

OCKC GENERAL RISK ASSESSMENT



Hazard	Who might be harmed	How may the risk be controlled adequately	What further action may be required	Review comments / review dates
Drowning	Paddlers Others	Wearing of buoyancy aid Instruction in capsize procedures Relevant supervision for novices Advised to keep away from river bank	Buoyancy aids tested annually, induction sessions for beginners and new members, leaders/coaches to ensure buoyancy aid correctly fitted. Regular checks on equipment during the season. Encourage regular capsize practice in both pool and summer river sessions.	December 2021
Hypothermia	Paddlers	Advised on the correct clothing to wear. Adjustment to clothing as required.	Continuous dynamic risk assessment.	December 2021
Slips, trips, and falls	Paddlers, parents Coaches & others	Regular maintenance of landing stages, river bank, steps and access	Appropriate cleaning/maintenance equipment available	December 2021
Sprains, strains and soft tissue injuries	Paddlers, parents Coaches & others	Trained to lift correctly Ask for help Encouraged to paddle correctly	Ongoing training and regular checks of procedures Appropriate checks on storage facilities	December 2021
Cuts and bruises	Paddlers Coaches	Wearing suitable PPE for the activity, such as helmets		December 2021
Pollution and water quality	Paddlers	Advised to shower/wash soon after immersion Made aware of flotsam	Risks higher in spate conditions. Avoid intentional capsizes in poor conditions	December 2021
Other river users	Paddlers and Other users	Paddlers instructed to be aware of other river users and how to take appropriate/avoiding action.	Informed as to possible other river users and location	December 2021
Over hanging tree or strainers	Paddlers Coaches	Paddlers advised to negotiate around trees, both overhanging and floating. Advised as to correct action in event of entanglement Appropriate tree management on site.	Regular checks as part of on-site maintenance Appropriate training for off-site visits	December 2021
Injury from traffic	Competitors / officials / public	Low volume of traffic Speed limits in operation	Limited	December 2021
Weather and environmental conditions		Awareness of weather conditions, checking forecast. Use of Thames information system.	Dynamic risk assessment as conditions change.	December 2021

OCKC LOCAL WEIRS GENERAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Hazard	Who might be harmed	How may the risk be controlled adequately	What further action may be required	Review comments / review dates
Weirs and manmade features	Paddlers Coaches	Helmets to be worn when paddling in associated rough water	Appropriate skill and awareness training	December 2021
Obstructions in the weir, logs, tree branches, etc	Paddlers Coaches	Remove obstructions before use If it is not possible to remove the obstruction for wider weirs such as the lasher it might be possible to use an unobstructed portion of the weir		December 2021
Other paddlers and boats causing injury	Paddlers Coaches	Maintain group control, limiting the number of boats using the weir at anyone time to an appropriate number, i.e. 1 boat down or in the weir at anyone time		December 2021
Fast flowing water	Paddlers Coaches	Maintain group control, limiting the number of boats using the weir Coaches placed in positions of most usefulness Escape routes identified		December 2021
Paddlers exiting boats (swimmers)	Paddlers Coaches	Maintain group control, limiting the number of boats using the weir Coaches placed in positions of most usefulness, dependent on the groups needs and experience, i.e. a coach in the water at the top and bottom of the weir would be suitable for less experienced groups		December 2021
Pinning / Entrapment	Paddlers Coaches	Coaches placed in positions of most usefulness	Appropriate skill and awareness training	December 2021

Specific Guidance and Comments

Area / Weir	Comments / Hazards / Advice
Lasher weir	<p>Good locations to place coaches are, at the top of the lasher in boat or standing on top, at the bottom of the weir in boat or standing in the water</p> <p>Rocks on the downstream side may cause boats to stop suddenly causing the paddler to be ejected or capsized, this may lead to injury from the boat landing on them or with the paddler hitting their legs or elbows. To avoid this there should not be a gap of more than 90cm between the top of the lasher and the water height downstream.</p> <p>No swimming above the Lasher weir if the double and/or the treble are open in any way.</p> <p>Logs at the top / bottom of the weir</p> <p>There are rocks on the right, recommend using the left third to shoot the lasher</p> <p>The stickiness of the lasher changes significantly at different levels, when the height is less than 90cm</p>
Fish Pass	<p>Good group control must be maintained so that paddlers do not run into others</p> <p>Be aware of pinning hazards - especially about halfway down, consider having a coach at this point dependant on the group skill and experience</p> <p>It is not possible to maintain line of sight, consider having coaches at top, middle and bottom to maintain line of sight using signals</p> <p>Visually check the whole route is clear before a group uses the fish pass</p> <p>The fish pass can be overgrown, consider what PPE and clothing is being worn</p>
Iffley Paddle Weir (River Left)	<p>The weir is never to be shot.</p> <p>When open this is a WW environment and requires treating as Moderate Water</p> <p>The trees below can become overgrown and this must be assessed before each use, to see if they are likely to interfere with a paddler.</p>
Iffley Weirs Not including the paddle weir	<p>Old Stony (the weir directly next to Iffley lock) is not to be played in at any time</p>
Double weir, Weirs Lane	<p>The weir is never to be shot.</p> <p>When the weir is open the downstream side is a WW environment and requires treating as Moderate Water.</p> <p>Awareness of the trees and boats downstream.</p> <p>Multiple capsizes at the same time should be avoided.</p> <p>Fast flowing, group members and kit can float off downstream quickly</p> <p>The water depth near the weir is quite shallow</p>
Treble Weir, Weirs Lane	<p>The weir is never to be shot.</p> <p>This weir is not to be used when it is open.</p>