

Shark Risk Assessment for canoeing/kayaking on the Canal at Park Royal/Harlesden

Risk	Actions	Responsibility	Other
Capsizing and evacuating boat	All participants must wear Buoyancy Participants are informed of what action to take if they should fall in, prior to getting in a boat.	Instructor Instructor	For beginners' lessons there will be a coach on the water to act as a rescue boat.
Ill effects of immersion in water	Cuts and open wounds should be covered before participants take part. Participants are advised that if they fall in they should shower as soon as possible. If any ill effects are felt, to seek medical advice as soon as possible and to inform doctor of the fact you have been canoeing in the canal.	Paddlers/instructors Instructor to advise, parents or participants to act Instructor to advise; participant to act.	
Injury from tripping or falling over	No running on the bank side, kit to be kept clear of pathways and steps	Instructor to enforce rules	
Injury from carrying canoes	Juniors not to carry boats on their own	Instructor	Boat should only be carried under supervision by juniors and the always two people per boat.
Injury from bumping into each other on the water	Deliberate crashing is not allowed Buoyancy aids are designed to give all round protection from minor collisions.	Instructor to maintain behaviour whilst on the water.	At entry level lessons paddlers will not be travelling sufficiently fast to cause any major issues

Injury from being accidently hit by another person's paddle.	<p>Lessons to be run to ensure that paddlers have their own space.</p> <p>Deliberately hitting other paddlers is not allowed.</p>	Instructor	
Hypothermia	Paddlers should wear appropriate clothing. If participants fall in they should follow the teacher's instructions and get back in the boat as soon as possible.	Instructor to advise	
Exhaustion	Paddlers should wear appropriate clothing for the conditions, on hot days bring water to drink	Instructor to advise	
Sun burn	Wear appropriate clothing and sun cream	Paddlers/parents	Being in close proximity to water, the sun is reflected onto the skin and participants need to be aware of additions risk on sunny days.
Falling in the water from the bank	People not paddling should not be allowed too close to the river	Instructors/parents	
Paddlers becoming entangled with fishing wires	Lessons to be managed to avoid being too close to anglers	Instructors	
Other Canal traffic	<p>Lessons to be managed to move paddlers to the relevant side of the canal when motorised craft come along.</p> <p>Paddlers to be fully briefed of the dangers of other craft.</p> <p>An instructor would be on the water when there are beginners on the water</p>	Instructor	This can be a busy stretch of canal, with boats able to moor on both sides of the canal the tow path and the mooring for the pub.

Moored Craft	Paddlers need to be told to keep away from moored craft, beginners' sessions to be supervised from the water, with instructors aiding paddlers to keep away from moored craft.	Instructors	There is the potential for boats to be moored on both sides of the canal, on the tow path and on the mooring for the pub.
Getting in and out of canoe/kayak	Instructors to hold boats and assist less experienced paddlers	Instructors	The bank at this area is quite high and there is the risk of inexperienced paddlers falling in at the point of getting in and out of craft.
Risks associated with getting kit in and out of container. Items being dropped.	Only authorised adults to take kit in and out of container	Adults on site, instructors	
Traffic movements in car park	Young children should not be in carpark unsupervised, parents should take children to meeting point at towpath.	Parents/instructors	Having arrived on site people should have no need to mill about in the main car park area.