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| **Name of Section or Activity (and version number)** | Waddecar Scout Activity Centre Canoeing  V2025-01 | **Date of risk assessment** | **9th January 2025** | **Review Date** | **January 2026** | **Name and Role of who undertook this risk assessment** | Damian King  Centre Manager.  Scout Canoeing Adventurous Activity Permit Holder |

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| **Hazard Identified? /**  **Risks from it?** | **Who is at risk?** | **How are the risks already controlled?**  **What extra controls are needed?** |
| ***Hazard*** *– something that may cause harm or damage.*  ***Risk*** *– the chance of it happening.* | *Young people,*  *Leaders,*  *Visitors?* | ***Controls*** *– Ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk from it.*  *For example - you might use a different piece of equipment, or you might change the way the activity is carried out.* |
| Drowning | All | Buoyancy aids to be worn by all participants.  Buoyancy aids provided and annually safety checked.  All participants to be appropriately briefed prior to start of activity.  All participants are either identified as:  •Swimmers - able to swim 50m in light clothing and a buoyancy aid and stay afloat for 5 minutes  •Non-Swimmers – participants deemed “non-swimmers” must be in the charge of an adult with only one non-swimmer per canoe  Swimming is not permitted as an activity.  The pond construction limits the maximum water depth to approximately 1.2m  Leaders in charge must be able to always see all participants – a spotter may be required to view far side of island.  Spectators and participants waiting to enter the pond should be kept away from the bank and kept under control.  Maximum three people per canoe.  Safety equipment to be checked before each use and periodically.  Any leader considered to be 'in ratio' must be ready and able to enter the water to assist any participants. |
| Debris in or around the pond could cause cuts | All | Visual inspection of pond area to identify any potential hazards.  Participants to always wear suitable footwear |
| Slip / Trip / Fall from the pond banks or beach area | All | Spectators and participants waiting to enter the pond should be kept away from the bank and kept under control |
| Shallow water: impact with pond floor | All | Instruction and supervision to ensure that participants do not jump into the pond |
| Impact with the canoe/ paddles / other craft | All | Leaders to demonstrate and enforce the correct use of a paddle, especially holding the T grip.  All participants to be appropriately briefed prior to start of activity |
| Manual handling of canoes | All | Equipment to only be lifted by enough people.  Rafted canoes to be lifted in a controlled manner under supervision |
| Water could become contaminated (e.g., Weil’s disease) | All | Visual check of water for contamination / evidence of vermin  All cuts / grazes should be covered.  Wash / shower after using the pond.  No food / drink to be consumed whilst taking part in the activity.  Participants briefed to avoid swallowing water.  Hands to be washed after the activity finishes and before consuming food |
| Exposure. Hypothermia/sunburn | All | Assess the water / air temperature and do not use the pond if it is excessively cold for the participants involved.  Wear appropriate protective clothing.  Observe participants for signs of hypothermia |

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| **Completed by** | Name, Damian King  Role / Qualification: Waddecar Centre Manager  Date; 9th January 2025 | **Checked by verifier** | Name, Phil Haworth  Role /Qualification: County Assessor  Date 16th January 2025 |