



Welsh Harp Sailing Club Club Risk Assessment

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Section 1.2 Revision Schedule

Revision	Date	Details	By
A	April 2024		EG/PP
B	Aug 2025	See highlighted text	EG PP/LH

Section 1.3 Key

H=High Risk	M=Medium Risk	L=Low Risk
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Section 1.4 Risk assessment

(a) ON THE WATER

Hazards	People at Risk	Existing Controls	Further Action Required	Risk
Drowning	Children	All children to wear buoyancy aids beyond yellow line		M
Drowning	All on water, especially beginners	Safety Cover. Lifebuoys on jetties, Buoyancy aids available for all. Information and warnings in: Rules, bye-laws.		L
Drowning	Sailors with particular mobility or health issues	SI checks suitability and assesses whether a BA or life jacket may be more appropriate	Buy life jackets in variety of sizes	L
Hypothermia (Cold)	Everyone	Wetsuits available, oral advice, instructors aware - First Aid update has taken place and action points shared with the club and on first aid and emergency notice board as well as SOPs		M
Contaminated water	Everyone	EA tests water. Warning notices on notice boards. Wetsuit dip.	.	M
Hit by power boat	All on water	All power boat drivers to be assessed to appropriate level. Kill cords to be used – all of them of the ‘cored’ variety	Kill cords to be checked on a regular basis	M
Propeller, falling out of power boat	Powerboat drivers and passengers	Use of kill cords, drivers to be trained to RYA standards. Cut engine when near people in water.		L
Underwater obstructions	All users, especially novices /occasional sailors	Blue buoy marks obstruction. Advertised by maps and notices, bye-laws, website.		L
Sluice gates	All users, especially juniors / novices / trainees	Advise to avoid the sluice gates area which is clearly marked with a boom - included in safety briefing		L

Hazards	People at Risk	Existing Controls	Further Action Required	Risk
Trapped after capsize	All dinghy sailors, especially beginners	Capsize training. Carry safety knives. Advice to safety crews including always being prepared to go in the water and continue a duty after. Safety knives available in First Aid box carried in Safety boats.	Annual safety update required	L
Incapacitated instructor in power boat	Instructor and trainees	Either have a second person in the power boat or a dedicated safety boat. Avoid lone working.		L
Incapacitated instructor in boat with trainee	Instructor and trainees	Ensure safety boat crew are fully alert. Avoid lone working.		L
Unable to return to launch site	All users especially novice board sailors	Safety cover. Self-rescue training, oral warning, advice to use buddy system. Paddles in powerboats and training boats, to be checked regularly by the Bosun.		L
Mast stuck in mud	Dinghy sailors	Mast head flotation compulsory on training boats. Safety cover. Practical advice on sailing within their capabilities & advise not to sail alone or without safety cover in heavy weather. Ongoing training in techniques for extracting masts.	Include this information in annual update	M
Correct rigging of boat in case of inversion	Dinghy sailors especially novice, trainees, club boat users	Awareness of requirements for different classes of boat including retaining pins on masts, pins on the keels and tensioned elastic on dagger boards	Include this information in annual update	L
Lightning	All on water	Warning flag raised and siren used to clear water. Return to shore immediately leaving dinghies on the water or on the pontoon until the danger has passed (minimum 30 minutes).		L

(b) PREPARATIONS AND LAUNCH/RECOVERY

Hazards	People at Risk	Existing Controls	Further Action Required	Risk
Lifting injuries	All sailors, esp dinghy novice sailors	Practical advice in rigging sessions.		M
Hand injuries when rigging	All sailors, especially beginners	Rigging demonstrations. Bosun maintains boats, check for hazards.		M
Slipping on jetties and slipways	Dinghy sailors, especially beginners	Launching instruction and oral warnings. SI to check before training sessions.		M
Beach/shore underwater hazards	Board, single handed sailors	Must always wear appropriate footwear.		M
Boards & board racks	Board sailors	Training & lifting demos.		L

(c) CLUB HOUSE AND BOATSHED

Hazards	People at Risk	Existing Controls	Further Action Required	R i s k
Fire in clubhouse or boatshed	Everyone, esp those working on boats	Fire extinguishers & blankets. Care handling chemicals. Smoke alarms tested routinely. See fire risk assessment.		M
Boatsheds	People entering boatshed	Keeping routes to equipment and changing rooms clear - tape now added to floor to designate access routes / storage areas. Boatshed manager has been appointed.		L
Cleaning equipment left around in all changing rooms	Those using changing rooms	Mops left in changing rooms to keep floor clean / dry during usage. Cleaning materials stored separately.		L
Food poisoning	Everyone	Notice in galley / kitchen.		L
Outside steps down to store	Club members	Automatic lights. Steps to be kept clear of slime and litter.		L
	Partially sighted	Advised to seek support.		M
Falling from dam wall	All members	Notices advising danger of death from falling.		M

(d) OTHER ONSHORE

Hazards	People at Risk	Existing Controls	Further Action Required	R i s k
Path lighting	Everyone, after dark	Path lights maintained by WHSA.		L
Car park gates	Anyone	Brief people to close the gates after use. Gates are also used by other clubs so cannot fully control and are under the jurisdiction of WHSA. Notice structure has been removed so there is a clear line of sight to gate from the clubhouse.		M
Shoreline access	Everyone	Shoreline and harbour demarcated with yellow line. Buoyancy aids should be worn beyond this, compulsory during training sessions and for children at all times.		L
Weed boat & slope above it	Everyone	Area to be demarcated as a no-go area (accessed by authorised WHSA personnel only)		L
Fuel storage	Powerboat operators	Kept in secure cabinets away from buildings and shoreline.	Check latest guidelines to ensure we are meeting them	L
Fuel filling	Powerboat operators	Care when lifting cans - seek help if needed.	Check latest guidelines to ensure we are meeting them	L

(e) AT ALL TIMES

Hazards	People at Risk	Existing Controls	Further Action Required	R i s k
Child abuse	Unaccompanied children	Follow Safeguarding procedures. All children under 17 years must be supervised by a parent or guardian for club training sessions.		L