

Peninsula Outdoors Risk Management Plan Canoeing

The list below incorporates some of the risks associated with canoeing.

Please note: the list below is not all encompassing and some associated risks may not have been identified.

Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood
Participants unable to manoeuvre canoe effectively leading single or multiple canoes being separated from group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate amount of instruction is given to participants on how to manoeuvre canoe. • Pair participants together to ensure a range of ability within one canoe. • Ensure participants are proficient in skills close to shore before venturing further. • Ensure Canoe instructor is the first person on the water and the last person off. 	Satisfactory	Moderate	Likely
Single or multiple capsize leading to entanglement or drowning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants will be briefed and instructed in regards to proper use of canoes to avoid capsize. • Participants must be briefed on what to do in the event of capsize. • Ensure participants are comfortable in the water. • Ensure participant PFDs are fitted correctly and remain on at all times. • Canoes will not have any loose ropes attached that could lead to entanglement • Group will stay in close proximity to each other to ensure rescue craft can reach any capsized craft quickly. • On days when wind is deemed too strong, the activity will be modified or cancelled. • Prior to the activity it is the responsibility of the Canoe instructor to assess the weather conditions to determine if activity will proceed. 	Satisfactory	Major	Unlikely

<p>Poor behaviour of participants on shore leading to injury or potentially endangering other participants.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants will be briefed on what is expected of them in terms of behaviour to ensure safe participation. • Participants not participating directly in canoeing must be directly supervised 1:10. If supervision is not available the participant/s will need to either participate or be collected and supervised at the campsite. • Potentially dangerous behaviour will not be tolerated. If after being warned, behaviour does not improve the activity may need to be modified or cancelled. • It is the responsibility of the school representative to monitor the behaviour of students. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Likely</p>
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Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood
<p>Windy conditions create dangerous/difficult conditions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review weather conditions prior to activity and continually monitor wind strength. • Assess students' ability to cope with increasingly difficult conditions. • Group will stay within close proximity to allow for required communication between canoes. • Maintain and constantly monitor distance from shoreline that participants can travel easily if conditions worsen. • Canoe sessions will not take place if white caps are present on the water. • Participants with no experience and unable to swim will be recommended not to participate. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Major</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>

<p>Exposure to extreme weather conditions (including wet, cold and windy or heat and sun) causing discomfort and potentially leading to illness such as hyperthermia, extreme sun burn, heat exhaustion or heat stroke.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review weather conditions prior to activity • Monitor temperature and shorten, relocate or adjust activity as required • Ensure sufficient water is provided for the activity and participants are briefed on general strategies to stay hydrated. • Ensure appropriate, adequate clothing and protection against elements is worn before and during activity • Seek sheltered if conditions worsen. • Observe participant's condition during activity. • Consideration of wind chill factor if wind is present • Cancel activity if conditions are such that activity cannot be conducted safely and participation will place participants in extreme danger. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>
<p>Damaged equipment or poorly fitting PFD causing injury or drowning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment will be checked regularly for damage and maintained to a high standard. • A variety of sizes of PFD will be offered to ensure participants wear correctly fitting PFD. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Rare</p>
<p>Participant or staff are hit by paddle handle or blade due to incorrect use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants are briefed on the correct use and handling of paddles. • A variety of lengths of paddles are offered to ensure participants are using paddles that are the correct length. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Minor</p>	<p>Likely</p>
<p>Participant or staff member is stung or bitten by ant, bee, spider etc, and leading to swelling or anaphylactic reaction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure staff are aware of any allergies, specifically anaphylactic students. • Medications should be carried at all times in close proximity to participant. • Evacuation procedure should be well known by staff. • Communications will be carried and available at all times. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Major</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>