# Risk Assessment – Explorer Trek, Hovercraft Base

## Written by Craig Peters on 11/06/2022

| **Hazard Identified & Risks from It?** | **Who is at Risk?** | **How are the risks controlled?** | **What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?** |
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| Hovercraft collision with object (tree, fence etc.), risk of injury. | Young People | * Staff to clearly mark out course using fibreglass poles. Sufficient stopping distance to be left between edge of course and any obstacles.
* Staff to give each participant clear instructions for operating the hovercraft.
* Young people instructed to release the power handle immediately if they leave the course.
* All young people to be wearing a helmet and buoyancy aid when riding in the hovercraft for impact protection.
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| Hovercraft tipping over, risk of injury. | Young People | * Staff to give each participant clear instructions for operating the hovercraft.
* Staff to check the course for any objects that could cause the hovercraft to flip before starting the activity.
* All young people to be wearing a helmet and buoyancy aid when riding in the hovercraft for impact protection.
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| Spectators hit by hovercraft, risk of injury. | Young People & Staff | * All spectators must remain in the safe zone well away from the hovercraft course.
* Staff to monitor the course for intrusion by members of the public and / or animals.
* Course to be clearly marked with fibreglass canes.
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| Person hit by flying debris due to hovercraft wake, risk of injury. | Young People & Staff | * All spectators must remain in the safe zone well away from the hovercraft course.
* Staff to ensure that nobody is standing directly behind the fan when hovercraft is started.
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| Body parts entrapped in hovercraft fan, risk of injury. | Young People & Staff | * Staff must check that young people have removed neckies and name badges before entering the hovercraft.
* Staff must check that young people with long hair have securely tucked it under clothing before entering the hovercraft.
* Extra care to be taken if young people with long hair are riding in the rear seat of the hovercraft.
* Staff to instruct young people not to attempt to remove any object which becomes stuck in the fan.
* Staff to ensure that hovercraft is switched off and key removed from ignition before attempting to remove any objects stuck in the fan.
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| Dehydration and Heat Exhaustion | Young People | * Staff to check that young people bring a full water bottle with them to the activity.
* Staff to monitor young people throughout the activity and advise anyone who is overheating to rest in the shade and drink water.
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| Sunburn | Young People | * If weather is sunny, or forecast to be sunny, staff to check that young people are wearing sun cream.
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| Cold and Hypothermia | Young People | * If weather is wet or forecast to rain, staff to check that young people have brought a waterproof jacket to the activity.
* Staff to check the young people are suitably clothed for the weather conditions, e.g. have jumpers / jackets with them.
* Shelter to be available at the activity location, e.g. event shelter.
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