

Risk assessment

Name of activity, event, and location	Stand Up Paddle Boarding Merseymoot 2026.	Date of risk assessment	30/08/2026	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Ian Bell DLV Wallasey.
		Date of next review	If any significant changes to activity plan. And in post event Debrief		

What hazard have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
A hazard is something that may cause harm or damage. The risk is the harm that may occur from the hazard.	For example: young people, adult volunteers, visitors	Controls are ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk. For example, you may use a different piece of equipment, or you might change the way you do the activity.	Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change what you're doing or even stop the activity. This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.
Water Risks: Drowning, Cold-water shock	All participants	All must be able to swim 50m in light clothing and tread water. Buoyancy aid must be worn by all. All must use board leashes. All participants briefed in suitable dress for activity. Footwear Must be worn as per site RA,	Declaration by participants. Leader of session check and enforces if required. Suitable drees for activity. Light clothing is minimum requirement. (Tee shirt and shorts or leggings) Wet suites can be worn but not provided Light Footwear to be worn as per site RA. (Water shoes or pumps.) If participates water footwear is unsuitable for use around site, they should use other footwear until on lake side and then change into footwear suitable for water activities. Many regular SUP padder paddle bare foot for better connection with board however at Tawd they will always need some form of protection on their feet.
Water quality issues:	All participants	Choice of venue avoiding known areas of pollution or algae blooms. Participants briefed on signs of Weil's Disease and action to take if ill after Water activities Good hand hygiene after activity or handling kit. Kit washing routine. Showers and adequate washrooms available for use on campsite. Delph is suitable venue with suitable water quality.	Participant to report if experience any health issues after activity that may be connected. Venue is considered suitable.
Weather: Wind rain sun. Wind chill increased risk of hypothermia Extreme heat and sun reflection risk of sun burn or hyperthermia	All participants	Leader to check and monitor forecast. Suitable dress and length of activity. Use sun cream, hat, and take fluids. Rain will alter water level and temperature. Wind will blow boards around and if offshore out away from land. Use of leash to prevent loss of contact with board.	Ongoing dynamic assessment of water changes.
Activity risk Fall from boards Unable to remount board (Minor cuts grazes muscle pulls)	All participants	Suitable ratio of leader and participants. One person per single board Launch and return to side in kneeling position as more stable. Avoid standing if risk of falling onto bank or other objects and possible head injury.	Experience of leader will determine this against group and conditions. (Max 1 to 10)

You can find more information in the [Safety checklist for leaders](#) and at scouts.org.uk/safety

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		Leader will teach how to get back on board. Leader capable of recovery of unconscious person to board. Once falling let it happen. Manual handling of equipment off water.	Leaders will assess participants previous experience if any. Will provide full instruction for first time participants.
Activity risk Mega SUP	All participants	1 leader designated to supervise it.(Capacity 6 Person) Briefing to participants over working a steam and aim of session. Supervision and control as the embark / disembarked due to risk of fall due to pushing and shoving or SUP becoming unbalanced. Risk of paddles clashing with each other or persons if paddlers not coordinated.	Capacity 6 person. As will be first time using such at Moot dynamic ongoing assessment required.
Risk from multiple activity in same area at same time	All participants	As we are planning SUP and Open Canoes will be using Delph at same time. Designated person will take overview of all activities around Delph to coordinate and control. Horn or megaphone to direct and communicate. Separate designated Launch and landing areas for each type of craft. SUP from jetty Canoe from Slip. Max number of craft at any time. Any combination not exceeding: 12 Sup 12 Canoes Large SUP and Supervisors in Canoes or SUP to ensure supervision ratios maintained as per Scout Permits.	Use of horn and Megaphone to raise awareness and communicate as required. Will consider zoning of water if required Dynamic adjustment to suit demand
Venue risk: Delph Tawd Valve Camp site. (Scout classification B1 water)	All participants	Water is deep and can be cold. Water is of suitable quality and Class for this activity. Delph is very sheltered and generally unaffected by wind. Trip hazards around bank from tree routes. Footwear to be worn until on board. Risk off tree debris in water. Team will remove any obvious risk and monitor or protect where can. Bits or stings from insects use repellent or cream. The delph has limited access points. all groups will start and return to same point on bank. So, this area should be kept clear of non-boating activities. Other access will only be used in emergency. Possible other users of lake: agree with them areas of operation.	Suitable drees for activity. Light clothing is minimum requirement. (Tee shirt and shorts or leggings) Footwear to be worn Wet suites can be worn but not provided. Participants to have access to change of clothing as likely to get wet during activity.
Transport of and Manual handling of equipment off water.	All participants and anyone else doing this task	Single Boards are light wight and can be carried by an individual if balanced. Share load where required. Large SUP will require minim of 2 People to transport. Transport to and from event will be on trailer or cars and coved under separate assessment.	Leader supervision.
Covid measures First aid and hygiene Injury / illness and first aid required.	All participants	Follow any current guidance in relation to Covid control. Always promote good hygiene practises: Hand washing as required Shower after activities. Kit washed and clear and maintained between bookings. Leader / instructors are qualified First aider and will have First aid kits available. Addition support from emergency team and event organiser or camp staff.	Ongoing Participant to report if experience any health issues after activity that may be connected. Tawd has suitable washing falsities available Provide hand sanitiser as alternative or if water supply issues.

Ian Bell DLV Wallasey 30/08/2026.

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