Slea Paddlers

Record of Risk Assessment

Activity: ***Surfing on Standing wave created by weir***

Site: *Newark Weir - River Trent*
Mill Lane, Newark
Map ref - SK 792 537

Date of Assessment: 4th May 2009

Assessment Review Date:

Assessment Undertaken by: Barry Mair

Signed By:

General description of Site: *The weir is just beyond thee car park by the lock. It has two sides both approx 25m which has a long standing wave which can be surfed. Access can be gained from both sides however during the swan nesting season (Mar – May) there is only direct access to the left hand bank, however once on the water access is possible to both weirs. When getting onto the wave the paddler needs to cross the shoulder of the wave. If attempting from the central island this can be difficult at times depending on the volume of water. The shoulder pushes you hard against the concrete wall, but once on the fun begins.*

Hazard	Who Might be harmed	Probability	Severity	How is the Risk Controlled Generally	Action By Whom	Outcome Probability Severity
Drowning (Generic Risk)	Coaches Club Members	3	5	• *Buoyancy Aids to be worn at all times on the water by all.* • *Coaches to check BA's comply with CEA standards.* • *Coaches to ensure BA's are worn correctly.* • *Coaches are BCU qualified for type of water.* • *Ratio no more then 1:4.* • *Safety brief given at start of paddling.*	Coaches	**15**
Hypothermia (Generic Risk)	Coaches Club Members	3	5	• *All to wear warm clothing as appropriate.* • *All have access to a waterproof kayak cag. A head covering is used if appropriate.* • *Session cancelled if activities/clothing are inappropriate to conditions* • *Leader to carry or have access to appropriate safety equipment, hot drinks, FA kit, survival bag & sleeping bag.*	Coaches	**15**
Capsize	All	5	3	• *Boats are to be fitted with sufficient buoyancy to float when capsized and checked by coach.* • *Coaches are trained in emptying boats and rescue techniques.* • *All club members have completed a period of training and completed a cockpit test and capsize drills.* • *Rescue point will be set up down from the main wave. Coaches on the water to keep constant watch for capsize..* • *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.*	*Coaches*	**15**
Capsize with entrapment	Club Members	2	4	• *As Capsize.* • *There are very few obstructions that are likely to cause entrapment, however no paddler is allowed on the weir without having passed a deck test on the river.* • *Coaches able to rescue an entrapped capsize paddler.* • *Use of through lines.* • *Paddler where possible to lean into obstruction.*	*Coaches*	**8**

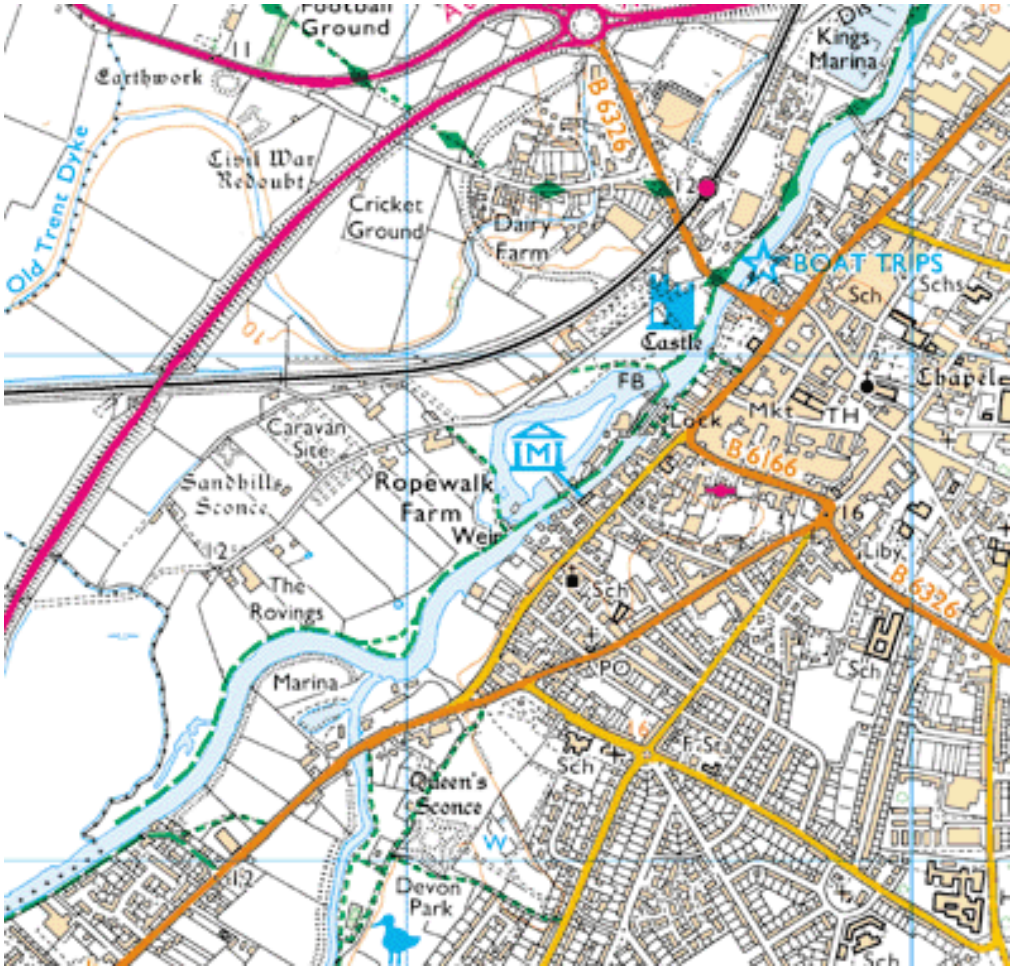
Hazard	Who Might be harmed	Probability	Severity	How is the Risk Controlled Generally	Action By Whom	Outcome Probability Severity
Boulders	All	2	3	• *There are very few boulders on this site, but care is to be taken when getting out of the craft on the left hand bank, as footing could be lost on a number of broken concrete slabs.*		**6**
Depth of water	All	2	4	• *The depth of water in June is generally low on the main river, but is quite deep on the navigation* • *If capsize occurs in most areas paddlers to lay on their back fending off the bottom with their feet and where possible, stand up.*	Coaches	**8**
Access/Egress	All	2	2	• *Access is possible from the car park off the quay side by a 6ft seal launch (Only paddlers who can roll to attempt this). Or on left bank above the weir and both banks below the weir..* • *Care needs to be taken with submerged obstructions.* • *Coaches to check for slippery banks.* • *Any obstacles to be noted and avoided.*	Coaches	**4**
Flooding	All	2	4	• *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	• *The central island below the weir has overhanging branches on both banks which 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	• *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	• *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	• *This could be the result of capsize hitting head on the bottom lip of the weir or overhanging trees.* • *All paddlers to ware recognized/BS standard helmets.* • *Overhanging branches to be avoided.*	All	**20**
Other water users	All	4	3	• *All water users are informed of who is on the water and where.* • *On the Navigation, motor launches are common, if paddlers access the water from the car park quay they are to move to the nearest side and turn the bow into any waves if they encounter a craft or wait until the craft has passed.* • *A lower area is to be set up to enable different groups to work in separate areas.* • *When playing on moving water/weir, paddlers traveling down stream have the right of way.* • *Collisions on moving water can be reduced by keeping paddlers an eye out for other paddlers.*	Coaches	**12**
Water quality	All	2	2	• *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**

Hazard	Who Might be harmed	Probability	Severity	How is the Risk Controlled Generally	Action By Whom	Outcome Probability Severity
Cut feet	All	3	3	• *All paddlers are to wear footware with a solid sole to stop sharp stones and rocks, broken bottles and tin cans from cutting feet,* • *If footware 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**


Ground
Earthwork
Kings Marina
Old Trent Dyke
Civil War Redoubt
Cricket Ground
Dairy Farm
B 6326
BOAT TRIPS
Sch
Schs
Castle
FB
Chapele
Lock
Mkt
TH
Caravan Site
Sandhills Sconce
Ropewalk Farm
Weir
B 6166
Liby
The Rovings
Marina
PO
Queen's Sconce
Devon Park