

# Blair Atholl Scout Jamboree

## Method Statement



Please note- it is important that the same steps are followed for all activity sessions.

ACTIVITY	Watersports
GENERAL DESCRIPTION	<p>Half day sessions where participants will try two of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sit on kayaks</li> <li>- Canadian Canoes</li> <li>- Stand Up Paddleboarding</li> <li>- Mega Stand Up Paddleboarding</li> </ul>
LOCATION OF ACTIVITY INCLUDING ACCESS AND RESTRICTIONS	<p>Loch Faskally                  At the Tay Forest Park near the Marine Scotland laboratory                  Water Access Point: 56.716634, -3.766310                  Bus Drop Off Point: 56.713754, -3.766453</p>
<p>GENERAL ACTIVITY ENVIRONMENT CONSIDERATIONS,                  E.G. TEMPERATURE, WEATHER AND WIND SPEED</p>	<p>Loch Faskally at this location has some but minimal flow. It is fed by the rivers Tummel and Garry.                  There is a hydro plant at this location and another downstream. The combination of both hydro plants can significantly alter the water level.                  Wind will generally be minimal and have little effect on participants' ability to control their craft. It can however build on occasion.                  The water is expected to be cold even on sunny days. There is limited movement at depth to allow for any warming.                  The weather is typical of a Scottish summer. There is limited shelter available if the weather is inclement.</p>
<p>PROTECTION OF OTHERS,                  E.G. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, STAFF, OTHER PARTICIPANTS</p>	<p>It is likely we will interact with members of the public. Participants will be reminded in the briefing to behave appropriately and be courteous. Challenging encounters are not anticipated at this location.                  Staff and participants will be protected through the use of appropriate PPE. Staff will be enabled by the team leader to take decisions on safety and behaviour grounds that will be supported by the team leader on site.</p>
EMERGENCY PROCEDURES, INCLUDING LOCATION OF EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT	<p>Two first aid kits will be available at the location. One will be mobile on the water with a senior instructor. The other will be based in the emergency support vehicle.                  A 4x4 vehicle will remain on site at all times staff and participants are present to act as an emergency support vehicle. Should the need arise, this will transport injured participants/staff either back to site or straight to hospital as appropriate.                  Emergency rescue equipment for use on the water will be available to all staff who will be trained on its use during the camp before participant activities start.                  In the event of an incident the nearest competent staff member will perform a rescue. If first aid treatment is required, this will be administered.                  In the event of an incident all equipment will be quarantined until checked by the team leader and if necessary an independent activity attending the camp in an alternative</p>

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	<p>capacity before being used again. The main camp emergency procedure will be followed and the camp contacted accordingly. In the event the injured person is taken straight to hospital the main camp will be so advised.</p>
<p><b>IDENTITY OF PARTICIPANTS</b>  (AND ANY SPECIFIC TRAINING OR CERTIFICATION REQUIRED)</p>	<p>The Scout and Explorers attendees at the camp will be the participants. Staff may also be considered participants when receiving training. No specific training is required for participants. Permit holders will hold a minimum level of competence as required by the permit and will hold a minimum level of rescue ability appropriate to their permit level.</p>
<p><b>REQUIREMENTS FOR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT</b></p>	<p>All under 18s will be required to wear a buoyancy and helmet as a minimum. Instructors will be required to wear a buoyancy aid but the use of a helmet will be at their discretion.</p>
<p><b>FIRST AID ARRANGEMENTS</b></p>	<p>Please see above.</p>
<p><b>EQUIPMENT USED, INCLUDING SAFETY PRECAUTIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND WHERE IT HAS COME FROM / WHO OWNS IT</b></p>	<p>Please see the separate kit inventory detailing where the various equipment has been sourced from. All equipment will be asset tagged before use allowing it to be easily identified as belonging to a specific group. Canoes, kayaks, sit ons, SUPs and mega SUPs will be used. All will be operated and used within manufacturer guidelines.</p>
<p><b>MATERIALS INFORMATION</b>  E.G. HAZARD INFORMATION AND STORAGE/TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS</p>	<p>A minimum of two trailers will be required daily to transport the equipment. Some equipment will live at the lake for the duration of the activity days. Equipment will generally be stored onsite in the rear car park or in the activity store marquee. The specific hazards are as outlined in the risk assessment. Some known hazards lying under the water level will be identified to the team during a staff familiarisation and skills session before participant sessions start.</p>
<p><b>ACTIVITY SEQUENCE,</b>  <b>INCLUDING ASSOCIATED RISKS AND REQUIRED CONTROL MEASURES FOR EACH STAGE.</b></p>	<p>Participants will be collected from sub camps and taken to the activity marquee store to collect a buoyancy aid and helmet. They will then proceed to the main gate to board the minibus down to the site at Faskally. On arrival participants will leave the minibus and walk a short distance to the launch area. Care is to be taken for other vehicle traffic. Equipment will have already been unloaded by the staff and be ready for use by the participants. Participants will store their personal belongings and get dressed for going on the water. They will then take part in a short warmup followed by a final check of their PPE before going on the water. In two groups, participants will be assigned craft and access the loch. Staff will be on the water in advance of any participants launching their craft. Participants will then take part in the first half of their activity session.</p>

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	<p>Halfway through, participants will swap craft and experience an alternative.</p> <p>At the end of the session all participants will leave the water. Staff members will remain on the water until all participants are ashore.</p> <p>Where possible participants will return to the site without changing. If necessary, the box trailer will be used for changing by any female participants. Male participants will be directed a short way up the hill to a secluded area to change. A toilet will be available, and the accompanying tent can be used for any participants not identifying as male or female.</p> <p>Participants will then board the coach and return to site. Staff will secure all equipment either on trailers for transport or to remain at the loch overnight.</p>
<p>SAFETY CHECKS REQUIRED AT SPECIFIC STAGES</p>	<p>PPE is to be checked by a permit holder before any participant accesses the water. PPE for non-permitted staff is to be checked at the staff training and familiarisation session to ensure they are able to correctly fit it to themselves.</p> <p>Any PPE involved in any form of incident is to be quarantined until checked by the team leader and deemed capable of returning to service.</p>
<p>FINAL CLEARANCE THAT ACTIVITY IS COMPLETED TO SPECIFICATION</p>	<p>The activity will follow this method statement and the risk assessment (both subject to amendment during the camp).</p>
<p>HOW WILL THE RISK ASSESSMENT BE SHARED WITH ALL PARTICIPANTS AND LEADERS?</p>	<p>The risk assessment will be shared with staff in advance. Any updates during the camp will be discussed and communicated. All staff members will be encouraged to share concerns and good practice.</p> <p>The risk assessment will be shared with participants during the coach journey to the loch. Any key points will be re-flagged and highlighted at the loch before accessing the water.</p>
<p>ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHANGING / DEVIATING FROM METHOD STATEMENT</p>	<p>Any changes or deviations to this method statement 'in the moment' are permitted if the circumstances require providing they are agreed by a permit holder and either the team leader or deputy identified below.</p> <p>Permanent changes or deviations to this method statement are to be agreed by the team leader and will be documented on a later version of this method statement.</p> <p>Changes will be communicated to the relevant staff and participants as required.</p>
<p>ANY OTHER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT MAY BE RELEVANT</p>	
<p>CREATION DATE</p>	<p>REVISION No. &amp; DATES</p>
<p>10/06/2024</p>	<p>Reviewed &amp; revised 18/05/2026</p>
<p>Person in charge in the absence of Team Leader:</p>	<p>Steven Grant Helen Frawley</p>
<p>Team Leader</p>	<p>Steve Powell</p>

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For Staff Members - I have read and understood this method statement (print, sign & date):

## Blair Atholl Risk Assessment 202 6

Name of activity , event, and location	Water Activities SUP, Mega SUP, Kayaking & Canoeing At Loch Faskally As part of Blair Atholl Jamborette 202 6	Date of risk assessment	18 May 2026	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Steve Powell
		Date of next review	3 August 2026		

What could go wrong? What hazard have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	What are you going to do about it? How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed? How will they be communicated to young people and adults and remain inclusive to all needs?	Review & revise What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
<b>A hazard</b> is something that may cause harm or damage. <b>The risk</b> is the harm that may occur from the hazard.	For example: young people, adult volunteers, visitors	<b>Controls</b> are ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk. For example, you may use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way you do the activity.	Keep <b>checking</b> throughout the activity in case you need to change what you're doing or even <b>stop</b> the activity. This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review .
<b>For example:</b> <b>Hazard:</b> fire <b>Risk:</b> smoke inhalation or burns	<b>Leaders, vistsors, Young Leaders, Scouts</b>	<b>Smoke:</b> use dry wood, check wind direction, stand people out of smoke direction. <b>Burns:</b> stay a safe distance from fire, place extra wood on caefully, teach Scouts good practice around fires, have a burns first aid kit easily available.	
Participants fall overboard due to capsize, not holding on, gust or wind change – injury on impact with water or boat.	All participants	PPE (helmet, buoyancy aid) Is worn thus giving some protection (Severity - Marginal, Frequency - Occasional	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Participants fall overboard - Drowning	All Participants	All participants wear a buoyancy aid. All activity is undertaken with an instructor acting as safety/rescue at hand (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Improbable).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Participants fall overboard – Boat proceeds out of control hitting person in water or other craft.	All participants	Very unlikely as boat will tend to veer off and drift down wind clear of point where person has fallen in (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Improbable).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Helm falls overboard – Loss of concentration or gusting wind. Boat proceeds out of control hitting person in water or other craft.	Instructors / participants	Boat will tend to head to wind and drift without intervention from these left onboard (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Improbable).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Helm / Crew being overpowered by strong wind. – Crew trapped and unable to release themselves.	Instructors / participants	Instructors to carry rescue knife.	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Cold weather or windchill – Scottish weather and incorrect clothing, repeated capsizing Participants suffer hypothermia	All participants	Correct clothing is worn, instructors monitor condition of all participants. Survival bag is available in rescue vehicle if severe effects develop. (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Supervisors / Instructors are acquainted with the signs of hypothermia and their first aid training includes treatment for hypothermia.. Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).

You can find more information in the Safety checklist for leaders and at [scouts.org.uk/safety](https://scouts.org.uk/safety)



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Grounding - Depth insufficient for boat. Being blown ofcourse / ashore. Damage to craft: Injury to participants onboard. Impact with parts of boat or being thrown overboard.	All participants	Grounding not considered a hazard. (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Remote).	Classification = C All boats to proceed at slow speed when operating close to shore. Participants standing are advised to kneel when close to shore/shallows. Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Objects being propelled by personnel on shore – Injury to people or damage to boat.	All participants	Activity afloat will generally be well away from the shore. (Severity – Negligible, Frequency – Remote).	Classification = D Vigilance by all. Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Hypothermia - poor clothing, weather, repeated immersion, Injury to participants	All participants	Instructor supervision, all instructors and leaders first aid trained. (Severity – Marginable, Frequency – Improbable).	Classification = D Sheltered facilities close at hand and transport back to main site. Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Polluted/Contaminated water/Algal bloom – Discharge from a sewerage source - algal bloom – Personnel ingest water and become unwell	All participants	In general, the quality of the water is good: Leader to review following heavy rain if there is contamination; notices are posted should blue!green algae be prevalent and loch may be closed. (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Remote).	Classification = C Instructor to check on water quality and ascertain if capsize practice is to be undertaken. Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Objects in the water – semi submerged objects in water, injury to personnel or damage to boat	All participants	Vigilance by instructors and crew. (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risk is heightened when there has been recent rain or there has been recent launch of another craft. Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Collison with other water users. Lack of observationof surroundings, sudden movement of other craft. Injury to personnel or damage to boat.	All participants	Keep clear of public using the loch. (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Remote).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Lightning/Adverse weather. Lightning strike; burns or severe injury to participants	All participants	Check weather forecast, return to shore before storm arrives or as quickly as possible ofr arrival. (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Remote).	Classification = C Be prepared to take defensive action and get participants off craft. Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Boats overloaded and becoming unstable - too many participants onboard, boat capsizes	All participants	Adhere to maximum numbers for each craft. (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Remote).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Injury from moving parts on craft. Trapping of fingers. Injury to head, Injury to hands and fingers.	All participants	Crew briefed by instructor; helmets worn by all under 18s on the water. (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Remote).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Slips trips and falls – on the bank and accessing the craft	All participants	Ensure that all involved in this activity is wearing suitable footwear and are made aware of the ground round about them. (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).

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Getting Hit by paddles (All Craft)- either before accessing the water or during activities on the water	All participants	Ensure that all involved are informed to keep a safe space away from each other and that paddle blades are kept low and away from head height. Helmets to be worn by all under 18s. (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Drowning / struggling in the water – participant in the water struggles	All participants	All involved at the water will wear life jackets or buoyancy aids anytime they are near the water or slip way. (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Remote).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Manual handling – carrying boats from trailer, unloading, loading	All participants	Ensure that all involved safely lift all equipment and do not strain themselves. Ensure that all staff remove the equipment from the trailers. (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Cuts and Grazes – suffered in advance or on the day	All participants	First Aid Kit available. Thoroughly wash any areas which have been cut or grazed to avoid infection. Consider more than just a bandage to maintain a barrier (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Sun and Heat – Hyperthermia effects of ‘double sun’ from above and the water reflection	All participants	Avoid excessive clothing if it is very warm. Observation of participants. Appropriate clothing/hats, etc. should be worn, along with high factor sunscreen. (Severity – Negligible, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Medication – may be needed on the water or immediately after	All participants	Any medication with immediate need to be carried in a dry bag by the relevant boat leader/permit holder (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Weather – can be changeable Thunder/lightening rules – if heard/seen then off the water ASAP for 30 mins from last instance	All participants	Planning should consider most recent weather forecasts. Anticipated conditions should be explained as part of the pre-launch briefing. Thunder/lightening rules to be followed (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Remote).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Animals (especially swans) – serious injury if antagonized or threatened	All participants	Briefing about action to take near swans and especially cygnets (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Changing/safeguarding – limited space and ability to change, limited privacy	All participants	Safeguarding to be considered as paramount. Box trailer available to be used where possible to create privacy To be encouraged to wait until return to camp to change if possible (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Common).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Vehicle movement around the lake during the activity and in the vicinity	All participants	Awareness to be made of other vehicles and traffic around the launch area (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Water depth and sudden variations – depth of water can vary suddenly, more significant for SUPs	All participants	SUPs to kneel in less than 6ft of depth Caution to be taken by all other craft. Swimmers to note that sudden changes are possible (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Common).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Loch bottom could be mud, get stuck in it, sinking, struggling to become free	All participants	All to be warned and instructors to pay particular attention in known higher risk areas Assistance to be provided to any stranded participant. Closed toe shoes required to protect feet (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).

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Paddling injuries such as pulled muscles.	All participants	Are addressed by the warm up and warm down (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Cold Water Shock – shock and panic on any capsized or fall in	All participants	Participants to be encouraged to see the temperature of the water using hands (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Windy Conditions – paddling will be harder, SUPs are likely to drift, may not be possible to return to original get off	All participants	Wind to be judged each day and boats to be rafted or alternatives used if required (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Occasional).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Loss of Paddle / Balance on the Board – instability and falls could cause injury	All participants	Safety on top of the board is instructed. Briefing that if unstable then go onto knees. Participants must know how to paddle like a surfboard. (Severity – Marginal, Frequency – Common).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).
Overhanging Trees / Weeds – potential to become tangled or trapped	All participants	Paddlers advised to negotiate around trees, both overhanging and floating. Advised as to correct action in event of entanglement (Severity – Critical, Frequency – Remote).	Classification = C Risks reduced to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP).

Don't forget, as part of your programme planning, you should have contingency activities in reserve just in case you can't do what was planned or you need to stop half way through. Make sure this is shared with those involved, so everyone knows how to respond. You should have risk assessed contingency activities prior to them taking place and communicated key information to those involved as with all activities.

