| **Number** | **Hazard Description and activities giving rise to risk** | **Who may be harmed** | **Control Measures** | **Risk Rating** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Weather conditions | All | 1. Watersports lead instructor must make a decision on weather conditions for the day and define an operating area. 2. Sessions only to take place in the correct safe conditions as stated in the operating standards. 3. Rescue equipment such as throw/tow lines must be available to water based supervising instructors. 4. Cease any activity where reduced visibility means you cannot see the group and bank. 5. Cease the activity should lightning occur. 6. Suspend the activity if adverse conditions pose a danger to yourself or participants. 7. The strength of wind should be carefully considered, anything above a force 4 (Beaufort scale) should be discussed with centre management | Medium |
| 2 | Participants, weak or non-swimmers who fall into the water may drown if not assisted. | All | 1. Instructors must check the level of water confidence or swimming ability before the activity and ensure every participant has a buoyancy aid and check that it is fitted correctly. 2. Brief participants on what they should do if they fall into the water. 3. Constant observation ensures constant vigilance of group. | Low |
| 3 | Entrapment | Participants | 1. Ongoing coaching and safety of the rafting/Coracle’s activities will be provided by an instructor holding the appropriate BC award, assistant Instructor will also hold the appropriate BC award. 2. When on the water, position yourself so you can lend rapid assistance to any group member who may get into difficulty. 3. Make sure that the activity is run in areas where there is no submerged or floating vegetation in which participants could become entangled; 4. Instructors must maintain up to date knowledge of the location they are working in. 5. A knife capable of cutting through webbing, line or rope must be carried by water-based instructors. 6. Outdoor Elements Ponds need to be well maintained and overhanging branches should be cut back. | Medium |
| 4 | Activity equipment | All | 1. Equipment is subject to daily inspection from the supervising instructors prior to use and 6-month inspections and repaired or replaced as necessary. 2. Willow to be soaked in water in advance of session when it is starting to dry out to prevent breakage | Very Low |
| 6 | Swamping (canoe only) | All | 1. If a coracle becomes swamped, carry out a deep-water rescue. | Medium |
| 7 | Other site user | All | 1. An area should be designated for the activity that is, so far as is possible, separate from other Land and water users. 2. Off-site locations must be vetted before use for their suitability and a site-specific risk assessment 3. Instructors must maintain line-of-sight contact at all times with the group on the water. 4. Be vigilant of other water or shore users and move your group to an alternative safe area if required. | Very Low |
| 8 | Uneven surfaces or access routes causing slips, trips and falls | All | 1. Route to activity area is to be selected with care to minimise trips, slips and falls to all taking part. 2. Brief participants to keep to paths and designated activity areas and to take care where terrain is steep or uneven. 3. Suitable foot ware must be worn by all group members | Very Low |
| 10 | Water pollution which may cause skin, gastric or respiratory irritation | All | 1. The suitability of the water and the weather for the planned activity must be checked at the beginning of the day (water level, state, pollution, weather conditions) 2. Ensure all open cuts are covered with a dressing and participants wash their hands if possible; take a shower after the activity. 3. Do not enter any water body that has no flow and looks stagnant or has large amounts of algae growing in or on it. | Very Low |
| 11 | Head or facial injury |  | 1. When the planned activities / skills / games are likely to involve participants colliding with each other or other crafts then helmets should be worn. 2. A full turban is an acceptable alternative but be careful of loose cloth becoming entangled in equipment or apparatus. | Very low |
| 1 | Cuts/splinters from sharp edges on crafts | All | 1. Crafts are subject to inspection from staff before use and adjustments/replacements are to be made where deemed necessary. 2. 6 monthly inspections of all session equipment and repaired or replaced as necessary. | Very Low |
| 14 | Manual handling injury from lifting and carrying boats. | All | 1. Boats planks, and other heavy equipment should be stored close to the launch areas to minimize the need for manual handling. 2. Correct manual handling techniques must be used at all times 3. When moving crafts on shore, there must be a minimum of 2 participants to each coracle, 4 to each raft. | Very Low |
| 15 | Inappropriate clothing & footwear.  (Cuts to feet from stones or other sharp objects under the water or on shore. Long hair, jewelry, etc. becoming entangled in equipment) | All | 1. Staff to ensure group is appropriately dressed for the activity before the session starts. Participants may change into alternative appropriate clothing and footwear for the wet part of the session 2. Appropriate footwear to be worn by all participants throughout the activity. 3. Jewelry must be removed. | Very Low |
| 16 | Hypothermia / Hyperthermia | All | 1. Appropriate clothing to be worn by all 2. Appropriate equipment must be made available at location to deal with environmental conditions. 3. Monitor group for signs of hypothermia, if in doubt check them. 4. Removal from session is the best course of action. | Medium |
| 17 | Sunburn. | All | 1. Ensure participants apply sunscreen before and during the activity during sunny weather conditions. | Medium |