# ReSection 1: Risk Assessment Guidance

The assessor can assign values for the hazard severity (a) and likelihood of occurrence (b) (taking into account the frequency and duration of exposure) on a scale of 1 to 5, then multiply them together to give the rating band:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Hazard Severity (a)** | Likelihood of Occurrence (b) |
|
| 1 – Trivial (eg discomfort, slight bruising, self-help recovery) **2 – Minor** (eg small cut, abrasion, basic first aid need)  **3 – Moderate** (eg strain, sprain, incapacitation > 3 days)  **4 – Serious** (eg fracture, hospitalisation >24 hrs, incapacitation >4 weeks)  **5 – Fatal** (single or multiple) | **1 – Remote** (almost never)  **2 – Unlikely** (occurs rarely)  **3 – Possible** (could occur, but uncommon)  **4 – Likely** (recurrent but not frequent)  **5 – Very likely** (occurs frequently) |

The risk rating (high, medium or low) indicates the level of   
response required to be taken when designing the action plan.

**Trivial**

**Minor**

**Moderate**

**Serious**

**Fatal**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Rating Bands (a x b)** | | |
| **LOW RISK**  **(1 – 8)** | **MEDIUM RISK**  **(9 - 12)** | **HIGH RISK**  **(15 - 25)** |
|  |  |  |
| Continue, but review periodically to ensure controls remain effective | Continue, but implement additional reasonably practicable controls where possible and monitor regularly | **-STOP THE ACTIVITY-**  Identify new controls. Activity must not proceed until risks are reduced to a low or medium level |

**Remote**

**Unlikely**

**Possible**

**Likely**

**Very likely**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| **2** | **4** | **6** | **8** | **10** |
| **3** | **6** | **9** | **12** | **15** |
| **4** | **8** | **12** | **16** | **20** |
| **5** | **10** | **15** | **20** | **25** |

# Section 2.05: Surf Trips

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Risk Assessment Record | | |
| Risk Assessment of: Surf Trips | Assessor(s): | Date:20/03/2025 | |
| Overview of activity / location / equipment / conditions being assessed: During the academic year, we run three surf kayaking trips, one early on to Rest Bay, another before Easter staying in Dartmoor and the final to Woolacombe before exams. This applies to any other surf related trips at beaches/ locations not mentioned above. This involves using kayaks to surf sea waves in the same way as that of a surfer does. We use all the same boats, spray decks, buoyancy aids and helmets as we would on white water, and a surf specific briefing is given before going on the water that involves etiquette, how to rescue and what to do in the event of capsize.Beginners are monitored by the more experienced paddlers, generally on a 1 experienced paddler to 2 beginners ratio. Swimming without a buoyancy aid is permitted provided the swimmer has passed a swim test. Members are requested to swim with company and within lifeguard flags. | Will work on the same basis as WW1 and WW2 basis. Up to the discretion of leader/ trip organiser at the time to determine conditions. Discuss ratios  * At which wave height is considered 1 or 2 | | |
| Generic or specific assessment?General assessment | Context of assessmentAnnual Review Handover 25 | | |

| # | Hazard(s) identified | Persons affected | Existing controls & measures | A | B | A x B | Additional controls required |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Drowning | Anyone on Water | Buoyancy aids are mandatory on the sea for those in a kayak.  * Swimmers asked to swim in lifeguard protected zones. * Session leader has skills and experience to assist any person trapped in a capsized kayak. * Swim test is required to assess swimming competence.  Before using a spraydeck, paddler competence should be assessed to ensure they know how to exit the kayak safely.  * Paddlers encouraged not to paddle outside of their limits * Swimming not permitted between sunset and sunrise | 5 | 1 | 5 |  |
| 2 | Collision of boat/paddle and person | Anyone on water | * Paddlers should only surf in areas within their skill level of controlling the kayak * Buoyancy Aids provide padding * Helmets should be worn when kayak surfing * Everyone taught etiquette so chances of dropping in on someone/ being dropped in on are unlikely * Group should be aware of other surfers in the area, and act to minimise the risk of collision * Swimmers must swim away from kayakers * Kayakers must adhere to surfing location according to beach guidelines | 4 | 2 | 8 |  |
| 3 | Hypothermia/Environment/Weather | Anyone present | Everyone briefed on what to wearWetsuits may be borrowed from the club or SU. Non-beginners are encouraged to invest in their own kit as part of good practise in an outdoor adventure context.If the conditions require, a member of the group should carry a group shelter and appropriate extra layers to deal with the conditionsA first aider must be present on the trip.  * Individuals are reminded to bring water and apply sun cream in hot weather. * If the weather becomes dangerous then the session will also be cancelled | 5 | 1 | 5 |  |
| 4 | Lifting Kayaks/Canoes | Anyone paddling | Participants informed of the safe method of transporting kayaks. If necessary, two persons should be used to move a heavy load. | 3 | 2 | 6 |  |
| 5 | Adverse surf conditions | Anyone paddling | Surf conditions are monitored by the coach/participants and if inappropriate for the group, then the session will be cancelled | 3 | 2 | 6 |  |
| 6 | Cuts caused by sharps objects (rocks, reefs etc) | Anyone paddling | Protective footwear worn by all participantsParticipants made aware of the risk of cutsAlways have a qualified first aider on the tripGroups encouraged not to surf or swim near rocks or reefs | 3 | 2 | 6 |  |
| 7 | Boat Entrapment | Anyone paddling | Spray decks are checked oftenEveryone is taught and checked on their ability to exit a boat prior tripExperienced paddlers have the ability to rescue those trapped in their boats | 5 | 1 | 5 |  |
| 8 | Paddlers being caught in rips | Anyone swimming | Conditions are checked before getting on the water  * Swimmers to swim in lifeguard protected zones  Kayakers informed of strategy for escaping rip tide before getting on water | 3 | 2 | 6 |  |
| 9 | Aggressive Surfers | Anyone swimming | Efforts are taken to follow and abide by good surf etiquette at all timesBeginners’ groups are taken away from the main break so that they do not get in the way of other beach users | 3 | 2 | 6 |  |
| 10 | Intoxicated water access (drinking on beach) | Anyone | Everyone reminded of dangers of entering water while intoxicatedEntering the water while intoxicated is not condoned by club  * At least one senior club member present * Other club members to strongly discourage any water access to anyone deemed intoxicated as part of a safe club atmosphere. | 5 | 3 | 15 |  |
| 11 | People participating who are not medically fit | Anyone on the water | Use of confidential medical questionnaire must be completed by all trip members.Form should be updated in the event in change of medical circumstance | 3 | 2 | 6 |  |
|  | Assessor signature: | | Print name:SAM FOOTE | Review date:01/06/2025 | | | |