

Angling Risk Assessment [15 May 24]

General

It is a requirement of TAC to familiarise members and guest anglers with the hazards, risks associated with Angling on club waters, so that they can take appropriate steps to reduce or eliminate these risks to a level they deem acceptable.

All anglers using club waters, must be aware of the risk involved in Angling, and the basic principles of safety and risk assessment. They should make themselves aware of the hazards and risks they are exposing themselves to and carry out their own risk assessment, which generally amounts to common sense. They should take the appropriate action to ensure their own safety and that of others. However, it is a requirement of fishing TAC waters that Members and their guests familiarise themselves with this document and equip themselves accordingly.

Risk Assessment Process

1. **Observe and Identify the Hazards:** Stay vigilant and identify any potential dangers in the environment and weather.
2. **Evaluate the Risk:** Quickly assess the severity and the likelihood of the identified hazard causing harm. Consider both the immediate impact and potential escalation.
3. **Decide on the best course of action:** Based on the evaluation, determine the most effective safety measures to mitigate the identified risk. This might involve changing the wading approach, or bypassing that section of the river.
4. **Take appropriate action:** Carry out the appropriate action.
5. **Monitor and Adapt:** Continue to monitor the situation as it evolves and reassess and adapt your approach if needed.

Risk Assessment

Hazard	Who is at risk of harm	Mechanism / Trigger Event	Preventative measures
Weather Conditions: Sunburn, hypothermia, hyperthermia and sun stroke, frost nip / bite, precipitation.	Anglers and Guests.	Changeable weather: Precipitation, sun, wind, temperature, and storms can at times present a hazard to Anglers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conditions should be always monitored, and the angling activity and protective clothing adjusted to reflect the conditions.• Suitable protective clothing and equipment should be worn. E.g. Sun cream, long sleeved cloths, hats etc• High winds can result in falling branches etc

Tanfield Angling Club - Angling Risk Assessment [15 May 24]

<p>Drowning: As a result of falling into the water when wading or from the bank.</p>	<p>Anglers, Third Parties</p>	<p>Wading: Can be difficult due to the riverbed being rocky, slippery, uneven with steep drop offs and deep pools. At times there are strong currents, and the river can rise rapidly following precipitation within the River Ure catchment.</p> <p>Falling into the water: The riverbank can be difficult to navigate due to slippery, steep, and uneven sides with steep drop offs and deep pools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All anglers are strongly advised to use a wading staff. • All Anglers are strongly advised to use a buoyancy aid, specifically an automatic inflating life jacket to BS EN396, when operating in and around the water. • Do not wade when River is in flood or water level is rising. • Avoid known deep holes in riverbed.
<p>Electrocution: Due to contact with powerlines or being struck by lightning.</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests.</p>	<p>Power lines: Present at Low Sides Deep and Sow Dup (Beat 4) on TAC waters, with a risk of electrocution should contact be made with them, as graphite rods are an excellent conductor of electricity.</p> <p>Lightning: Fishing in storms poses a risk of electrocution, as graphite rods are an excellent conductor of electricity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not at any time fish under power lines. • Rods should be lowered, and caution required when walking under power lines. • When there is a risk of lightning you must stop fishing and place your rod horizontally on the ground hence reducing the risk of it becoming a lightning conductor.
<p>Trips, Slips and Falls: Injury due to uneven paths, styles, or obstacles.</p>	<p>Anglers, Guests and Third Parties</p>	<p>Terrain: Access tracks, steep slopes to river, undercut and slippery banks and uneven ground can be difficult to negotiate by foot especially in wet weather.</p> <p>Obstacles: Take care when using the stiles, gates, and steps, as that can be slippery, damaged, and uneven.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only use obvious paths along the bank. • Take particular care when using some of the paths down to the riverbank as they can be very steep. • Use your own judgement before using and take extra care. • If a dangerous or damaged path or style is encountered, do not attempt to use it and report it to a member of the committee.
<p>Injury when hit with a fly: Due to contact with a fly hook.</p>	<p>Anglers, Guests and Third Parties</p>	<p>Casting: Physical injury from hooks / flies to both anglers and bystanders.</p> <p>Weighted flies cause unpredictable movement when casting, extra care should be taken when using them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protective glasses should always be worn when fishing. • Take care with your back cast; injury can be caused to other members and the public.

Tanfield Angling Club - Angling Risk Assessment [15 May 24]

<p>Injury from casting: Repetitive action of casting.</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests.</p>	<p>Casting: Repetitive strain related injuries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular breaks and swapping hands should be used to reduce stress on the body. • AVOIDING CASTING INJURIES WHEN FLY FISHING (troutandsalmon.com)
<p>Vehicle crash: Injury to vehicle occupants, third parties and damage to vehicles when using off road private tracks.</p>	<p>Anglers, Passengers, Third Parties</p>	<p>Terrain: Access tracks, steep slopes to river, undercut and slippery banks and uneven ground can be difficult to negotiate by vehicle, especially in wet weather.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members should only use tracks when the conditions are suitable. • TAC would advise that only suitable 4-wheel drive vehicles with good off-road tyres be used. • Drive slowly and carefully. • If in doubt, ask the river keeper for suitable access. • Anglers take their vehicles on these tracks at their own risk.
<p>Alcohol: The consumption of alcohol whilst on TAC waters.</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests.</p>	<p>The consumption affects coordination specifically decision making, balance and coordination, increasing the risk of accidents and the risk of cold-water shock if submerged.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consumption of alcohol is not advisable before or during fishing.
<p>Animals: Livestock and wild animals can be aggressive especially with offspring risking trampling or charging.</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests.</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests transiting fields with livestock such as Cattle, Deer, Sheep etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When crossing fields with livestock or in areas with wild animals, walk in a calm manner and to give all livestock as wide a berth as possible. • Take care to be certain that all gates are closed and secure after you access them to prevent the escape of livestock.
<p>Vegetation: Giant Hogweed (Risk of burn) has been previously identified in the area.</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests.</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests making unprotected physical contact with Giant Hogweed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unprotected contact should be avoided and reported to the river keeper or secretary if identified. • If contact is made seek medical advice.
<p>Vegetation: Injury from falling branches or debris.</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests.</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests transiting underneath trees, particularly during or after high winds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of falling branches and debris, particularly in windy conditions.
<p>Disease: Weil's disease (Leptospirosis) is transmitted in rat</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests.</p>	<p>Anglers and Guests coming into contact with contaminated river water.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't put wet line in your mouth or any other item of tackle that has been in the water.

Tanfield Angling Club - Angling Risk Assessment [15 May 24]

and cattle urine, which can be in river water.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wash your hands or use an antiseptic wipe before eating. Wear waterproof plasters on any cuts or grazes.
Disease: Lyme's disease can be transmitted from tick bites.	Anglers and Guests.	Anglers and Guests coming into contact with ticks in vegetation, and ticks biting person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cover legs and arms when moving through vegetation. Inspect skin for ticks following fishing, and remove with a tick removal tool. Seek medical attention immediately if a rash appears up to 30 days after a tick bite.
Medical emergency: The onset of a pre-existing condition or a new condition that risks injury or death.	Anglers and Guests.	Onset of medical condition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry a mobile phone. Ensure a family member or friend knows where you are fishing and what time to expect you home. Carry a first aid kit. Carry essential medication.

Emergency Treatment.

Minor Injuries (NOT 24 hours)

Ripon Minor Injury Unit
 Ripon Community Hospital
 Firby Lane
 Ripon, HG4 2PR

Major Injuries (24 Hours)

Dial 999

Harrogate District Hospital, Lancaster Park Road, Harrogate HG2 7S

References

- TAC - HSE Policy [15 May 24].

Pool Locations

Beat	Pool No.	Name	Grid Reference	What 3 Word
1	1	Black Robin	SE 2386 7771	disgraced.microfilm.himself
	2	Magdelene Stream	SE 2384 7763	convey.trickled.polka
	3	Sand Bed Stream	SE 2360 7741	walking.trying.asterisk
	4	Hell Hole	SE 2385 7756	tops.tango.furniture
	5	Grandpa's Stream	SE 2358 7745	ownership.chills.tailors
	6	Hackfall Deep	SE 2352 7736	credited.official.burglars
	7	Rock Face	SE 2353 7729	meaty.chilling.noticing
	8	Lower Rock Face	SE 2363 7726	gets.snowboard.shackles
2	9	Mowbray Run	SE 2381 7714	spoon.debating.stall
	10	Mowbray Stream	SE 2390 7717	poorly.digested.pops
	11	Quarry Stream	SE 2425 7714	delved.parading.most
	12	Flat Rocks	SE 2429 7714	removing.darting.galloped
	13	Mick's Pool	SE 2447 7704	flippers.afraid.moods
	14	Wood's Stream	SE 2462 7683	debate.bulge.door
	15	Deadman's Beach	SE 2481 7677	strongman.grove.haze
3	16	Mickley Deep	SE 2548 7709	towns.guest.voter
	17	Mickley Glide	SE 2567 7721	clef.downfield.dinosaur
	18	Goose Island	SE 2574 7724	charted.browsers.excellent
	19	Armitage's Stream	SE 2602 7734	unfounded.airbag.stumble
	20	Old Wives Stream	SE 2640 7726	lunged.youngest.dumplings
4	21	Staveley Stream	SE 2654 7731	hexes.financial.scratches
	22	Copper Beech	SE 2651 7728	desktops.slung.tiredness
	23	Grisle Run	SE 2655 7732	those.league.valued
	24	Study's Stream	SE 2658 7740	brain.rates.customers
	25	Low Sides Deep	SE 2660 7745	clays.hype.guessing
	26	Sow Dub	SE 2689 7798	landed.cricket.ownership
	27	Upper Rocky Stream	SE 2676 7801	coder.vaulting.smallest
5	28	Lower Rocky Stream	SE 2671 7800	spenders.areas.siesta
	29	Upper Hatchery	SE 2639 7798	swimsuits.rungs.belonging
	30	Hatchery Flatts	SE 2634 7819	storm.essays.sized
	31	Greensit Batts	SE 2637 7844	atlas.perfumes.drumbeat
6	32	Upper Slee Ghyll	SE 2641 7852	solving.secretly.newsprint
	33	Back of Slee Ghyll	SE 2658 7862	initiates.easels.diary
	34	Lower Island	SE 2649 7854	before.spooned.commit
	35	Church Stream	SE 2679 7864	thudding.wicket.airfields
	36	Tanfield Bridge	SE 2751 7873	rats.bonus.forgotten
	37	Tanfield Weir	SE 2629 7806	subway.standing.sensual