# Section 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 2.01: Canoe Polo Fixtures

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk Assessment Record** | | |
| **Risk Assessment of:**  Canoe Polo Fixtures | Assessor(s): | Date: **20/03/2025** |
| **Overview of activity / location / equipment / conditions being assessed:**  **Activity:** Canoe polo matches are played between several (exact numbers very from year to year) universities in the south west. Between 2 and 4 clubs attend each event. Each club brings between 15-21 people to fill 3 teams. 5 person teams with a maximum of 3 substitutes.  **Location:** Outdoor canoe polo pitches  **Equipment:** Polo kayaks. Buoyancy aids and helmets are mandatory. Paddles, spraydecks, wetsuit/cags, balls.  **Conditions:** Variable dependant on water levels/ weather as high water may prevent access to the pitch. Any change in conditions caused by weather must be assessed by the event coordinator prior to the event or in a dynamic risk assessment. |  | |
| **Generic or specific assessment?**  Specific assessment | **Context of assessment**  Annual 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 water * Participants are required to have done swim test at their club before they are allowed on the water. * Game referees are required to wear a buoyancy aid * Bystanders on waterside must wear buoyancy aid * Each university is responsible for ensuring its paddlers have an appropriate level of experience exiting the kayak- an ability to calmly exit the kayak underwater when using a spray skirt should have been demonstrated and must have an experienced player for in water rescue during games (Can be on the team or just supervising). * Any individual lacking this ability must not participate in games | 5 | | 1 | 5 |  |
| 2 | | Collision of boat/paddle and person | Anyone paddling | | * Buoyancy aids worn by players and bumpers on the boats reduce the impact of collisions. * Players are taught how to tackle safely and legally within game rules * Tackling is policed by referees. Any player found to be in violation of rules and safe practise will be disciplined and may be removed from play. * Helmets to be worn during at all times during games | 3 | | 2 | 6 |  |
| 3 | | Hypothermia/Weather/Environment | Anyone on Water | | * Trip leader is responsible for checking participants are wearing suitable clothing. First aider present at every match. * If signs of hypothermia begin to show the individual should be removed from the river and appropriate first aid administered * Individuals reminded to bring water and apply sun cream in hot weather. * Club to bring supportive equipment where necessary – ie event shelter for wind protection * Paddlers informed ahead of event of significant periods off-water, reminder to bring extra layers and coats for protection from wind | 4 | | 3 | 12 |  |
| 4 | | Lifting Kayaks/Canoes | Anyone paddling | | * Everyone informed how to safely carry and transport kayaks and canoes * Heavier loads to be carried between multiple persons as appropriate | 3 | | 2 | 6 |  |
| 5 | | Adverse River/Weather conditions | Anyone paddling | | * Water levels are monitored by the coach/participants and if inappropriate for the group, then the games will be cancelled * If the weather becomes dangerous then the games will also be cancelled | 3 | | 2 | 6 |  |
| 6 | | Water Quality | Anyone paddling | | * Water quality is generally good but can become a risk in higher water. Sewage may be released during periods of heavy rain. * Participants to be informed of risks when in high water conditions * Participants to be informed of symptoms of Wiles disease to ensure early detection | 4 | | 2 | 8 |  |
| 7 | | Collision of ball and person | Anyone paddling | | * Participants wear helmets and buoyancy aids for protection. * Everyone on the water is involved in / aware of the game | 2 | | 3 | 6 |  |
| 8 | | Head injury | Anyone paddling | | * Participants to be instructed in the safe entry/exit of the kayak at the poolside. Participants should be encouraged to ask for help if they are struggling to enter/exit safely. * A designated first aider for each university to be present for each trip. | 3 | | 2 | 6 |  |
| 9 | | Unknown Medical Conditions | Anyone | | * Participants must fill in medical questionnaire prior to trip departure. This information is then transferred to trip form which is passed onto trip leaders (this does not need to be shared between universities). * Participant universities must share information of those “at risk” due to underlying medical conditions with the SWUPL coordinator (from BUCC), who will distribute this information to all teams attending. * All players must be made aware of any gameplay adjustments required ahead of the match start. | 2 | | 3 | 6 |  |
|  | Assessor signature: | | | Print name: SAM FOOTE | | | Review date: **01**/**06/2025** | | | | |