

## Dorset Waterpark Activity Risk Assessment



<b>Date of Review</b>	<b>Assessor</b>
7th March 2024	Liz Mulliner

<b>Required Lifeguard Competence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead – RLLS Pool Lifeguard, Beach Lifeguard or Open Water Lifeguard or other equivalent qualification</li> <li>• Assist – In-house training in lifeguarding and inflatable supervision</li> <li>• All Lead Lifeguards must hold a First Aid Certificate</li> <li>• All Lifeguards must undertake site specific training</li> </ul>
<b>Ratios</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One lifeguard on duty to supervise every 20 participants. Between them all lifeguards must have line of sight across the entire course.</li> </ul>

Identified Hazards	Who is at risk?	Example Causes	Control Measures
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<p><b>Drowning</b></p>	<p>Lifeguards &amp; All Participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being close to the water without BA on and falling in.</li> <li>• Entrapment under the inflatables.</li> <li>• Poor safety briefing.</li> <li>• Equipment Failure.</li> <li>• Poorly fitting BA.</li> <li>• Weeds.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BAs to be fitted correctly and worn near and on the water. BAs are safety tested monthly by senior staff. All BAs are visually inspected by instructors before being issued and on return. Any faults are reported on the damaged kit form and taken out of action until repaired.</li> <li>• Routine maintenance/service of BAs and inflatables. Done visually by instructors every day and recorded monthly on the kit audit sheets.</li> <li>• Thorough safety briefing to include not going under the inflatables. The same briefing is always used and is read word for word from the briefing sheet.</li> <li>• Equipment to be visually checked prior, during and after the activity.</li> <li>• Lifeguards to carry a torpedo bouy.</li> <li>• Only children aged 6 and upwards may use the water park.</li> <li>• Children under the age of 8 years must be accompanied and supervised by and adult 18 years or over at all times on a maximum ratio os 3:1</li> <li>• Participants must be confident in the water and able to swim 25 metres unaided in order to participate.</li> <li>• A buddy system is in place for participants and is clearly explained in the safety brief.</li> <li>• Participants are counted on and off the water at the beginning and end of every session. If participants choose to leave early they are counted off and will not be allowed back on to the water.</li> <li>• Lifeguards are placed in a position to supervise a section of the course. They are trained to scan their section at least every two minutes.</li> <li>• There are no blind spots on the course; lifeguards</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Personal Injury</b></p> <p>E.g. Slips, Cuts, Head Injuries, strained backs</p>	<p>Lifeguards, All Staff &amp; All Participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jumping onto another person.</li> <li>• Persons bumping into each other.</li> <li>• Physical straining when accessing the inflatables.</li> <li>• Trip hazards.</li> <li>• Impact with the lake bottom when jumping from height.</li> <li>• Foot injuries from areas not in water.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A suitable numbers of easy access ramps to easy entry to the inflatables.</li> <li>• Lifeguard to provide thorough health and safety briefing to include rules of the water park, to prevent injuries.</li> <li>• First aid kit available in nearby office. Management are responsible for recording staff qualifications and checking and restocking first aid kit monthly.</li> <li>• Walkways to be kept clear.</li> <li>• Any building maintenance issues to be reported to a senior member of staff verbally.</li> <li>• The water park must have at least 2.5 metres of water depth for the high elements.</li> <li>• Participants believed to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be allowed to participate.</li> <li>• Pregnant ladies are not allowed to participate.</li> <li>• Participants with pre-existing health issues are advised not to participate.</li> <li>• There are no motorised craft on the lakes.</li> <li>• Participants on public sessions are required to wear beach style rubber shoes or grippy aqua socks.</li> <li>• Participants on private sessions may either as a whole group either all participant barefoot or all wear beach style rubber shoes or grippy aqua socks, no mixture of barefoot and footwear will be allowed.</li> <li>• Participants arriving without the correct footwear can purchase a pair of grippy socks.</li> <li>• Maximum participant numbers for each lake are adhered to to ensure the course is not too crowded</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Illness</b></p>	<p>Lifeguards &amp; All Participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water pollution</li> <li>• Allergic reactions</li> <li>• Asthma attacks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not enter the water if there is concern about water quality, for example pollution.</li> <li>• Water quality to be tested regularly by an independent laboratory. These tests are recorded in the folder in the office</li> <li>• Information on medical conditions requested prior to the activity and medical equipment carried – E.g. Inhalers.</li> <li>• There are shower and hand wash facilities on site.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Difficulty controlling body temperature</b>  (Hyperthermia/ Hypothermia)</p>	<p>Lifeguards &amp; All Participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submersion.</li> <li>• Cold, wet days.</li> <li>• Hot, sunny day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate clothing/equipment to be worn. We recommend wetsuits are worn on cold days.</li> <li>• Appropriate amounts/type of food and drink should be consumed dependent on weather conditions. We recommend participants eat plenty of high energy food and drink plenty of water before and after using the park.</li> <li>• Appropriate group safety equipment to be available – e.g. shelter, warmth etc. The duty manager is responsible for this.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Not being able to swim where you require</b></p>	<p>Lifeguards &amp; All Participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Headwinds.</li> <li>• Tiredness.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain weather information daily and plan accordingly. Weather forecasts are taken from Windguru and WeatherPro daily by the duty manager. Cancel activity if necessary if wind speeds are above Beaufort force 8. Sessions will be immediately cancelled in the event of a lightning.</li> <li>• Instructors to provide safety cover in accordance with their training to ensure participants remain safe.</li> <li>• Clear communication system involving signals to be explained during the safety briefing and understood by participants prior to commencing activity. Participants are asked to confirm they understand before commencing the activity.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Damage to Equipment</b></p>	<p>The Inflatable Equipment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong winds.</li> <li>• Vandalism.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily weather forecast to be obtained from Windguru and WeatherPro daily by the duty manager and cancel sessions if necessary.</li> <li>• Equipment is inspected daily and monthly as described in the drowning section of this risk assessment.</li> <li>• When the park is closed the gates are locked and park closed signs are displayed. We also have a night security watchman on duty 24 hours a day to ensure the safety and security of the site.</li> </ul>

**All users of Dorset Waterpark must be made aware of and acknowledge these risks by completing the acknowledgement of risk, or group consent form.**

**N.B. This Risk Assessment in no way negates the need for continual dynamic risk assessment**