

Scottish Canoe Association Polo Committee

RISK ASSESSMENT

RISK ASSESSMENT SCALE

Effects of hazard scale:	3	MAJOR	e.g. Death or major injury
	2	SERIOUS	e.g. Injuries where people may be off work for more than three days
	1	SLIGHT	e.g. All other injuries including those where people are off work for up to three days

Likelihood of occurrence:	3	HIGH	e.g. Where it is certain or near certain that harm will occur
	2	MEDIUM	e.g. Where harm will occur frequently
	1	LOW	e.g. Where harm will seldom occur

Change Notes

Version	Notes	Significant Changes /Assessors & Reviewer	Date Issued
1	Original Version	Original Version. (SCA Polo Committee).	
2	Revised November 2017	Olympia outdoor activities and fall from height added. (SCA Polo Committee Meeting Nov 2017)	8/11/2017
3	Revised May 2017	Drone use added. Blue Green Algae added	20/03/2019

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Hazard	Effect of Hazard	Likelihood of occurrence	At Risk	Control Measures	Additional Controls Required
Physical Factors					
Drowning	3	1	All Participants	<p>Buoyancy aids are worn by everyone while on a game is being played.</p> <p>Buoyancy aids must meet the standard set out in the BC Rules 108.</p> <p>Referees to check Buoyancy aids are to visually check are worn correctly before the start of a game.</p> <p>Team Captains are to check BAs are correctly worn on all youth players and novice players before egress onto the water</p> <p>Adherence of BC canoe polo rules regarding a capsized player, see rule 60.</p> <p>All participants will be able to swim 25m unaided.</p>	
Heat Exhaustion	1	1	All Participants	<p>Team Captains and coaches will ensure appropriate clothing is worn when playing canoe polo.</p> <p>Team Captains and coaches will ensure all players drink enough water.</p>	

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Shoulder dislocation	3	1	All Participants	<p>Games are constantly under the observation of a referee.</p> <p>Teams are to be reminded of the importance of a warm-up at the beginning of the season</p> <p>Team Captains to ensure their teams is fully prepared before a game</p>	
Boat to Body contact	2	3	All Participants	<p>Canoeists are informed of the BC rules of canoe available through the SCA website</p> <p>Polo explicitly forbid boat to body contact, see rule 66.</p> <p>Team Captains to ensure only polo specific boats are used (foam ends)</p> <p>Referees to visually check all boats have legal bumpers, see rule 48.</p>	
Slips/Trips	2	2	<p>All Participants</p> <p>Referee's Officials</p> <p>Members of public</p>	<p>Appropriate footwear should be worn when refereeing.</p> <p>Safety check of the area to be used must be carried out prior to the start of the session.</p> <p>Equipment must be stacked aside when not in use. Paddles must be kept inside boats or removed from the ground.</p>	
Finger Injuries	1	2	All Participants	<p>Compliance of rule 50.4.</p> <p>Paddles must adhere to rule 104.</p> <p>Referees and team captains will ensure no inappropriate jewellery, wrist bands, locker keys, ear rings and bracelets are worn</p>	

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Flying Balls	1	3	All Participants Referee's Officials Members of public	Helmets and Buoyancy aids must be worn at all times during a game. Suitable equipment to be used by adherence to BC canoe polo rules, see rule 50.	
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Hazard	Effect of Hazard	Likelihood of occurrence	At Risk	Control Measures	Additional Controls Required
General Risks					
Accident/Incident	2	3	All participants	Team Captains will keep records of player's emergency contacts and ensure they are brought to every tournament.	
Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults	3	2	Children Vulnerable Adults	<p>Teams will abide by SCA Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults policy.</p> <p>A welfare officer will be appointed for every tournament, with the main role of ensuring the club abides by this policy.</p> <p>SCA Polo Committee will have a representative who has attended a Safeguarding and Protecting Children workshop every 3 years (at least)</p> <p>Enhanced CRB checks (full disclosure) will be carried out for all club volunteers and details will be kept by the club secretary</p>	
Verbal abuse or physical attack	2	2	Referees Other officials All participants.	<p>No verbal or physical abuse will be tolerated and should be immediately controlled by the officials.</p> <p>All incidents will be reported to an official Further action by the Canoe Polo Committee will be taken if necessary</p>	

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Fire or other serious incidents	3	2	All on site	<p>Responsibility for evacuation will remain with the centre staff.</p> <p>All event organisers, participants, volunteers and spectators will follow their instructions.</p> <p>Evacuation plan is available from the Pool Management. Canoe Polo organisers to ensure that all fire exits are kept free from obstruction at all times.</p>	
Stuck by Drone	1	1	All on site	<p>At outdoor events drone flying may occur. Guidance from SCA Office is that permission should not be given as the risk of injury is not covered by SCA insurance and giving permission would mean that the SCA take some responsibility. An individual may choose to fly their drone and would be responsible to their own insurance, disclosure issues, licensing etc.</p> <p>Evacuation plan is available from the Pool Management. Canoe Polo organisers to ensure that all fire exits are kept free from obstruction at all times.</p>	<p>In the event that an individual is filming using a drone at a Polo event that the organizer feels is hazardous then they may approach the pilot and if needed request the pilot to modify their behavior. If this request does not work then the Police may need to be called.</p>

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Olympia Dundee Specific Risks					
Leisure Pool Users	2	3	General Public	A large net to be placed between goals and leisure pool.	
High Air Temperature	2	3	All participants	Teams to be reminded about the importance of staying hydrated at the start of the season. Water fountain is available pool side	
Moving vehicles	3	1	All participants including children	Parking outside entrance is on a short road with generally slow moving traffic and access to a wide pavement. To access Olympia from Cowgate car park there is a pedestrian crossing to cross the main (fast and busy) Seagate road. Vehicle drivers will be a minimum of 17 years old.	
Public struck by equipment or kayaks when unloading vehicles	1	1	General public	Equipment weight maximum is approx. 12kg. Vehicles driver will be a minimum of 17 years old. Teams are responsible for own movements until in venue/event.	

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Fall from height hanging/removing goals from spectator area	2	1	All participant	Instruction sheet defining how to hang goals provided. Risk of fall highlighted on sheet.	
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Pinkston Watersport Centre and Lochore Meadows Specific Risks					
Poor Water Quality	2	1	All participants	<p>Visually check.</p> <p>PWC carries out regular water quality surveys, no canoe polo activity at Pinkston will take place when water quality fails to pass safeguarding tests.</p> <p>Team Captains and coaches will ensure all players cover open cuts and sores</p> <p>cover open cuts and sores</p>	

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<p>Poor Water Quality</p> <p>Blue Green Algae Present</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>All participants</p> <p>(Children at higher risk due smaller body size)</p> <p>(Note: dogs and other animals at additional Risk. Potentially fatal to animals).</p>	<p>A Polo Specific guidance sheet that participants are required to sign where a venue is know to have presence of Blue Green Algae. Control measures included on this sheet are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep animals and children away from affected shore areas where algae may be wind driven. - Participants should wear clothing which is close fitting at the wrists, neck and ankles, along with boots to minimise contact with algae or algal scum. - Minimise time spent in shallow water launching and recovering equipment. - Launching/recovery away from thick aggregations of algae. - Hose down after activity to avoid bringing scum and algae into the changing rooms. Recommendation that clothing should be washed and dried on returning home. <p>https://www.dropbox.com/s/ez1jodp89no3lms/Blue%20Green%20Algae%20Facts.pdf?dl=0)</p>	
<p>Sunburn and Dehydration</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>All participants</p> <p>Officials</p> <p>Referees</p>	<p>Shoulders to be covered as per rule 50.3</p> <p>Team Captains will ensure that players apply sun cream is regularly</p> <p>Team Captains will ensure all players drink enough water</p> <p>Drinking Water is available at every tournament and training session the club attends.</p>	

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Poor/Low Sunlight	2	3	All participants Officials Referees	Flood Lights will be used in all games after sunset.	
Hypothermia	2	2	All participants Officials Referees	Referees must wear warm clothing/coat when refereeing in adverse weather Team Captains will ensure all players wear appropriate thermal and windproof clothing will be worn in adverse weather. Hot Drinks will be available if adverse weather.	
Lightning Strike	3	1	All participants Officials Referees	No one is permitted to be outside on the water during a lightning storm	
Spectators	3	1	Members of Public	Cones and tape to be used to visually highlight the edge of path	
Motorised Boats (Lochore only)	3	1	All participants	Pitch rope may act as a barrier. Number of participants in polo makes it likely motorized craft hazard would be spotted. Helmets are normally worn.	

