

BEDFORD ANGLING CLUB RISK ASSESSMENT

ACTIVITY	LOCATION	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY
WORK PARTIES	ALL BEDFORD ANGLING CLUB WATERS	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE OF BEATS

Risk No	Hazard identification	Cause	Person/s at risk	Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	Current Mitigation	Impact	Likelihood	Residual Risk Rating
1.	Car parking areas – Injury or damage	Collision between vehicles or between a vehicle and individual / their equipment	Members / General Public	3	2	6	Ensure parking locations are clear on the website. Members are reminded of a need for caution.	3	1	3
2.	Entering and exiting the venues - Injury	Slips, trips and falls	Members / General Public	2	2	4	Area checked before start of work party for obvious problem areas and participants informed as they arrive if there are issues of note and before they encounter them.	2	1	2
3.	Briefing - Injury	Members not aware of correct work to complete / who is doing what / risks specific to the day leading to risk of injury	Member	3	3	9	Briefing from work party lead occurs at start of work party to explain plans for the day. Any significant issues made clear to the work party members before the event commences. Work party members made aware of location of first aid kit.	3	1	3
4.	First aid provision - Injury	Non-availability for treating injuries	Member / General Public	3	3	9	Work party lead to ensure basic first aid kit available at work party.	2	1	2
5.	Public footpath - Injury	Injury as a result of collision with work party members / their equipment or work party debris	Members / General Public	2	2	4	Members made aware of need for care/caution via the risk assessment on the club website available prior to the day and a copy to be taken for anyone to review on the day if they have not seen the website version.	2	1	2
6.	River – Drowning/hyperthermia	Falling into the river which in some areas has significant depth directly off the bank	Members	5	4	20	Signpost all potential work party members to the work party risk assessment on the club website prior to the day. (Ensure a hard copy is available on the day for anyone that has not seen it online.) Work party lead will have walked the venue before the start of the event and will notify members of any particular additional risks at the venue before starting work on the day, including any notable weather and bankside conditions to minimise risk and excluding any areas of particular concern. If someone is seen to enter the water then the alarm is to be raised immediately and the witness should seek to assist the person in the water whilst not exposing themselves to undue risk. All work party members are to wear suitable clothing and footwear. Members are expected to exercise reasonable care and due diligence when by the waters edge.	5	2	10

7.	Electricity – Injury	Injury through shocks from overhead cables as a result of unsafe working practices	Members	5	2	10	Members to be made aware of any areas of risk on the day of the event by the work party lead.	5	1	5
8.	Trees - Injury	Injury as a result of falling trees / branches due to weather	Members	4	2	8	In the event of extreme weather consideration will be given by the work party lead as to whether or not the work party should proceed or be re-arranged.	4	1	4
9.	Fences - Injury	Barbed wire / electric fences causing injury.	Member	2	2	4	Members to stick to approved pathways and stiles/gates.	1	1	1
10.	Lightning and high winds- Injury	Injury as a result of being hit by lightning or winds causing falling branches or similar	Members	2	5	10	Work parties to be stopped and re-arranged in the event of lightning or high winds.	5	1	5
11.	Sunlight - Injury	Injury as a result of sunburn/sun stroke	Members	2	4	8	Those attending to wear sun cream/block along with suitable headwear. In the event of extreme weather consideration will be given by the work party lead as to whether or not the work party should proceed or be re-arranged.	1	2	2
12.	Ticks – Injury/illness	Illness as a result of Lyme’s disease	Members	3	2	6	All members to check bodies for ticks immediately after event, removing any found appropriately. If anyone experiences/sees unexplained fever/rash at the bite site then they should see their doctor as soon as possible.	3	1	3
13.	Contaminated soil or water - Injury	Illness as a result of Weils disease (carried in urine of certain animals, especially rats	Members	4	3	12	All members to wash hands as soon as possible after the work party and always before eating, drinking or smoking. Any existing wounds to be covered with waterproof plasters. Any unexplained fever to be explained to a doctor.	4	1	4
14.	Cattle – Injury	Injury as a result of cattle biting or being trampled by cows	Members	3	3	9	Members are to use recognised pathways and avoid contact/confrontation whenever possible.	3	1	3
15.	Dogs – Injury or harassment	Injury as a result of a dog bite or to the dog as a consequence of interaction with a work party member	Members / General Public	3	2	6	Any work party member that is bitten or harassed by an unruly/unsupervised dog should inform the work party lead and, if necessary, the police.	3	2	6
16.	Swans - Injury	Injury caused by swans	Member	2	2	4	Contact to be avoided with swans when nesting with young.	2	1	2
17.	PPE – Injury / illness	Injury as a result of inadequate PPE or incorrect use	Members	3	3	9	Members are to provide/wear their own suitable clothing, footwear and PPE.	2	2	4
18.	Use of tools / equipment - Injury	Injury as a result of cuts/burns/impact/incorrect use of equipment	Members / General Public	3	3	9	No equipment is provided for use by the Club. Members are to bring their own equipment. Appropriate safety clothing/PPE to be worn. Competent persons only are to use equipment. Equipment manufacturers guidance is to be followed. Members should only bring equipment that they are competent to use. No equipment is to be refuelled when the engine is running.	2	2	4
19.	Petrol/other fuels - Injury	Injury as a result of burns/contact during refuelling	Members / General Public	4	3	12	Equipment must not be refuelled whilst still turned on. Fuel is to be stored carefully during work party events.	4	1	4

20.	Slips, trips and falls on and near to the river bank - Injury	Injury as a result of slips trips and falls as a result of bankside conditions / steepness / weather	Members	3	4	12	On the morning of the event the work party area will be checked with any obvious hazards removed or clearly marked. Members will be notified before the start of any areas of particular concern. Members will be given any known relevant information in respect of conditions in any pre-match communication. Members should wear suitable clothing and footwear to minimise risk. Members are expected to exercise reasonable care and due diligence on and near to the river bank. If a member identifies a significant hazard during the course of the work party then it should be reported to the work party lead immediately and they will advise on the way forward.	3	2	6
21.	Vegetation clearance - Injury	Injury as a result of bites/stings from insects or as a reaction to coming into contact with hazardous plants for example Giant Hogweed, Hemlock Water Dropwort, nettles and brambles.	Members	3	2	6	Common sense should be used when in the proximity of poisonous/stinging plants. If an invasive species is identified then it should be brought to the attention of the work party lead. Wasp and bee nests are to be reported to the work party lead who will deal with it appropriately. The work party lead will walk the venue before the event begins to check for any obvious issues and notify members of any significant findings before the work party starts. Appropriate PPE is to be worn.	3	1	3
22.	Pruning/felling trees and bushes - Injury	Injury as a result of use of equipment or falling trees / branches due to work party activity	Members / General Public	5	3	15	No tree is to be felled without the agreement of the work party lead and land owner. Extreme care is to be taken when felling a tree or pruning branches and an exclusion zone of 2.5 times the height of the tree is to be established. The work party lead should supervise these works. If a chainsaw is to be used the user must be deemed competent by the work party lead and full PPE is to be used. Evidence of competence is required. Work party members not to take on work that is beyond them	4	1	4
23.	Manual handling - Injury	Injury as a result of lifting resulting from lifting / carrying objects during work party including but not limited to sprains / strains	Members	3	3	9	Lifting advice to be provided by work party lead if particularly significant lifting to be done. Work party members only to undertake work within their capability. Barrows or other lifting equipment to be used, where appropriate and available, by competent persons.	3	1	3
24.	Chainsaw operation - Injury	Injury as a result of chainsaw use	Member / General Public	5	3	15	Those using chainsaws on behalf of the Club must have the planned work agreed with the work party lead and they will agree the safety capability of the named operator, based on knowledge and experience. A specific risk assessment may be completed. Chainsaw operators must not work alone and a first aid kit must be on site. The area where trees are being cut should be cordoned off to ensure no access to the area where falling trees, branches or bushes might cause injury. The area cordoned off should extend by at least twice the height of any tree that might be felled. In addition, no one should go within 5 metres of anyone operating a chainsaw. A second person should be in attendance with the operator as “additional eyes” to ensure the cordoned area remains clear of people. The second person can also advise the operator of any other hazards that they see	5	2	10

							<p>during the works. Communication between the user and second person is key.</p> <p>Specific requirements for the user include:</p> <p>Ensuring the chainsaw is fit for use</p> <p>PPE to be worn - Protective leg guards / Chainsaw gloves / helmet / ear defenders and safety goggles or visor.</p> <p>Ensuring the emergency break is positioned (while cutting) to operate as intended.</p> <p>The climbing of trees to use a chainsaw by Club members is not permitted.</p> <p>The use of a contractor or manual cutting tools must be considered if higher branches or bushes need to be removed.</p> <p>Any trees that become 'hung up' during felling operations must be cordoned off with tape and made safe.</p>			
25.	Strimming including using brush cutting attachment - Injury	Injury as a result of use of strimmer including eye injuries, stones and other debris being ejected at high speed, contact with the rotating cutting attachment, noise and vibration during operation, wearing inappropriate clothing, contact with hot gear housing, exhaust fumes	Member / General Public	3	4	12	<p>Strimmers to be fitted with guard/deflector. First aid kit will be available. Correct PPE to be worn. Only to be operated by competent persons.</p> <p>Using the Brush cutting attachment requires care and caution and should be used only by those familiar with the operation of the equipment and using leg guards. Eye protection must be used at all times</p> <p>With the normal strimmer injury can still occur and appropriate footwear and shin protection, and eye protection must be used</p> <p>Strimming must cease if any person comes within 15 metres of the operator.</p>	3	1	3
26.	Grass cutting - Injury	Injury as a result of use of mower / other grass cutting device	Member	2	3	6	<p>Any mower used is never to be left running when unattended. Only to be operated by competent persons. First aid kit will be available.</p>	2	1	2
27.	Waterborne Work – Drowning / hyperthermia	Falling into the river from a vessel or whilst wading	Member	5	3	15	<p>Any vessel used must be crewed by at least one competent person and appropriate buoyancy aids to be worn. If the vessel is motorised then extreme care must be taken. If entering the water no person is to enter to a depth above their waist. Water level is to be checked before entering the water.</p>	2	2	4
28.	Litter removal - Injury	Injuries from broken glass / sharp edges / drug paraphernalia. Human waste also poses a significant threat to health	Member	3	3	9	<p>Care is to be taken whilst lifting debris / litter and appropriate gloves are to be worn.</p>	2	1	2
29.	Construction work – Injury or death	Members completing construction work resulting injury	Member / General Public	3	3	9	<p>Any significant works should be tasked to responsible contractors and is not to be completed by members during a work party. Minor works, such as limited path repairs, are only to be completed with caution and under the supervision of the work party lead..</p>	2	2	4
30.	Groundworks - Injury	Members completing groundworks are injured	Member	3	2	6	<p>No work involving digging into the bank should be completed. If moving large amounts of aggregate any barrow being used must be checked by the work party lead to ensure it is serviceable and suitable for</p>	3	1	3

							the task at hand. Consideration should also be given by the work party lead to instead instruct contractors if appropriate.			
31.	Reed cutting - Injury	Injury as a result of use of a cutting tool	Member/ General public	3	2	6	Care to be taken when working as part of a team or in the area of other members / members of the public. Sharp tools to be stored safely when not in use. Those operating manually operated tools should be certain that they can operate them safely.	3	1	3
32.	Weed raking - Injury	Injury as a consequence of being hit with a rake, tangling themselves in the rope and possibly even being pulled into the water	Member	4	3	12	Those conducting weed raking will be using their own rakes and are only permitted to use them if they are competent. Extreme care should be taken when using a rake to ensure the safety of the member and anyone else in the area.	4	2	8
33.	Lone working - Injury	Serious illness or injury	Members	4	3	12	No lone working is permitted. Work is only to be completed as part of an organised event where other members are present.	1	1	1
34.	Anti-social behaviour of non-participants - Injury	Injury or harassment from undesirable individuals	Members / General Public	2	1	2	Work party lead is to keep an active eye out for suspicious people. Police to be called if a situation becomes heated. The work party lead will have a mobile phone to contact the emergency services if needed.	2	1	2
35.	Insurance – Loss for members or financial exposure of the Club	Inadequate/ no insurance for work party duties and equipment	Members	4	3	12	Club is affiliated to the Angling Trust and is the beneficiary of their insurance.	3	1	3

Assessed by	Position	Date	How members informed
Simon Campbell	Club Chair	1 April 2026	Website/Facebook/At events

Other notes:

Venues are to be inspected prior to commencement of any work party. Any new or additional notable risks that are identified will be passed on to the work party before commencement on the day including any area that is out of bounds.

In the event of contractors being required the work party lead will need to raise this with the Committee for approval and to ensure agreement with landowners in advance of any works.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Any accidents or injuries that do occur should be reported to the work party lead and followed up by e-mail with the following detail:

Date and time of incident

Name of person reporting the incident

Name(s) of person(s) subject to the accident / injury

Condition of the person

Action taken to deal with accident / injury

Circumstances surrounding the incident

Who else were in attendance at the time of the incident

Weather conditions at the time

Risk Matrix

	Likelihood				
	1	2	3	4	5
Impact	1	2	3	4	5
	2	4	6	8	10
	3	6	9	12	15
	4	8	12	16	20
	5	10	15	20	25

Likelihood

1 = Very unlikely

2 = Unlikely

3 = Possible

4 = Quite likely

5 = Very likely

Impact

1 = Insignificant

2 = Minor

3 = Significant

4 = Serious

5 = Severe