

## Risk Assessment Record

**Shepton Mallet Drifters Model Boat Club**

**Date:** ...6th January 2017

**Names of Assessors:** Barrie Stevens (Chairman)

**Venue;** Collett Park Lake

To be reviewed annually at the AGM

Maurice Edwards (Secretary)

<u>Area of concern</u>	<u>Hazards found</u>	<u>Precautions already taken</u>	<u>Risk Level</u>			<u>Measures to reduce or eliminate risk</u>
			S	L	P	
Slips, Trips and Falls	Slipping, tripping or Falling risks due to uneven pathways or ground close to the lakeside. Council is responsible for maintenance of these areas. Areas around the lake can have wild bird droppings or leaves with slip hazard.	Members are made aware of the risks, especially when carrying boats from car to lakeside and during launching and retrieving boats.	2	2	L	Care should be taken when crossing the pathways especially when carrying boats. Care should also be taken when launching and retrieving to ensure sufficient consideration has been given to loss of balance caused by weight of boat, resulting in slips or falling into the lake. The club encourages all members to use suitable slings for launching and retrieval. Boats to be placed on tables for setting up purposes. If placed on the ground they should not obstruct walkways and paths. No slings or other items should be left where they could cause a trip hazard
Drowning	The depth of water is approximately 0.5 metres There is a concrete edge around the lake of some 0.3 metres high above the water level, The depth of water is sufficient for drowning to occur.	Members are requested to make themselves familiar with the risk areas around the lake and to be aware of Council measures taken to protect the public.	5	2	L/M	Members are made aware of the water depth. When retrieving boats which have broken down a nominated member (over 18) will enter the lake with waders. They must be observed throughout their time in the water by a minimum of 2 other members.
Risk of injury by rotating propellers	This risk applies to any motorised boat, with fast boats posing a higher threat.	Drifters MBC members should keep third parties and spectators well away from models when preparing them.	2	2	L	Members are made aware of the necessity of keeping fingers away from propellers. If the propellers spin due to a 'glitch' or the throttle lever on the transmitter being pushed inadvertently, then a nasty cut could occur.

Risk of water borne diseases	Potential for stomach related problems, or infection via open cuts or abrasions when handling boats after sailing.	Evaluated as low risk based on past experience, however there is contamination of the water by wildlife.	3	2	L	It is pointed out to members the need for personal hygiene at all times and that suitable hand protection should be used if applicable, also the possibility of water borne diseases such as Weil's Disease. Hand washing facilities are provided in the Park toilets and anyone eating should first wash their hands and use appropriate hygiene procedures.
Risk of eye injury	Eye damage due to extended telescopic transmitter aerials.	It is a club rule that all telescopic transmitter aerials must have a soft protector on the end, such as a practise golf ball, or similar.	3	2	L	Any member or person using a transmitter having an extended aerial without aerial protection will be asked to fit protection or stop using it immediately. This is becoming less of a risk as only the old 27MHz and 40MHz transmitters used this kind of aerial. Modern 2.4GHz units only have a very short stubby aerial which present no risk.
Risk of injury from re-chargeable batteries	Fire and or explosion.	Virtually all batteries used are charged at home before arriving on site. Members must ensure that appropriate precautions for the cell technology in use are observed. Some electric motors can draw a high current and adequate wiring and circuitry are necessary to prevent a fire when in use.	2	2	L	There are many battery technologies in use such as Lithium Polymer, Lithium Iron, Nickel Cadmium, Nickel Metal Hydride, and Lead Acid. Each requires a specific charging procedure, and charger, laid down by the manufacturer which must be observed. Some give off an inflammable gas which when used in a sealed container (i.e. submarine) could lead to an explosion and members are made aware of this potential problem.
Risk of radio frequency clash (not applicable to 2.4GHz)	Loss of control and risk of crash	The club operates a 'Peg Board' system at the lakeside for anyone using 27MHz or 40MHz transmitters.	1	1	L	The frequency control 'Peg Board' ensures that specific frequencies are displayed such that only one person at a time can use that frequency. The appropriate frequency pennants must be fitted and displayed on the aerials of all 27MHz and 40MHz transmitters.

Risk of scolding, fire or explosion from steam powered boats	The use of hot steam and gas cylinders in steam engine powered boats	It is a club rule that all steam powered boats must hold the relevant current test certificate. When charging or changing gas cylinders this must be done away from cars, people or sources of ignition.	2	2	L	There are only a small number of members involved with steam power due to the existing legislation and testing required. Should this change within the club then the risk level may need to be reassessed in the future.
Spectator safety during normal sailing or open days/regattas	Various injuries that could be caused to members of the public	Members are told to be aware of the higher risk to the public closely observing the assembly and operation of the boats, also to be aware of wildlife in the area.	2	2	L	Whilst it is not the clubs intention to prevent spectators examining/observing the models, members are told to be aware when spectators are present, especially children, and to give appropriate warnings as necessary, particularly close to water. Wildlife normally stays clear but in the nesting season the larger birds can be antagonistic, public need to be advised.
Vehicle movements	Injury due to moving vehicles.	Members are told to take extra care when entering or leaving the park in their vehicles.	4	2	L/M	It is the responsibility of members to take reasonable care when entering or leaving the park. Observe a 5 mph speed limit, operate hazard flashers and avoid driving on the grass except for parking.
Safeguarding	Children and vulnerable adults	The club has a Child and Vulnerable Adult Policy. All members abide by it at all club events	1	1	L	Policy is reviewed yearly. All members are aware of their responsibilities

**Risk Level: S= Severity (1 to 5) L= Likelihood (1 to 5) P= Priority (Low, Medium, High)**