

Risk Assessment	
Section:	Cubs/Scouts
Activity/Event:	River Tubing @ River Don
Person Undertaking Assessment:	A. King
Last reviewed:	13/08/2020

Hazard observed	Who may be harmed?	Control measures/ notes
Water Tubing	Participants	<p>To manage risks of bruises, bumps, risk of drowning (associated with any water sport activity) and COVID related risks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Follow guidance in 150th's COVID risk assessment and risk assessment for general paddle sports above (e.g. covering cleaning, exposure to cold, slips trips and falls etc). 2. One paddler per ring. 3. Helmets & buoyancy aids to be worn. 4. Paddles to be used for forward movement and steering 5. When on moving water paddlers to travel with your bum in the ring (i.e. not laying their front on the ring). 6. Instructors to encourage appropriate distances between paddlers when on rapids. 7. Instructors to be position themselves to be able to assist if needed. 8. Instructors to use only lower section of slalom course rapids (where it has been cleared of stones to make it deeper) 9. Rings to be used only on Class C and Class B1 water (as a rule of thumb, they'll never be used if the Wharnccliffe Side River Don water level gauge is 1.2m or higher). 10. Rings to only be used by paddlers under maximum manufacturer's weight (where this is provided by manufacturer). 11. Young people have warm up in rings on flat water (Class C water) at bottom of Sheffield Canoe Club steps before taking to rapids (practice turning, moving forward, moving sideways). Coaching/instruction given as appropriate. 12. Prior to using rapids, briefing given including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pointing out residual risks (e.g. potential to bang your bum when descending rapids) • Safe distances (try to stay 5 rings apart on the rapids to give you space to see what's coming) • Safety measures in place (e.g. adults with rescue training, paddles for steering and to be a walking stick if you fall out), helmets, buoyancy aids (this is to discourage kids from using their own rings to travel down the Don unsupervised). • For older/more advanced paddlers, explain boofing to help get over drops (boofing is pushing yourself forward with your paddle, meaning the back of the craft does not catch on the drop and tip you in) 13. Discussion with S Yorks County Advisor for canoeing to discuss any additional control measures recommended.



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		<p>14. Ongoing dynamic risk assessment undertaken whilst activity underway.</p> <p>15. Consideration of national Scouting advice on water tubing, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy, Organisation & Rules Chapter 9.42 – 9.52 • Policy Organisation & rules Chapter 9.52d: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ”Where an attendant lifeguard is not provided, leaders must ensure appropriate safety cover is present. The safety cover must either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hold the relevant elements of the RLSS Water Safety Management Programme (WSMP)... - Hold a water activity permit (leadership or supervisory); operate within the remit of their permit (i.e. class of waters, group size etc) and meet the requirements for providing safety cover for swimming activities (within FS120620 –Swimming). • Swimming Factsheet: FS120620: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ”Swimming may also include the use of inflatable boats (excluding Kayaks and Canoes) and Tubing” <p>“Swimming – Water activity permit holders: When providing safety cover for swimming under a water activity permit you must meet these requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class C guidelines – follow the guidance for swimming in class C waters as detailed above - Ratios – you must operate with the same size group (or smaller) as you do under your permit. - Class of water – you may operate on lower classifications of water but not higher, and the suitability of the waters for swimming should also be considered prior to the activity taking place. - Personal flotation devices – all permit holders supervising swimming activities must ensure that all participants are wearing appropriately fitting buoyancy aids. - Location of permit holder – the permit holder must position themselves in a suitable place to effectively conduct rescues should they be required. <p>Ring Details / Weight limits (where given)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bestway Gold - 36 inch / 91cm - up to 90kg - £6.99 • Cressi Yellow - 45 inch / 116cm - up to 100kg - £19.99 • Bestway High Velocity (Tyre) - 47 inch / 119cm - 12+ years - £7.20 • Bestway Extreme Swim Ring (Fire) - 36 inch / 91cm - £9.95 <p>Rings have been trialed by adult on both a river and lake before young people use them & the risk assessment has been updated in light of this.</p> <p>This risk assessment will be published on the 150th.org.uk website to be available for parents and young members. (150th.org.uk/activities)</p>

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Drowning (general)	Participants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use of buoyancy aids and helmets compulsory. 2. Bouyancy aids of suitable size for children 3. Coach familiar with club to hand out buoyancy aids. 4. Visual check on buoyancy aids 5. Use of location that has shallow water 6. 1:8 or better coach : cub/scout ratio to ensure effective supervision 7. Presence of adults who have undertaken scout permit assessments despite the waters being Scout Class C waters. 8. Lead Coach to be made aware of any participants who cannot swim 10m by parents. This to be requested (NB the river is less that 10 m wide at all points) and adjust sessions if needed (e.g. by child's parent coming along to ensure an extra set of sensible eyes). 9. Introductory talk to highlight that if participants fall out of boats, they can just get out and stand up as the river is only knee deep in most parts. 10. (Cub Kayaking) Adjustment of footplates in Dynamo Daggers before Cubs on water to facilitate knees out to side of boat in order to make balancing boat easier. 11. (Cub kayaking & canoeing) inviting parents along 12. Lead coach being vigilant to the group together 13. Coaches to remain nearby to all paddlers in case of emergency 14. Coaches being vigilant to participants being pulled down the rapids 100m below the canoe club steps & directing them to paddle back upstream if needed. 15. Having a second coach on water (either adult or junior leader) 16. Extra coaching on safety management for junior leaders/helpers when opportunities arise. 17. Decision on water levels to be made on sight of river and cancellation / postponement to be made by lead coach if rainfall means that the activity cannot be run sufficiently safely. 18. (Cub kayaking & canoeing) Full slalom rapids to be avoided by cubs (unless on subsequent sessions and a dynamic risk assessment has been done to
Slips, trips & falls (on rocks in river or by water edge)	Participants & coaches	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety brief to include info on slipperiness of rocks. 2. Safety brief to include info and demonstration on safely getting in/out of boats. 3. Safety brief to instruct youngsters on what to do if they fall out of their boat. 4. Tendency to take well behaved youngsters (by virtue of the selection process identifying youngsters who have done their best) 5. Helmets compulsory 6. Coaches try to be on time so that youngsters aren't stood around waiting. 7. Coaches try to get things done quickly to minimise time stood around. 8. An extra pair of hands (via junior leader) to be on hand most weeks to have another pair of eyes 9. Sessions to involve varied activity to maintain interest and so minimise likelihood of participants wanting to get out/have rest/visit toilet etc. 10. Coaches to direct participants to stand up slowly if they see a participant fallen in. 11. (Cubs kayaking & canoeing) to run during warmer months so to avoid stronger water levels during wetter months which could take feet away

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Lead coach to have current first aid training 13. The kayaking & canoe 'ramps' to be used for getting boats down to river bank. 14. (Cubs kayaking & canoeing) Parents to be invited to paddle as well to help create even higher level of supervision, to positively influence behaviour.
Injury from paddles	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Helmets compulsory for all participants 2. New paddlers launched one at a time to avoid bunching 3. Games / activities chosen to avoid inexperienced participants being clustered together 4. Games to be stopped if participants are getting too giddy / unsafe.
Exposure too cold/wet	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use of a sheltered location (trees and river being in a dip providing shelter). 2. All parents to be informed of clothing needed. 3. Lead coach to postpone, cut short or cancel in event of weather that is going to lead to injury.