Risk Assessment

Use of Lutterworth Leisure Centre Swimming Pool for Canoeing Activities

ID	Risk	Impact	Mitigations	Date Last Modified
R1	Collision between swimmers and canoeists, and canoeists and canoeists	Impact to body or head causing injury	● Canoeists and swimmers without boats are not permitted in the pool at the same time. An exception to this is supervising leaders and instructors, who will be permitted to stand in the water; and where entry to the water by a canoeist is required when practising rolling and rescues. ● Pointed boats (generally slalom competition boats) to be used only for rolling practice. ● Qualified first-aider to be present at every session	September 2019
R2	Slipping on poolside	Injury resulting from fall	● Briefing to include instruction not to run ● Qualified first-aider to be present at every session	October 2018
R3	Unable to remove spray deck. Usually caused by panic but may also be the result of a tight spray deck, or handle being inside of boat.	Drowning; unwillingness to continue with canoeing activities.	● Paddlers not to use spray decks unsupervised until they have successfully completed a spray deck test (capsize and remove spray deck without panic). ● Minimum ratio of one leader or instructor in the water for every four children, where students are inexperienced (as appointed by the head coach) ● Independent lifeguard to be present ● All spray decks to be checked for suitability by session leader *See also note at R10 concerning use of buoyancy aids.*	February 2020
R4	Canoeist hit by another canoeist's paddle.	Injury	● Games with paddles, where paddlers are in close proximity to each other are not permitted. ● Qualified first-aider to be present at every session	October 2018
R5	Poor technique when lifting and moving boats	Injury	● Ensure appropriate supervision. ● Include in briefing – bent knees, straight back, two to a boat etc. ● Qualified first-aider to be present at every session	October 2018

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R6	Canoes hit side of pool from water	Damage to tiles	● The need to avoid collisions with the side of the pool to be explained during briefing sessions.	September 2019
R7	Canoes hit walls, tiles, floors, fixtures and fittings whilst being moved to or from the pool.	Damage to pool property	● Ensure that any children that are asked to help move boats are supervised. ● Use rubber mats around the pool where possible to rest boats on.	March 2022
R8	Unidentified pre-existing medical conditions	Safety issues (drowning, injury)	● Permission form to be completed by a parent or guardian of every child participating. These will include health and medication information. ● If medical issues present a greater than normal risk (as determined by the lead coach), one-to-one supervision will be arranged.	October 2018
R9	Inadequate supervision	Damage or injury	● Leader/Instructor to student ratio to be at least 1 to 4 where the students are children and beginners. For more experienced paddlers a ratio of up to 1 to 8 will be acceptable, in accordance with Paddle UK and Scout Association guidelines. ● Qualified first-aider to be present at every session	October 2024

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ID	Risk	Impact	Mitigations	Date Last Modified
R10	Participant gets into difficulty due to poor swimming skills	Drowning or injury	● Independent lifeguard to be present ● Parents of participants will be required to confirm that they can swim 50 metres. If unable to do so, attendance will be dependent upon additional supervision being arranged in accordance with Scout Association POR. ● Ability will be assessed at the commencement of each session by swimming two lengths as part of warm-up activities. ● Buoyancy aids now required for all participants (Scout policy). Leaders / Helpers to ensure best fit possible. See also note below: *Note that we do NOT consider the wearing of buoyancy aids to fully mitigate this risk. Buoyancy aids are designed to be worn over clothing. It is difficult to achieve a good fit when worn next to the skin. Where a buoyancy aid does not fit properly, the risk of drowning can be increased.*	March 2023

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ID	Risk	Impact	Mitigations	Date Last Modified
R11	Contamination of water through use of dirty boats	Risk to health and reputation	Every boat used must be cleaned thoroughly prior to use in the swimming pool using following process (or similar): 1. Remove nuts from footplates (if present). This will allow better access. 2. Remove buoyancy bags and leave out. All of our plastic boats have good fixed buoyancy, and we do not consider additional buoyancy to be necessary for pool use. It will also help with cleaning. Leave the bags at our Hinckley base. 3. Wipe / scrub / jet wash all surfaces that you can get to, inside and out, with warm soapy water and a little disinfectant. 4. Half fill the boat with water; slosh about and empty rapidly. 5. Do this twice more, or until there is no sign of twigs, leaves, or grit. Don't empty the boats via the bung-holes - this will leave debris inside of the boat! 6. Replace the nuts and remove any remaining water with a sponge.	September 2019
R12	Boats damage the pool side when embarking	Damage to tiles	● Sliding into the pool from the side is not permitted from unprotected tiled areas. ● Consider the use of mats or carpets to protect tiles	September 2019
R13	Contamination of water through transferring contaminants to the poolside when moving boats.	Risk to health and reputation	No outdoor shoes to be worn poolside.	March 2023

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ID	Risk	Impact	Mitigations	Date Last Modified
R14	Loss of reputation with Swimming Pool caused by inappropriate behaviours	Loss of access to pool	Ensure that all risks are correctly mitigated as above.	March 2023