


Location:	Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre	Date of Assessment:	1/410	Last Reviewed:	December 2019	Name of Assessor:	Ed Sibson
Activity:	Raft Building and Bridge Building	Assessment Reference No:	4.10			Signature of Assessor:	

HAZARD	CONTROL MEASURES
Trapped body part in raft or between raft and river bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to carry suitable rescue knife which must be easily accessible with one hand. All rafts to be inspected prior to launch to ensure no loose ropes or excessive areas where an arm or leg could get trapped. Instructor to carry line suitable for quick attachment to raft to enable raft to be rapidly recovered to bank in case of accident / emergency. Participants advised of where to put their hands and feet to avoid entrapment.
River borne diseases / bacterial infections / Sharps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants must be strongly advised to shower with soap after activity, if they have fallen in or gotten excessively wet. Advise participants to thoroughly wash hands on completion of task and before consuming food or drink Participants encouraged to cover any cuts or grazes with waterproof dressing prior to the activity, clean well and apply fresh dressing after activity. All participants must be made aware of waterborne diseases and their prevention. No swimming during or after high water conditions. Users must be warned not to handle any sharps or syringes if discovered, and to alert Instructor.
Person falling overboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor must position themselves to be able to conduct a prompt rescue should the need arise. If on the water the Instructor must be in an open canoe capable of comfortably rescuing and fitting 2 additional people. All activities involving standing up to be done well away from the bank and other objects. If ashore Instructor must have a suitable throwline or reaching aid readily available in addition to an open canoe as above. Instructors must have passed 'in house' competency training and assessment.
Paddles and raft poles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all participants, Instructors and observers wear helmets and buoyancy aids whilst on the water. If deemed appropriate participants to wear helmets during the construction phase.
Weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only run the session in suitable weather conditions. Tailor session content to avoid prolonged exposure to harsh weather. Avoid prolonged immersion of participants in water. Use wetsuits during cold weather if deemed appropriate. The group should stay within close proximity to the Centre buildings.
Embarking or disembarking raft.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speak to the participants about safety issues regarding embarking and disembarking, no running or jumping on / off the raft close to shore. Before the session, check the riverbank for appropriate embarking and disembarking places on both banks. These should be free from stinging nettles and anything else which would cause an injury. Ensure the raft is secure against the bank when getting on and off.
Further risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All risks should be minimised by continual appraisal of participant's condition, the environment and equipment through dynamic risk assessment by the staff members involved. Due to the nature of the activity some risk remains but every care must be taken to minimise this.

N.B. If the Risk Assessment mentions raft please substitute bridge for the Bridge Building Risk Assessment

