



Risk Assessment

Pool Session: St. Michael's School Colehill Lane, Wimborne BH21 7AB Persons Undertaking Event: Session Leader and participants. Nearest First Aid kit: Foyer of Pool building Nearest Accident and Emergency Department: Poole hospital, Longfleet Road, Poole BH15 2JB Assessment completed by: Neil Haggar (Club Safety Officer) of the management committee of the Stour Valley Canoe Club Date Assessment Created /Completed: 3 rd October 2025 Next Review date: see below	Session Leader: Designated Coach, Nominated by the SVCC Management Committee	
	Emergency contacts: Poole hospital, Longfleet Road, Poole BH15 2JB South-Western Ambulance Service A telephone is located on the wall nearest the shallow end of the pool, dial 999 to contact emergency services directly.	01202665511 999

HAZARD	RISK BEFORE CONTROL MEASURES	PERSONS AT RISK	CONTROL MEASURES	COMMENTS ACTIONS	RESIDUAL RISK RATING
Accidental capsize of Kayak and subsequent immersion in water	Drowning	All participants	Kayaks to have adequate inherent buoyancy to prevent sinking and to provide a floating object for the participants to hold on to. Session Helpers to act as on the water Lifeguards and conduct on water rescues. Any Helpers/coaches on Pool side to act as lifeguards also. A minimum Ratio of 1:5 or 2:10 or 3:15 coaches/competent paddlers to participants to be maintained during each session. Only those with the appropriate level of experience will be allowed to participate. To be assessed by the Leader/organiser. First Aider to be amongst the Coaches/Helpers	Session organiser to ensure all coaches/helpers are aware to act as Lifeguard provision throughout session. Session Organiser to ensure at least 1 First Aid qualified Coach/Helper at each session.	Low
Collision with other craft and/or paddlers colliding with other pool users, particularly strike injuries from paddles causing capsize	Drowning, Physical Injury- head injury, broken bones, lacerations, sprains and strains	All participants	Session organiser will advise less experienced paddlers of potential of collision with other pool users and advised on how to take appropriate/avoiding action. Coaches/leaders encourage all paddlers to monitor their own and others safety	Session organiser to ensure other Coaches/Helpers advise participants also.	Low

			-supervising coach to monitor and control numbers in pool. Max numbers in the water: 15, although this may need to be adjusted depending on type of boats / skills. Paddlers on the water to be rotated if necessary. - no aerial tricks from playboaters. Coach to decide if there is sufficient space for playboaters during session.		
Swimmers in Water	risk of injury from collision with kayaks or strike injuries from paddles	All participants	No swimming in Pool whilst boats in water.	Session organiser and other coaches/helpers to enforce this.	Low
Slips, trips and falls whilst carrying boats into Pool area.	Physical Injury- head injury, broken bones, lacerations, sprains and strains	All participants	Novice/Beginner paddlers will be shown how to lift correctly and encouraged to ask for help. No running on poolside - boat movements to be minimised while pool session in progress - at the beginning / end of pool session, boats to be moved near the fire exit doors leading directly onto car park. Several (barefoot) people to pass boats through the door to paddlers in car park for loading / unloading of cars.	Clear route to Pool side to be maintained during Session. Session organiser and other coaches/helpers to ensure this.	Low
Dirty Boats	Contamination to pool water from leaves, dirt etc.	No participants just Pool itself	All boats to be washed thoroughly inside and out before use in pool.	- coaches / leaders to inspect each boat as it is brought into the poolside area	
Abuse of minors or vulnerable persons.	Abuse of minors or vulnerable persons.	Minors and vulnerable persons.	At least one DBS-checked person should be within sight and able to monitor any group or sub-group which contains minors or vulnerable persons. Any concerns about any club member should be mentioned discretely to the Welfare Officer and raised by the Welfare Officer with the committee or with a suitable sub-group of the committee or with some other suitable forum or external group (e.g. Police) if the committee is not thought a suitable forum, e.g. if a committee member is the subject of the concern.	Session Leader to ensure compliance	Low

Date Reviewed: 03/10/2025 Next Review Date: 31/10/2026	Person reviewing: Neil Haggar
Position in Stour Valley Canoe Club Committee: Club Safety Officer	Signature of reviewer: <i>Neil Haggar</i>