



Risk Assessment

Saturday Morning Sessions:	COVID 19 PERIOD	Paddling between Durweston Mill DT11 0QD and Blandford Weir DT11 7AW. Persons Undertaking Event: Session Leader and participants. Nearest Access Points: Emergency vehicles can gain access to the river at Durweston Mill DT11 0QD, Bryanston School (Boathouse) DT11 0PX and Morrisons Car Park DT11 7AW. Nearest Accident and Emergency Department: Dorset County Hospital, Williams Avenue, Dorchester DT1 2JY. Assessment completed by: [REDACTED] (Club Safety Officer) of the management committee of the Stour Valley Canoe Club Date Assessment Created / Completed: 4 th June 2020 Date of Next Review: see below	Other river leaders [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
			Emergency contacts: Dorset County Hospital South Western Ambulance Service	01305 251150 01305 269969

HAZARD	RISK BEFORE CONTROL MEASURES	PERSONS AT RISK	CONTROL MEASURES	COMMENTS ACTIONS	RESIDUAL RISK RATING
Close proximity to or contact with other club members	Contracting Corona Virus	All club members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 club rep only to Open up and Lock up gate & equipment shed at beginning and end of session to avoid others handling door furniture or padlocks. Members must stagger their arrival times and allow sufficient time between themselves and the members in front of them to get kit and get down to pontoon. Strict observance of Social Distancing (2 meters apart at ALL times during session) Hand sanitiser available at entry/exit point to equipment shed all members to be directed to use the sanitiser before and after handling club equipment and at end of session. 1 person in equipment shed at any time. Only handle your own kit and boat throughout session. 	All Club Members to be advised of new control measures on arrival at each session, and instructed to observe these new control measures at all times. Risk Assessment placed in prominent view on club hut notice board and members directed to read. Also published	Low

			<p><u>On the Water</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch on to the water as soon as possible. To keep the flow of movement between members following behind. No Loitering in Pontoon area – make way upriver ASAP. • Members MUST only paddle with up to a maximum of 5 other members at all times and maintain 2 meters between each other throughout the session. NO Rafting up at any time. • People from mixed households can paddle together but must only paddle with up to a maximum of 5 other club members at all times. Members should be conscious of public perception where paddling in a small group and prepared to justify they are complying with current government advice. • If a group catch up with other paddlers, then ensure 2 meters observed with ALL whilst passing on the water. 	on FB page and Club website	
Conducting Rescue on the water	Contracting Corona Virus	All club members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only perform rescue where there is danger to life or danger of serious injury. • If there is no danger, then assisting by directing swimmer to nearest bank and if capable to recover their own boat and paddle. • If swimmer not able to recover own boat, then recovery can be achieved by using another boat to push the capsized boat to the same bank as the swimmer. • If direct contact cannot be avoided with a swimmer in danger then caution should be used to rescue by getting them to either hold on to your boat as far from you as practical or by you holding them by their BA and them on their back facing away from you. • Rescuer should avoid contact with their own face with their hands after a rescue. • After rescue – rescuer should ensure hands are sanitised as soon as possible after contact. 	Members advised of new measures before entering water on each session. Risk Assessment placed in prominent view on club hut notice board and members directed to read. Also published on FB page and Club website	Low

Administering First aid	Contracting Corona Virus		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where CPR is required first aider should cover casualties' nose & mouth with some form of face covering – a t-shirt / scarf or other lightweight clothing. Chest compressions ONLY should be given. NO Mouth to Mouth to be given. Any other first aid being administered the first aider should wear gloves and a face covering throughout any treatment and where possible keep contact to a minimum getting casualty to assist wherever possible. 	All Club First Aiders to be advised of new control measures on arrival at each session and instructed to observe these new control measures at all times. Risk Assessment placed in prominent view on club hut notice board and members directed to read. Also published on FB page and Club website	Low
Accidental capsizing of Kayak, Canoe or SUP and subsequent immersion in water	Drowning, Cold Water Shock, Hypothermia, Exhaustion and Physical Injury- head injury, broken bones, lacerations, sprains and strains	Participants and River Leaders	<p>Buoyancy aids will be worn by all participants and River Leaders.</p> <p>Novice/Beginner paddlers will not be allowed onto the water until a nominated River Leader is on the water. A line of sight between participants will be maintained at all times.</p> <p>River Leaders will provide Novice/Beginner paddlers with a safety induction at the beginning of their first session. This induction will be recapped at the beginning of each subsequent session.</p> <p>The induction will include the instruction that all paddlers call out 'Capsize' when they witness somebody capsize.</p> <p>Kayaks, Canoes and SUPs to have adequate inherent buoyancy to prevent sinking and to provide a floating object for the participants to hold on to.</p>	SVCC Buoyancy aids tested annually. Session Leader to ensure buoyancy aids correctly fitted. Regular checks on equipment during the season.	Low
Overhanging trees and branches hidden under the surface of the water causing capsizing and/or entrapment	Drowning, Cold Water Shock, Hypothermia, Exhaustion and Physical Injury- head injury, broken	Participants and River Leaders	During the safety induction Novice/Beginner paddlers will be advised to keep away from riverbank and trees- both overhanging and floating and advised as to correct action in event of entrapment.	Tree management along the riverbank will be routinely undertaken.	Low

	bones, lacerations, sprains and strains				
Collision with other river craft and/or paddlers causing capsizes	Drowning, Cold Water Shock, Hypothermia, Exhaustion and Physical Injury- head injury, broken bones, lacerations, sprains and strains	Participants and River Leaders	During safety induction Novice/Beginner paddlers will be made aware of possibility of encountering other river users and advised on how to take appropriate/avoiding action.		Low
Slips, trips and falls whilst carrying boats to and from the riverbank or when undertaking other portages	Drowning, Cold Water Shock, Hypothermia, and Physical Injury- head injury, broken bones, lacerations, sprains and strains	Participants and River Leaders	Helmets to be worn by all Participants and River Leaders and coaches. Novice/Beginner paddlers will be trained to lift correctly and encouraged to ask for help.	Regular maintenance of river side Pontoon, Club House floors and path from the Club House to the Pontoon undertaken. Boat storage routinely checked.	Low
Being caught in a 'stopper' after shooting Bryanston or Blandford Weirs	Drowning, Cold Water Shock, Hypothermia, Exhaustion and Physical Injury- head injury, broken bones, dislocations, lacerations, sprains and strains	Participants and River Leaders	Session Leader to assess the safety of stoppers prior to anybody attempting to shoot either weir. In higher water levels the Session Leader will coordinate the setting-up of safety prior to the weirs being shot.		Low
Encounters with Wildlife particularly Swans causing capsizes	Drowning, Cold Water Shock, Hypothermia, Exhaustion and Physical Injury- head injury, broken bones, lacerations, sprains and strains	Participants and River Leaders	During the safety induction Novice/Beginner paddlers will be advised that they share the river with Wildlife including Swans. A line of sight between participants will be maintained at all times and where necessary paddlers with experience of encounters with swans will lead Novice/Beginner paddlers past these creatures.		Low
Exacerbation or triggering of pre-existing Medical Conditions- Diabetes, Angina, Epilepsy, asthma, etc	Allergic reaction, Seizure, Asthma attack, Hypoglycaemia	Participants and River Leaders	The River Leader will ensure that they have details of participants with pre-existing medical conditions prior to the start of the session. Where necessary River Leaders will carry participant's medications- Inhalers, Epi-pens, etc.		Low

Pollution and water quality	Stomach upsets and Weil's disease	Participants and River Leaders	During the safety induction Novice/Beginner paddlers will be advised not to swallow water and to spit out any water that finds its way into their mouths and encouraged not to play with flotsam. Additionally, they will be advised to bathe soon after immersion.	Risks higher in spate conditions. Avoid intentional capsizes in poor conditions.	Low
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Date Reviewed: 4 th June 2020 Next Review Date: 4 th June 2020	Person Reviewing: ██████████
Position in Stour Valley Canoe Club Committee: Club Safety Officer	Signature of Reviewer: ██████████