

# FRIENDS OF ALLONBY CANOE CLUB LIVERPOOL ASSESSMENT OF RISK

## AUSTIN RAWLINSON POOL

ASSESSOR: MJJM  
 DATE: 4/11/13  
 SIGNED:

HAZARD	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED?	IS THE RISK ADEQUATELY CONTROLLED?	WHAT FURTHER ACTION IS NECESSARY TO CONTROL THE RISK?
<i>List hazards here.</i>	<i>List groups of people who are especially at risk from the significant hazard identified.</i>	<i>List existing controls here or note where the information may be found.</i>	<i>List the risks which are not adequately controlled and the actions you will take where it is reasonably practicable to do more.</i>
1. Supervision	All	The club is to ensure that a coach, officer or official will be in overall charge of a club session. She / He will remain at the pool throughout the session unless replaced by another suitably approved person. <b>They will organise the session in accordance with BCU current guidelines as to supervision ratios and number of participants.</b>	If both large and small pools are in use <b>each should have a coach or supervisor.</b> This will be in addition to the statutory poolside lifeguard provision.  BCU minimum safety requirements are; 1 'supervisor' to 8 paddlers.  A 'supervisor' could be a pool lifeguard, coach, polo referee or a club official.



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3. Head / Body Injury	Paddlers / Coaches in the water	The risk is greatest with fewer boats in the water as this enables higher velocities of both boats and paddles. Teaching in groups and the use of canoe games can also greatly increase the risk. The <b>shallow end and small pool should be used for one to one coaching</b> where guiding the paddle is required. Coaches / peers should position themselves at the front of the kayak where possible.	The designated over-seeing official should ensure safe practice from all club members.  Paddlers should always be aware of the possibility of capsizes and need to watch for such so as to avoid collision with anyone in the water.
4. Boat numbers	All Members	For general paddling the small pool can safely accommodate a maximum of six kayaks and/or canoes of up to 4 metres in length, and the large pool can safely accommodate up to twenty two kayaks and/or canoes of up to 4 metres in length. However, the numbers allowed on the water <b>must be assessed for each session and for each proposed activity</b> and adjusted as appropriate. This responsibility lies with the designated club official or coach.	For competition polo BCU guidance will be used (teams of 5 with up to 3 reserves). For canoe games and forward paddling the maximum number will need to be reduced for each pool. Static (rolling) activities may allow an increase in numbers as approved by the designated club official.
5. Boats / Manual Handling	All Members	All members are advised that two people should be used to lift boats. Failure to do so could lead to injury.  <b>Unused boats</b> during the session should be carefully placed away from the pool edge to allow clear access along the poolside.  If boats are required from the container then the help / guidance of a pool official should be requested.	All new members to be advised at induction. Continual monitoring by all members.  All boats should be stored safely inside the pool complex. (In the far changing room, emptied, behind the barrier and clear of the fire exit)  Danger from poor lighting, broken glass and sharp, rusty metal / locks should preclude club members carrying equipment unless suitably dressed (i.e. not dressed for the pool)

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6 .Canoe Polo	All players	Canoe Polo is an "assumed risk" and "water contact sport" that may carry attendant risks. To minimise risks all players are required to wear a helmet, which incorporates a full-face guard, and they must wear a buoyancy aid, which will protect their body from accidental collisions during games. In addition, the front and rear of all polo canoes must be padded and comply with the standards laid down in the current copy of the British Canoe Union Canoe Polo Yearbook.	Polo training and games should always be supervised by a qualified referee or club official.
7 First Aid / Injuries	All Members	Canoeing is an "assumed risk sport". <b>All paddlers MUST be members of the club</b> and will have signed a disclaimer and declared any medical conditions thought to effect their ability to participate in paddlesport.	All Coaches are qualified First Aiders. Use of the pools first aid room and staff should be available at all times. All injuries should be entered into the clubs accident book and reported to the Duty Officer at the pool.
8. Ergo Paddling Machine	All Members	The Ergo machine should be positioned in the area in front of the fitness Gym Window and is under the supervision of the small pool club delegated official.	Any club member using the Ergo machine should be familiar with its use and should undergo a basic introduction from an experienced club member or club coach.
9. Swimming Pool Operating Procedures.	All Members	As a public venue the Pool has an established set of Operating Procedures designed to control and/or respond to all foreseeable risks. As required by these Procedures, Pool Staff will provide instructions and/or guidance to ensure the safety of members of the public and their colleagues is not compromised. In particular, if there is an Outbreak of Fire (Procedure 2.4) or a Bomb Threat (Procedure 2.5) the Duty Supervisor / Chief Fire Marshal will immediately take control and his/her instructions must be adhered to straight away.	A full copy of the Swimming Pool Operating Procedures is available for inspection at Reception, as required.