

Record of Risk Assessment		MOURNE RACE 2023							
Club	Mourne Race: Newtownstewart to Sion Mills								
Activity	Foyle Paddlers								
Site	Whitewater canoe/kayak race								
Date of Race	Mourne River								
	10-Dec-23								
Assessment Undertaken by	Foyle Paddlers Canoe Club:								
Present:	Enda Cummins, Gerard McGahey, Martin Lynch, Eamon Lynch, Kieron Lavery, Kieran Shanks								
Hazard	Water Level Variance	Who might be harmed	Probability	Severity	Risk	How is the risk controlled generally	Action by whom	After Controls	
Drowning	All levels	All paddlers	Low	High	Medium	Safety Briefing. All paddlers must wear suitable personal flotation device. Race restricted to competent independent paddlers, or those paddling as a group. Paddlers doing safety are trained in rescues e.g. FSRT, White Water Rescue and Safety	Enda Cummins Check in Officer	Low	
Hypothermia	Higher risk in flood and very cold conditions	All paddlers	Medium	Medium	Medium	Safety briefing. All paddlers must wear appropriate clothing (e.g. wetsuit/drysuit depending on their kayaking ability etc) as well as spraydeck. Coaches/ safety team carry spare clothing, bivi bags or kisse. Prompt rescue by safety team.	Check in Officer	Low	
Head or spinal injury	All levels	All paddlers	Low	High	Medium	Safety briefing. All paddlers must wear canoe helmets	Check in Officer	Low	
Bacterial infection	Higher risk in flood	All paddlers	Medium	Medium	Medium	Safety briefing. Paddlers cover cuts/abrasions and ensure good personal hygiene before eating. First aid and sanitizer provided	Enda Cummins Check in Officer	Low	
Debris and low hanging branches	All levels but higher risk in flood conditions	All paddlers	Medium	High	Medium	Safety briefing to avoid debris and low hanging branches while paddling or during swim. Generally eay to avoid. Safety team prevent prolonged swim.	Enda Cummins	Medium in high flood conditions	
Tiredness	All levels	All paddlers	Low	Medium	Medium	Safety briefing. Various take out points along the river. These will be indicated at the pre race briefing e.g. Fisheries, Derg Bridge.	Enda Cummins	Low	
Newtownstewart Bridge									
Pinned boat	Higher risk in flood conditions	All paddlers	Low	Medium	Medium	All paddlers briefed regarding hazard. Bank support. Race however will normally be started below bridge.	Enda Cummins. Bank support team	Low	
Fisheries (Grade 3)						All paddlers briefed regarding hazards.			
Capsizing or Swimming	Higher risk in flood conditions	All paddlers	Medium	Low	Medium	Safety team: minimum 2 safety boats on water, 1 land based	Lead River Safety Officer & Safety team	Low	
Pinned boat	Higher risk in flood conditions	All paddlers	Low	Medium	Medium	Safety team: safety boats on water, land based with throwlines	Lead River Safety Officer & Safety team	Low	
Injuries from rocks	Higher risk in flood conditions	All paddlers	Medium	Medium	Medium	Safety team prevent prolonged swim and administer first aid if required.	Lead River Safety Officer & Safety team	Medium in high flood conditions	
Hypothermia	Higher risk in flood and very cold weather conditions	All paddlers	Medium	Medium	Medium	Safety team will prevent prolonged swim. If necessary swimmer will be treated for hypothermia and decision made if further action required .ie. Remove from race and take to a warm environment - nearby minibus	Lead River Safety Officer & Safety team	Low	
Debris	Only in flood	All paddlers	Low	Medium	Medium	Safety briefing to avoid debris	Enda Cummins	Low	
Sion Mills Weir (Grade2/3)									
Capsizing/Swimming/ Drowning/ Injuries	Higher risk flood conditions	All paddlers	Low	High	Medium	Race finishes before weir. All paddlers briefed regarding finishing race at marker before weir. Race timer will ensure that everyone is made aware of end of race.	Race Timer	Low	
Competitors are expected to be competent independent paddlers or paddling within a group with a competent leader as it is impracticable to provide safety cover along the entire course. Race and Safety Event Organiser will co-ordinate safety. Safety will be set up in the Fisheries with coaches and competent kayakers. All safety personnel are aware of the hazards and have a working knowledge of the river. All have undertaken Foundation, Safety and Rescue Training or White Water Safety and Resue Training. Coaches are first aid qualified and carry first aid. Communication carried - mobile phones,VHF, whistles. A sweeper will go down after the last paddler to ensure that everyone is off the river.									