

Risk Management Plan - Canoeing on flat water

An activity group embarks 2-person open Canadian canoes onto grade 1 water and paddles together a short trip route or participates in some skills drills and games.

Location: Flat water inland waterways

Leadership ratio: 1:8 boats with adult-child pairs.

Typical time: 90 mins

Activity-specific risks

Environment	People	Equipment
Poor weather	Unsafe act of participant	Equipment failure
Boat collision on waterway	Poor facilitation	Equipment mis-use
Dangerous fauna	Pre-existing medical condition	
Respiratory distress under water	Adverse experience to attempt	
Waterway sharps on bed or shore		

History of accidents

Since 2022, 0 participants have participated at Tempus in Canoeing on flat water

0 have been admitted to hospital

0 have been taken to a medical centre

0 have been treated for first aid

Likelihood/Consequence ratings

	1 Very Unlikely Has not yet happened	2.Unlikely Happens several times in 10 years	3.Likely Happens several times a year	4. Very Likely Happens once a week
3.Severe Injury Hospital admittance	3	6	9	12
2.Major Injury Medical centre	2	4	6	8
1.Minor Injury First aid	1	2	3	4

	Proceed		Proceed with caution		Do not proceed
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Contributing factors and raw risk score

Poor weather	Extremes of temperature and stormy conditions	9
Boat collision	Public access, season, weekday and remoteness	6
Dangerous fauna	Season, currents and ocean access	3
Respiratory distress	Water temperature, flow, waves and capsizes	6
Waterway sharps	Natural and other debris	6
Unsafe act of participant	Experience levels and age	8
Poor facilitation	Fatigue, work-stress and group dynamics	6
Pre-existing medical	Diverse participants	6
Adverse experience	Experience levels and age	1
Equipment failure	Use, care, wear, storage and transport	3
Equipment mis-use	Diverse interpretation of manufacturers guidelines	6

Risk management strategies and managed risk score

Poor weather	Pre-activity weather checks, in-the-field observations	6
Boat collision	Use of secluded areas, trip routes and daylight hours	3
Dangerous fauna	Lookout, comms and aid kit	3
Respiratory distress	Safety brief, rafting drill and mandatory PFDs	3
Waterway sharps	Safety brief, closed shoes on all paddlers	6
Unsafe act of participant	Setting boundaries, safety briefing, manage group flow	4
Poor facilitation	Staff management, training and development	6
Pre-existing medical	Alert lists, good comms, aid kit	3
Adverse experience	Facilitate 'challenge-by-choice' framework	1
Equipment failure	Pre-activity check, safety briefing, retirement policy	3
Equipment mis-use	Experience levels and age	6

Inherent risks

Being on water
Environmental exposure

Other emergency management plans that potentially need enacting

First aid policy and procedures
Emergency response to severe weather
Emergency response to a severe injury or fatality
Crisis management plan

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