

Risk Assessment – Crabbing



Reviewed Date	03/03/2026
Next Review Date	03/03/2027
Risk Assessment completed by	Mel Wycherley
Internally reviewed by	Alex Mortimer

General Information	This risk assessment considers crabbing in a sheltered coastal area - for example at Sandbanks or Swanage Bay.
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Instructor Competence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To Lead - NWSMP 2.0 including coastal waterways award or above - Completion of <u>Team Skills</u> by instructor & manager as per activity cloud.
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Ratios & Remits	1:15 (with additional pastoral support), two members of staff for more than 15 participants up to venue capacity (with additional pastoral support)
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Identified Hazards	Who is at risk?	Example Causes	Control Measures
Personal Injury E.g. Slips, Cuts, Twisted Ankles, Spinal Injuries, Broken Bones	Instructors & All Participants/Group Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of care and attention close to the water. - Inappropriate supervision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Instructor to provide health and safety briefing to prevent injuries where appropriate. - Instructor to monitor behaviour and proceedings carefully. - Instructor to carry a first aid kit to the location.
Drowning	Instructors & All Participants/Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor briefing - Inappropriate behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Instructor to provide health and safety and the need for appropriate behaviour.

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	Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor choice of location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Careful monitoring. - Recognition of sea state and suitable locations and conditions. - A throw line must be carried. - Crabbing is not to take place after dark (once streetlights are on).
<p>Difficulty controlling body temperature (Hyperthermia/Hypothermia)</p>	Instructors & All Participants/Group Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cold, wet windy days. - Hot, sunny days - Inappropriate clothing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appropriate clothing to be worn / carried. - Use of sunscreen is encouraged. - Participants are asked to take a drink with them.

This risk assessment in no way negates the need for continual dynamic risk assessment on session.

You must report incidents or near misses using company procedures.

If you have any concerns or questions about the risk assessment speak to your manager.

Emergency Action Plan

Remember;

Self – Team – Casualty – Equipment

1. Make sure you are safe
2. Make sure the group are safe
3. Make sure the individual(s) concerned are safe
4. Rescue the individual(s)
5. Call/send for assistance (as required)
6. Remove all to a safe place

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- a. Where possible move the casualty and group up an exit route via the safest route to a safe place or vehicle.
- b. Water Based rescue. If the casualty is unable to exit, call for a rescue. When the services arrive, follow their direction.
- c. Land Based rescue. If the casualty cannot move, make them safe and await rescue services help. Where possible, move the group away from the venue to a safe place to allow an unhindered rescue to take place. If the assistant knows the exit, they may lead the group out at the lead instructor's discretion and make the group safe.
7. Diagnose the extent of the injury and effect first aid in line with your training.
8. Take further action as appropriate.
9. Inform Day Manager, ensuring all appropriate documentation is completed at the earliest possible opportunity.

If required, call the emergency services on 999. If no signal exists, move to a new location, perhaps on higher ground. Ensure you have discussed your plans with your colleague and also the additional risk you are being exposed to yourself.

Instructors are to have knowledge of the nearest hospital (A&E or small injuries unit to where they are operating).

Swanage Minor Injuries Hospital - OPEN - 09:00 - 18:00

Address - Queen's Rd, Swanage BH19 2ET

Tel - General Enquiries (01929) 422282