish)</p> <p>First aid kits carried in PUK minibuses</p>	<p>Safety Lead</p> <p>Event organiser</p> <p>Coaches</p>	<p>On the day</p> <p>At the Briefing</p>	
Drowning	Paddlers Coaches	<p>All paddlers are required to wear an approved buoyancy aid and crash helmet. Each paddler is responsible for ensuring their buoyancy aid is in good condition, meets regulatory requirements.</p> <p>Any participant coming across another in trouble (for whatever reason) must stop and give assistance. And/or adhere to coach instructions</p>	<p>Reminder given at the race briefing.</p> <p>Coaches First Aid trained</p> <p>First aid available at Beyond Adventure (Pre start) and Grandtully campsite (near Finish)</p> <p>First aid kits carried in PUK minibuses</p>	<p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Safety lead</p> <p>Coaches</p>	<p>On the Day</p> <p>At the Briefing</p>	
Head Injury	Paddlers Coaches	<p>Helmets are mandatory for all on the water participants.</p> <p><a href="#">Paddle UK Head Injury Guidance</a> to be followed</p> <p>Event has an Emergency Plan to be followed.</p>	<p>Coaches First Aid trained</p> <p>First aid available at Beyond Adventure (Pre start) and Grandtully campsite (near Finish)</p> <p>First aid kits carried in PUK minibuses</p>	<p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Safety Lead</p>	<p>On the Day</p> <p>At the Briefing</p>	
Injury - body,	Paddlers Coaches	<p>All WWR canoes and Kayaks must comply with the current <a href="#">WWR safety rules</a></p> <p>Shoes must be worn (wwr rules)</p> <p>Suitable clothing and equipment to be worn – coaches to advise if in doubt</p>	<p>Coaches First Aid trained</p> <p>First aid available at Beyond Adventure (Pre start) and Grandtully campsite (near Finish)</p> <p>First aid kits carried in PUK minibuses</p>	<p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Safety Lead</p> <p>Coaches</p>	<p>On the day</p> <p>At the Briefing</p>	
Slips and Trips	Paddlers Coaches	<p>River access and egress is over uneven and steep ground.</p>	<p>Coaches First Aid trained</p>	<p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Safety Lead</p>	<p>On the day</p> <p>At the Briefing</p>	

			<p>First aid available at Beyond Adventure (Pre start) and Grandtully campsite (near Finish)</p> <p>First aid kits carried in PUK minibuses</p> <p>Warning given at briefing.</p>	Coaches		
<p>Entrapment or injury from hazards on the course - Trees - Boats - damaged - Rafts</p>	<p>Paddlers Coaches</p>	<p>The river is a natural water course which is lined by rocks, trees, bushes and other plants, under normal river conditions these pose little risk.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The nature of the river is pool drop (eddies and slower moving water after each rapid) making rescue easier and the risk of entrapment less. Paddlers are able to exit their boat easily where straps are used (C1&amp;C2)</p> <p>Commercial rafting operates on the river. Rafts to be given wide berths when overtaking and paddlers must wait for rafts to finish negotiating any narrow sections of river / rapids before entering the section themselves</p> <p>Event has an Emergency Plan to be followed</p>	<p>River conditions are assessed on the day and participants advised of any specific risks / hazards at the briefing.</p> <p>If necessary, an alternative section of river may be considerate for use.</p> <p>Paddlers briefed: Take care to avoid overhanging trees on the river . Guidance given on what to do when rafts using river</p> <p>First aid available at Beyond Adventure (Pre start) and Grandtully campsite (near Finish)</p> <p>First aid kits carried in PUK minibuses</p>	<p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Safety Lead</p> <p>Coaches</p>	<p>On the day</p> <p>At the Briefing</p>	
<p>Water Quality</p>	<p>Paddlers Coaches</p>	<p>The River Tay is a natural lake fed river in a very rural environment. Pollution form sewage is very unlikely. If any sewage spills or other pollutant becomes evident, all paddling activity will be stopped, authorities informed. Paddling will resume on guidance from authorities.</p>	<p>An different section of river, upstream of pollution source will be considered as an alternative in the evedent of a pollution incident.</p> <p>Paddlers briefed to wash hands and shower after being on and around the water and if it is preferred, to drink Coke</p>	<p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Safety Lead</p> <p>Coaches</p>	<p>Before event</p> <p>At the Briefing</p>	
<p>Missing persons. Unable to establish whereabouts</p>	<p>U 18 Athletes missing whilst travelling, from accommodation, competition venue or other specified place.</p>	<p>Attempt direct contact with the missing person</p> <p>Ensure that all other children continue to be supervised appropriately while a search for the child concerned is carried out.</p> <p>Organise the remaining available responsible adults to conduct a search of the surrounding area allocating each individual to a specific area. Request all those searching to report</p>	<p>Follow police guidance if further action is recommended and maintain close contact with the police.</p> <p>Report the incident to the designated safeguarding officer.</p>	<p>Event Organiser</p> <p>Safety Lead</p> <p>Coaches</p> <p>Safeguarding Lead PUK</p>	<p>As needed</p>	

		<p>back within a short time, dependent on the size of the area being searched.</p> <p>Ensure that there is a single point of contact for all individuals searching to report back to.</p> <p>If the child cannot be found after a good search of the immediate surroundings, contact the child's parents through emergency contact details supplied through medical/permission forms to advise them of the concern and reassure them that everything is being done to locate the child. Contact the Head of Pathways, Competition and Events (07742 879831).</p> <p>Make a note of the circumstances in which the child has gone missing and where he/she was last seen and prepare a detailed physical description of the child, to include their hair and eye colour, approximate height and build and clothing he/she was wearing, if possible source a photo not more than 6 months old, as this will be required by the police.</p> <p>Report the concern to the police (999 in the UK or 112 in the EU) if the search is unsuccessful and no later than 20 minutes after the initial missing person report if the search is ongoing.</p>	<p>Ensure that you inform all adults involved including the parents, searchers and police if at any stage the child is located.</p> <p>Refer to, and follow, PUK Missing Persons Protocol if in doubt and for follow up actions</p>			
Safeguarding. (if any under 18's are selected for a senior major championship)	Paddlers Coaches	<p>Coaches to work at all times in compliance with PUK Safeguarding Policies and the Codes of Conduct.</p> <p>Coaches to have an appropriate DBS check, Safeguarding &amp; Protecting Children training. Parents/carers and athletes to be informed of safeguarding lead for trip, and reporting procedures for concerns.</p> <p>Water based activities require 2 X coach/competent adults per single athlete, or 1 X coach/competent adult for groups of more than one athlete</p>	Safeguarding and welfare lead is Helen Christie. All athletes, coaches to be made aware of who the person is and provided with contact details	Event Organiser Safety Lead Coaches Safeguarding Lead	Prior to camp departure and throughout trip	
Electrical Storm, Strong Wind	Coach	Coaches are to check local weather forecast before sessions and plan accordingly.	Check weather at start of day to understand if weather events are likely and what time to expect them	Coach	Any specific weather update and instructions	

	Athlete Team staff	Activities to be cancelled and all athletes removed from the water in high winds and lightning following the <u>30/30 rule</u> (if flash to bang is 30 seconds in length or less, seek shelter and stay inside until 30 minutes past the last clap of thunder)		Athlete	to be given at daily briefing	
Sun Burn/Heat Exhaustion	Coach Athlete	Athletes to bring water as appropriate for session needs. Appropriate use of a high factor waterproof sun cream . Appropriate clothing and equipment is to be worn at all times. Close monitoring of individuals for signs and symptoms on a daily basis. Information given to athletes and coaches on how to mitigate effects of sun and extreme heat. E.G. Hydration,, shade, use of sunscreen, clothing and wearing of hats	Assess weather and advise at daily briefing	Event Organiser  Safety Lead  Coaches	On the day  At the Briefing	
Hypothermia / immersion in cold water	Coach Athlete	Coaches to hold an appropriate 'in date' first aid award. Appropriate clothing to be worn by athletes, coaches, to protect from local environmental conditions. Coaches aware of signs and symptoms of hypothermia and close monitoring of individuals throughout the session, remove athletes from the water/session if required Coaches to mitigate session plan appropriately based on athlete ability and environment conditions Accessible area suitable to provide emergency shelter and warmth away from the elements. (Grandtully Campsite buildings) Athletes and coaches to be dressed appropriately for the activity / conditions. Coaches / Team manager to assess reduction in activity following a capsized / immersion in cold water or athlete visibly cold.	Local weather conditions to be monitored and advised at daily brief if cold weather expected.  Cancel activity in extreme cold	Event Organiser  Safety Lead  Coaches	On the day  At the Briefing	