



Sleaz Paddlers

Record of Risk Assessment

Activity: *White water Kayaking Grade 1 - 2* **Site:** *Sleningford Mill
North Stainley, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 3HQ -
01765 635201 Map ref - SE280784*

Date of Assessment: 4th May 2009 **Assessment Review Date:**

Assessment Undertaken by: Barry Mair **Signed By:**

General description of Site: This site is approx 800m in length of grade 1 – 2 rapids, there are several drops (4) of varying degrees of difficulty. There are also a number of islands which should be passed on the left when the water is low. When high, care needs to be taken with the overhanging trees to the right of these islands. There are plenty of places to break in and out and a pool at the end of the run for other activities including rolling and an introduction to ferry gliding. The water can be challenging for beginners.

Hazard	Who Might be harmed	Probability	Severity	How is the Risk Controlled Generally	Action By Whom	Outcome Probability Severity
<i>Drowning (Generic Risk)</i>	Coaches Club Members	3	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Buoyancy Aids to be worn at all times on the water by all.</i> • <i>Coaches to check BA's comply with CEA standards.</i> • <i>Coaches to ensure BA's are worn correctly.</i> • <i>Coaches are BCU qualified for type of water.</i> • <i>Ratio no more then 1:8.</i> • <i>Safety brief given at start of paddling.</i> 	Coaches	15
<i>Hypothermia (Generic Risk)</i>	Coaches Club Members	3	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>All to wear warm clothing as appropriate.</i> • <i>All have access to a waterproof kayak bag. A head covering is used if appropriate.</i> • <i>Session cancelled if activities/clothing are inappropriate to conditions</i> • <i>Leader to carry or have access to appropriate safety equipment, hot drinks, FA kit, survival bag & sleeping bag.</i> 	Coaches	15
<i>Capsize</i>	All	5	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Boats are to be fitted with sufficient buoyancy to float when capsized and checked by coach.</i> • <i>Coaches are trained in emptying boats and rescue techniques.</i> • <i>All club members have completed a period of training and completed a cockpit test and capsize drills.</i> • <i>Rescue point will be set up along the stretch of White water. Coaches on the water to carryout dynamic rescue assessment.</i> • <i>If paddler is separated from the canoe, they are to turn onto their back, feet facing down stream to fend off rocks and swim for shore.</i> 	Coaches	15
<i>Capsize with entrapment</i>	Club Members	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>As Capsize.</i> • <i>Coach able to rescue an entrapped capsize paddler.</i> • <i>Rescue point will be set up along the stretch of White water. Coaches on the water to carryout dynamic rescue assessment.</i> • <i>Use of through lines.</i> • <i>Paddler if possible to lean into obstruction.</i> 	Coaches	16

Hazard	Who Might be harmed	Probability	Severity	How is the Risk Controlled Generally	Action By Whom	Outcome Probability Severity
Boulders	All	4	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This stretch of river is littered with boulders, where possible to be avoided, if hit by boat, paddler to take appropriate action. Coaches to take dynamic risk assessment whilst journeying. All safety equipment to be worn, helmets, buoyancy aids, etc There is potential for feet to become trapped between boulders, paddlers to be made aware prior to paddling. All to wear suitable footwear. 		12
Depth of water	All	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The depth of water in June is generally low, however the River Ure is prone to flash flooding. Coaches to be aware of rising levels by taking a bench mark every hour. If the water rises too quickly then paddling is to be suspended. If capsized occurs in most areas paddlers to lay on their back fending off the rocks with their feet and where possible, stand up. 	Coaches	8
Access/Egress	All	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access is available from the Camp site and along the West bank. Care needs to be taken with submerged rocks. Coaches to check for slippery banks. Any obstacles to be noted or removed. 	Coaches	4
Flooding	All	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This river is liable to flooding the rise is quite considerable. If water levels are high then paddling will be suspended. 	Coaches	8
Obstacles: Fallen trees	All	3	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The route is generally lined by trees on both banks. Branches overhanging the water are to be avoided. Any that create an obstacle are to be avoided and or portaged at the coaches discretion 	Coaches	6
Lifting & Carrying	All	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All paddlers are given a period of training in lifting and carrying techniques. Guidance to be give by coaches if incorrect methods are used. 	Coaches	16
Traffic movement	All	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal cars used with in the parking area. Caution to be used looking for paddlers carrying boats on their shoulders and have a blind side. Paddlers are to check the route for potential obstacles and vehicles. 	Coaches All	9
Head injury	All	4	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This could be the result of overhanging trees, or if capsized hitting head on rocks. All paddlers to ware recognized/BS standard helmets. Overhanging branches to be avoided. 	All	20
Other water users	All	4	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All water users are informed of who is on the water and where. Boundaries are set to enable different groups to work in separate areas. Paddlers already in an eddy to give way to paddlers coming down river. When playing on moving water, paddlers traveling down stream have the right of way. Collisions on moving water can be reduced by keeping paddlers a safe distance but always in line of sight of coach. 	Coaches	12
Water quality	All	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coaches to check clarity of water. Any dead animals, sheep cows up stream to be reported. All paddlers to wash hands before eating and shower after paddling. 	All	4

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Weirs	All	3	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The weirs to the North of the stretch are dangerous and only 3 star and above are to attempt any navigation. If used, all lower qualified paddlers are to portage before and get back in down stream supervised by coach. However, Access is only between the Electric entrance gates and the pool for this weekend. Coaches to ensure boundaries are set before paddling commences 	Coaches	12
Cut feet	All	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All paddlers are to wear footwear with a solid sole to stop sharp stones and rocks, broken bottles and tin cans from cutting feet, If footwear not warn then the coach has the right to stop the paddler from going on the water. 	Coaches	9

Risk Table

		Probability				
		Low				High
Severity	High	5	10	15	20	25
		4	8	12	16	20
		3	6	9	12	15
		2	4	6	8	10
	Low	1	2	3	4	5

Very Low	Low	Medium	High
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Map of SE280784



