

Risk Area: Raft Build

Owner: Head of Operations

Date of next review: 08.04.26

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?	Action by who?	Action by when?	Done
Drowning Drowning is an inherent risk in all water activities	Staff and Visitors by falling out of raft or if raft capsizes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buoyancy Aids must be worn, include CE mark and 50N Trained and Qualified Instructors VHF Radio carried or appropriate means of communications Roll mats in safety craft EAP is in place Staff trained in EAP completion Buoyancy Aids are checked by instructors before use. Self-inflating lifejackets not permitted Water confidence sessions provided prior to going afloat. Capsize / recovery drills covered promoting student safety 				
Personal injury	Staff and visitors injured through collisions from craft or paddles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trained and Qualified Instructors supervising the sessions Helmets must be worn (See helmet / head wear RA). EAP is in place Courses are to be set providing room for maneuver Effective briefing to be given to ensure boundaries are set and courses are explained. 				
Entrapment/ Capsize	Staff and visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety craft on water with the raft appropriate for the session Instructors carry a knife Instructors make sure guests are aware that they cannot secure themselves to the raft in any way Instructors to be on rafts with students when afloat EAP is in place Use of power boats to offer safety cover is not advised due to the risks of prop wrap and injury. Kayaks and SUP boards to be used initially 				

Hypothermia Cold	Staff and visitors due to environmental conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained and Qualified Instructors • Wetsuits must be worn (At CI's Discretion) • Clothing appropriate to conditions, no jeans, no foul weather gear only. This includes appropriate footwear, ideally ankle high thick neoprene boots. • Additional clothing to be brought on sessions where temperature is low • Length of sessions to be shortened to allow for colder temperatures. • Appropriate drinks and sugary food to be taken on sessions 				
Hyperthermia Hot	Staff and visitors due to environmental conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained and Qualified Instructors • Instructors make sure guests are drinking enough water during the day • Instructors make sure sun-cream and sun protective clothing is suitable • Water and sun-cream to be brought on sessions where temperature is high • Regular checks on students to be done • Sessions length to be adjusted to allow for comfort breaks. • Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight to be minimized. 				
Guest Medical Issues	Visitors not declaring medical info.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All guests must have completed a medical form before going afloat. • All instructors must check if there any medical issues with the group they are taking out. • Medicines must be placed in a dry bag and kept with instructor at all times. • Medication must be given back to the student at the end • If a guest has a medical issue which may warrant an individual risk assessment the chief instructor will make sure this is completed 				
Manual Handling	Staff and visitors injured whilst lifting the raft down to the water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor to demonstrate correct lifting technique • Whole group lifts the raft together • Instructors to assist the lifting of all rafts • Build rafts near to water's edge to avoid lifting the raft too far 				

Group Control Whilst Afloat	Visitors behavior and conduct impacting safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Guests receive a safety briefing before going afloat • All Guests are shown hand and whistle signals and their meaning before going afloat • All Guests are given an area to stay within • IC to ensure session plans and locations are appropriate • SI Afloat to check on control of sessions and offer support where necessary • Additional staff allocated for groups Risk Assessed as requiring additional support (special needs or behavioral concerns as an eg) 				
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