

Langham Farm Slalom– Event Safety Plan

The Event: Langham Farm Slaloms are ranking division 3 and 4 events to be held during 2025

Organiser: Chris Wilde

Event Safety Officer: Chris Wilde

Location: The site is at Langham Farm near Rode, approximately 6 miles from Frome. Access from the main road at Rode is half a mile down the farm track, turning sharp left in front of the farm house. The site is in two fields, split and bounded by the river Frome and a disused mill stream. Parking is in the first field, the slalom course and camping is in the second field. The site is accessed by driving across a bridge over the mill stream next to the farm house. From one end of the site to the other is approximately 250m.

Slalom Course: The start is next to a weir which is usually dry in summer. The first part of the course follows the route of the mill stream and walls have been built out from the banks to create eddies. The course then flows sharp left under a bridge into a pool below and finishes with a short flat upstream section of the river. Continuing upstream, it is an easy paddle back to the weir.

Facilities: There are flush toilets on site in the parking field, these have been installed approximately 40cm above ground level to reduce the flood risk, plastic steps or paving slabs on blocks are used as steps to aid access. A marquee will be set up in the parking field for hot food and drinks. A container type portable office is used as “Control”. General communication from Control is through a PA system, communication to starter/finisher is via TUTTI.

Water Safety: At normal water levels there is low flow down the course. A minimum of one bank based person will be located next to the bridge, with throwline and ready to wade into the river. Most parts of the river can be waded with little difficulty. Below the bridge (at the bottom of the course) there is flat water which makes recovery of paddlers and equipment easy.

First Aid provision: A qualified first aider will be on site throughout the event, a first aid kit is available in the storage container. The nearest defibrillator is at Rode Village Hall which is about 800m from site and accessed via the farm track. The nearest minor injuries unit is approximately 4 miles away. Mobile phone signal can be patchy but can usually be obtained in the bridge area, most of the time the landline phone at the farm house can be accessed if needed. A vehicle will be positioned so that it can be easily used to go and get emergency help or take a casualty to get help

Risk Assessment: Attached.

Plan

Task	Official
Pre-Event	
Course erection. A ladder is required for setting out the electrical cable for the food tent. Ladder to be placed on firm ground and steadied by a second person. There are permanent wires for the gates so ladder / tree climbing not required for that.	Site Steward
Electrical safety. Surge protection to be fitted.	Site Steward
Electrical cables. Ensure cable from Control shed to food marquee does not present a trip hazard	Site Steward
During Event	

Task	Official
Access to site. Large vehicles and caravans are not permitted to cross the bridge into the parking field. Arrangements have been made for these vehicles to park at the top of the farm track. Ensure sign is positioned at top of track. Note ambulance can drive over bridge into parking field.	Site Steward
Car parking. Parking is in a level field bounded by the river. Marshall to ensure cars are parked and moved safely.	Parking Steward
First Aid / Emergency. First aid equipment to be located at Control. Sign to be displayed at Control identifying First Aider and location of nearest A&E. Note Minor Injury Unit is at Frome Hospital BA11 2FH, A&E is at Royal United Hospital Bath BA1 3NG.	Site Steward
Fire – camping field. Set up two fire points in the camping field with water buckets.	Site Steward
Fire – camping field. If a camp fire is held in the camping field during the evening. Area to be roped off so that tents are pitched well away. Small fires are permitted away from tents, turf is to be lifted before any fire and replaced afterwards.	Site Steward
Fire – food marquee. Site fire blanket and CO2 extinguisher at entrance to marquee.	Site Steward
Manual handling. Access to the camping field is via a narrow bridge. Cars are not allowed to drive into this field. Provide wheelbarrows and trollies to assist campers moving their equipment.	Site Steward
Slips and trips. Left to their own devices paddlers leave their boats at the start area on the weir and the path leading to it. Sign to state no boats to be left on the weir. Rope fence to be installed along top of course in front of which boats are not to be left. Both to be reinforced at regular intervals through PA.	Site Steward
Pedestrian access to course. The whole course is visible whilst walking along the edge of the camping field. Along the majority of the course there is a sloping grassy bank down to water level. This is not the case around the area of the bridge and a permanent steel handrail has been erected here.	Site Steward
Welfare/Child Protection. Welfare Officer poster identifying the event Welfare Officer to be displayed at Control.	Site Steward
Child Protection / Photography. Paddle UK photographic and filming guidelines to be followed. Photographers are asked to register their details at Control. Welfare Officer to monitor the taking of inappropriate photographs.	Welfare Officer
Personal equipment. All competitors should have regulation helmet and buoyancy aid, correctly fitted. Boats should be unsinkable and with regulation grab loops. Check to be made at Start.	Pre-Starter
Spraydecks. There have been instances in the past where a young paddler has not been able to release a (neoprene) spraydeck. Check that (young) paddlers can release their spraydeck. If not then instruct not to use it. Organiser to brief div 4 paddlers and Pre-Starter.	Organiser / Pre-Starter
Period of safety cover. Times of official practice and runs to be displayed.	Organiser
Safety cover. Paddlers to stay in boats at the Finish until the next two boats have finished. Organiser to brief div 4s.	Organiser
Safety cover. Prior to starting official practice and first and second runs ensure a bank based person is located next to the bridge, with throwline and ready to wade into the river. At higher levels ensure two such rescuers are located at the bridge and possibly the bottom pool.	Organiser
Water incident / egress point. The whole of the course is accessible from the bank apart from the bridge area, the lower pool is accessible from the landing stage	Organiser

Task	Official
immediately downstream of the bridge. In the case of an incident egress to be assisted by safety cover as above.	
Safety review. If water levels rise significantly, review the need to change the course or cancel altogether.	Safety Officer / Organiser / Jury / Course Steward
General. Ensure above tasks are carried out.	Safety Officer