

RISK ASSESSMENT OF: Water Challenge
PREMISES

EQUIPMENT

VEHICLE

SYSTEM OF WORK

RISK ASSESSMENT BY: Helen Crampton

DATE COMPLETED: 14/7/2023

DISCIPLINE LEAD SIGN OFF: Jim Riggans 1/8/2023

DATE FOR REVIEW: After challenge

Notes:

Venue risk assessments have been completed separately and specific scenario risks will be added if more detail required once specific scenarios have been chosen

TASK	HAZARDS IDENTIFIED	WHO MAY BE HARMED AND HOW?	EXISTING CONTROLS	IS THE RISK ADEQUATELY CONTROLLED ? (YES / NO)	ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES & COMMENTS	SECTION / PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Donning/Doffing of PPE.	Offense caused to public.	All participants Public complaints	Changing facilities made available	Yes		
Movement around venue. Including setting up scenarios and gaining access	Natural environment – undergrowth, nettles, brambles Wild-life, animal faeces, rats Steps, access points including at man-made venues	Participants, volunteers and assessors Public/spectators Slips and trips leading to injuries or accidental immersion Scrapes, stings, skin lesions, insect bites Animal/bird faeces resulting in contamination and illness	Competition is in day light, and torches can be carried if extra lighting is required PPE worn in Hot/Warm Zone, including buoyancy aids/life jackets Spotter with throwline. Trauma care kit and AED. Volunteers are competent in water rescue techniques (MOD 2 minimum) Awareness of natural environment. Participants and Assessors are competent	Yes		

		Weill's disease/leptospirosis	Briefing to participants that the environment is natural and therefore consider situational awareness Competition zone cordoned off where possible and no public access to water's edge			
	Carrying of/ and placing equipment at scene	Volunteers and assessors setting up scenario Participants Handling injuries Slips and trips including into water - accidental immersion	Manual handling considerations. Team work to lift equipment No lone working PPE worn in Hot/Warm Zone, including buoyancy aids/life jackets All participants, assessors and volunteers have declared they are fit to take part	Yes		
Use of live casualties	Water and natural environment 'Casualties' in water or by bank	Volunteers Getting cold, hypothermia, getting dislodged and floating down stream Impact with other users	'Casualties' are volunteers who are competent in relation to the water used for the competition. All 'casualties' will wear full water PPE 'Casualties' will swap around for each session. UKRO assessor is medically trained and will monitor casualties	Yes		

		<p>Drowning</p> <p>Contamination leading to illness</p>	<p>'Casualty' who is floating will be in position just before as participants get to command point</p> <p>'Casualty' in water will have line to use to get to their position</p> <p>Spotter with throwline positioned downstream</p> <p>Water is tested where possible</p> <p>Any open wounds are covered prior to positioning</p>			
Working in water	<p>In-water hazards</p> <p>Strainer</p> <p>Debris in water and floating</p> <p>Natural river bed - rocks</p> <p>Dislodgement of rocks, branches</p> <p>Slippery surfaces</p> <p>Downstream V</p> <p>Impact with solid structures.</p> <p>Fast flowing water.</p> <p>Small Eddy</p> <p>Large Eddy</p>	<p>Participants, 'casualties' volunteers, assessors</p> <p>Obstructions under water leading to impact injuries</p> <p>Entrapment, with rocks and river bed, injuries to feet, ankles, knees etc</p> <p>Slips, trips and falls resulting in full immersion leading to</p>	<p>All participants, assessors and volunteers are competent water first responders as a minimum</p> <p>Full water PPE including buoyancy aids/life jackets, dry suits</p> <p>Separate risk assessment of venues to be used have been completed and hazards considered</p> <p>Spotter with throwline, evacuation and distress signals agreed before scenario begins</p> <p>Safety brief includes evacuation and distress signals</p>	Yes		

		drowning, hypothermia	Trauma care kit and AED. Trained volunteers present and rescue plan			
	Water course, natural or man-made	Participants, 'casualties' volunteers, assessors Contamination leading to illness	Water quality checked prior to challenge and water levels Open wounds covered prior to getting into water Post scenario decontamination including showering No eating or drinking prior to decontamination Assessors and volunteers get opportunity to decontaminate prior to eating and drinking	Yes		

	Cold water	Participants, assessors, volunteers, hypothermia	Participants/volunteers and assessors wear Service issued PPE including dry suits and thermal protection Scenarios are time managed	Yes		
	Canoeist/public using water, canal, water course Fishermen	'Casualties', participants, assessors Public Impacts leading to injuries	Area will be zoned off where possible and scenario will halt if canoeist/users in vicinity Spotters in use Signage to be placed to inform public of training/exercise taking place	Yes		
Use of equipment for rescue scenario, including launching boats/sleds	Equipment - sled, boat, lines	Participants 'Casualties' Assessors Volunteers Manual handling of equipment Slips, trips or falls on bank resulting in musculoskeletal/ impact injury, accidental immersion	Boats and equipment launched and recovered utilising known techniques (RYA or Rescue Boat Operator training) Appropriate numbers used to carry, launch and recover equipment Identified stowage area utilised for boats, trailers and associated ancillary equipment. Identified access points for getting equipment to water's edge	Yes		



		<p>Sub-surface objects causing damage to equipment</p> <p>Impact with walls. Changes in depth, water clarity</p> <p>Unfamiliar with particular make and model of boat in use leading to losing control, capsize</p>	<p>Account taken of inclement weather conditions preceding the event that may increase likelihood of debris</p> <p>Participants stick to speed designated for water course - reiterated during briefing</p> <p>Venue is inspected prior to starting day's rotations and pre-scenario check list completed</p> <p>Water monitored for debris</p> <p>Participants are competent boat operators and are given chance to get familiar with boat to be used prior to starting scenario</p>	<p>Yes</p>		
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Real event/real rescue			This will form part of the teams brief prior to taking part in the scenarios. If an incident occurs, then this will be broadcast on the radios as 'FOR REAL' whereby a rescue plan will be put together	Yes		
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