

Water Activities Safety & Event Plan

WILDROOTS MUSIC, PERFORMING ARTS AND ADVENTURE FESTIVAL 2024

1.0 EVENT DESCRIPTION & SAFE OPERATIONS PROCEDURES

The Wild Roots Festival incorporates outdoor adventure activities based on Lough Gill.

The water sports are all run by outdoor adventure activity providers who are extremely experienced and fully insured.

The activities are:

Kayaking run by Lough Allen Adventure

Stand up Paddle boarding by Lough Allen Adventure

Festival attendees will meet at a point located on the festival site (marked AL) and be escorted by a member of the festival team to the activity site at Annagh Bay. The attendees proceed on foot along the marked route through the festival site and along a public walkway where they emerge onto Hazelwood Avenue. The attendees will continue on to Annagh Bay slipway where the activity will be held. For the sailing activity festival attendees will walk further along the public walkway and arrive at a pier at Hazelwood House. From here the activity attendees will be the sole responsibility of the activity provider.

Safety Policy

It is the policy of the event organizers to plan and execute the event in the safest manner possible and to minimize any risk of harm to participants, volunteers, organizers, and the public.

Outdoor water sports have an inherent associated risk both in general and particular to this event, participants will have a very wide spectrum of abilities impacting on the running of all activities. It is the purpose of this document to outline the planning measures, procedures and protocols that will be put in place and adopted to minimize those inherent risks and other risks that may be associated with this event.

Responsibilities and Contacts

- Key event officer roles have been assigned and all key event officers are listed on the **Event Activities Contact List** which will be displayed at the Registration / Event providers Station. See Appendix 1

Safeguarding

- Under 18's and vulnerable adults are to attend the event accompanied by an adult.
- All adventure providers staff are familiar with NOC SHOP Child protection policy.

Participant Responsibility

- The activity program and an activity description document with visuals will be available through the event website and all participants will be made aware of this document in advance of the event so that participants can familiarize themselves with and understand better what each activity comprises and can consider the activities that would suit them best.
- The participant (or their guardian / carer as appropriate) and the activity facilitator will collectively decide on the suitability of and how to adapt the activity to the abilities of the individual, through open two-way communication. The participants safety will be the central consideration
- The participant (or their guardian / carer as appropriate) has final responsibility in deciding if they have the ability to undertake each activity.

Facilitator Responsibility

- It is the responsibility of each activity facilitator to recognize the potential for risk to each individual participant and to help identify adaptations for that participant based on their abilities.
 - The ultimate decision whether or not it is safe to proceed with an activity with a given individual or group rests with the activity facilitator who may choose to call off the activity at any time based on what they consider unsafe conditions / circumstances, to either participant or themselves.
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Training

- All primary on the water personnel will be experienced / qualified in their sporting discipline and be familiar with the standard safety procedures of their governing body / organization and of the event.

Clothing and Personal Equipment

- Buoyancy aids (or lifejackets) will be supplied by all water sports providers and fit checked by activity facilitators prior to commencing activity. Participants will have received advance notice of what to bring in terms of clothing / footwear and changes of clothes. There will be a stock of foil emergency blankets to safeguard against participants becoming overly cold due to becoming wet from participation. Participants will be advised to bring waterproof clothing, a towel, and a full change of clothes including shoes. There are waterproof plastic ponchos available from the organizers.

Communications

- **All water safety operations** will be coordinated by own Channel on walkie talkies
- The Activity supervisor will confirm when all his groups have left and returned to the pontoon.

Briefings & Environmental Conditions

- **Pre water activities:** This will review each activity, area and timings and the interaction of activities on the water. Latest weather and lake state and will be taken into consideration in final decisions and planning.

First Aid /Ambulance / Medical Services Access

- There will be an Ambulance located on the festival site, an Emergency Medical Technician, Emergency First Responder, Cardiac First Responder

Transfers of participants onto equipment

- Transfers onto Kayaks / Canoes / Paddle Boards / boats will be facilitated at our floating pontoon at hazelwood slipway.
- Transfers to sailboats will be facilitated by Wild West Sailing at the pier at Hazelwood house.

Emergency Action Plan - See Appendix 2

- The Emergency Action plan will be outlined to all responsible parties, and it will be pinned up at the Event Control Office, Activities Registration Point, Shore Assembly Point
- Evacuation of water activity can be instigated by the Safety Team at any time, communicated by VHF, whereby all vessels will return to respective launch / recover areas unless otherwise directed.

Programme – See Appendix 3

2.0 ACTIVITY INFORMATION – AFLOAT AND ASHORE

Canoeing / Kayaking Activity Lough Allen Adventure

Location: Annagh bay hazelwood Sligo

Kayak / canoe activity will a short distance offshore marshalled by instructors

Coordination: Will be overseen by the Activities Coordinator from the activity provider.

Vessels: Mixture of kayaks, canoes

Paddleboarding - Lough Allen Adventure

Location: Annagh bay hazelwood Sligo

Paddleboarding activity will a short distance offshore marshaled by instructors

Coordination: Will be overseen by the Activities Coordinator from the activity provider.

Vessels: Paddleboards

Risk Assessments

Flat Water Kayak/Canoe & Stand Up Paddle with Lough Allen Adventures

Lough Gill Kayaking & Stand up Paddle Boarding Risk Assessment

Carried out on the **17/05/2022** by Tojo Lazzari Valid until **17/05/2023**

All Instructors must sign and date at the bottom of the document one week before working at the location.

Potential hazard	Risk Rating low/medium/high	Preventative measures	Responsibility
Participants under the influence	Medium	Non admission	LAA. Staff
Drowning	Low	Correct NGB Ratios Qualified, experienced Staff, CE certified, pre checked Equipment,	LAA Staff

		Buoyancy aids suited/fitted to participant's size and weight, Staff first Aid certs in date/valid, Non swimmers identified on form and at meet and greet pre activity, instructors close proximity on water	
Slips Trips and Falls	low	No equipment left lying around, bay has been scanned for obstacles & must be done by staff before/after each session, Participants advised to wear appropriate footwear, D.I.C.E with participants	LAA Staff
Pontoon	low	Checked before use ie. Depth, mooring of Kayaks/sups, stability, safe anchoring, entrapments, limit participants on the pontoon, no diving or play on the pontoon, instructors outline rules and must enforce.	LAA Staff
Equipment	low	CE approved, Maintained and checked before use	LAA Staff
Equipment outside of session hours	low	Appropriately stored and locked in storage container, only instructors can load& unload container	LAA Staff
Other water users	Medium	No spectators on site, Be aware of other users at location, Swimmers, sailors, powerboats and other obstructions, keep	LAA Staff

		group a safe distance of other users	
Weather Temperature	Medium	Hypo/hyperthermia measures in place, ie sun cream, water, emergency food, mats, foil blanket, emergency shelter/clothing Take participant off water if showing signs	LAA Staff
Weather Wind/ Storm	Medium	Cancellation if dangerous weather apparent, keep group together in strong winds, hug shoreline, find sheltered location on lake, follow NGB guidelines, all instructor must have towing ability, Tojo on RIB/Sea kayak fetch stragglers	LAA Staff
Participant pre-existing medical issues	low	Medical screening on participation form and in person at meet & greet, plan appropriately EAP and medications	LAA Staff
SUP Session Shallow water fall	Medium	Adhere to NGB guidelines, kneel until in deep water, Keep away from kayakers	LAA Staff
Kayak Session Injury by paddle/boat	low	Adhere to NGB guidelines Space out group, Helmets mandatory Keep away from SUPs	LAA Staff
Trailers	Medium	Store in safe Location, no access to public	LAA Staff

Assessor	Signed	Dated
Tojo Lazzari	T.Laz	17/05/23

Instructors		
Edwin Gray		
Hugh McNamara		
Luke Anthony Brzezinski		
Kieran McElhinney		
Alex Mullins		

Sailing Risk Assessment

Appendix 1 Event Activities Contact List

Name	Title	Channel	Mobile Number
Martin Cullen	Event Controller		
Tojo Lazzari / Edwin Grey	Lough Allen Activity Coordinator		0872721001
TBC	Medical Coordinator		
	CD RIB 1		
	CD RIB 2		
	CD RIB 3		

Appendix 2 Emergency Action Plan

In the event of such an occurrence the initial response will be directed by the Activity Coordinator (ensuring that Event Controls are immediately fully informed). Incidents may fall into a number of different categories but will generally be confined to

- Person or persons falling into the water
- Multiple capsize event
- A medical incident which may require a response from the water
- A collision resulting in injury
- Notification or awareness of any unforeseen risk, hazard, occurrence, event or condition that endangers the safety or health of participants

In the event of any such incident, the Activity Coordinator will immediately alert a rescue craft located at the pontoon or one already on patrol in the river and / or a water rescue shore team to proceed directly to the scene.

He/she in conjunction with the Event Controller and Activity Coordinator will promptly determine the need to inform the Principal Response Agencies and / or the Coastguard.

The Event Control Team will arrange for whatever shore resources (e.g. ambulance) might be required when the rescue craft returns to the pontoon which is the point allocated for receiving any casualties.

Activity providers will ensure their respective groups are kept clear of rescue operations / brought ashore / move to, or remain in a specified area, as directed by the Water Safety Coordinator until the situation is resolved or they can be safely evacuated.

All water based emergency response operations will be coordinated with and assisted by civil defence boats with operational hierarchy as set out below

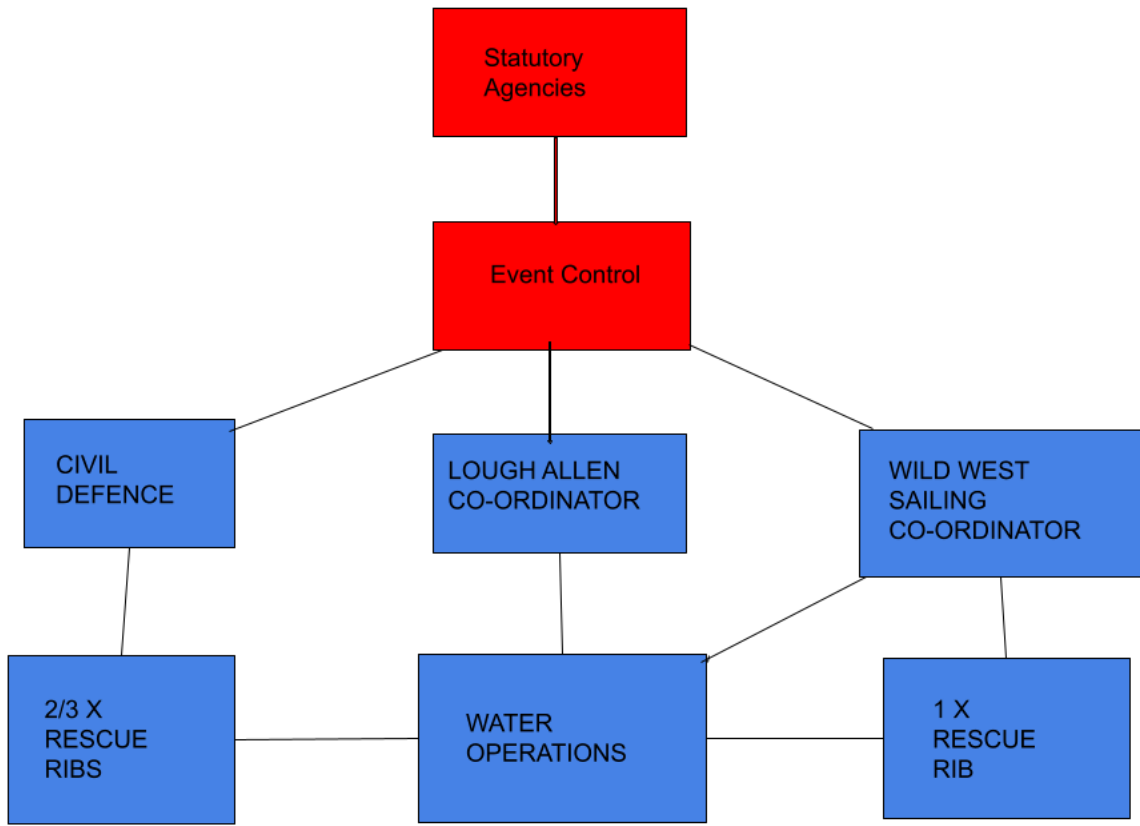


Figure 2.0 above shows the change of command for water activities

Appendix 3 Program

TBC

Kayaking and Stand up paddle boarding will be running on Saturday 1st of June and Sunday the of June from 09:00 to 19:00.

The timetable is as below.

SUP	Time	Capacity		Kayak	Time	Capacity
09:30	11:00	18		09:30	11:00	18
11:00	12:30	18		11:00	12:30	18
12:30	14:00	18		12:30	14:00	18
LUNCH				LUNCH		
15:00	16:30	18		15:00	16:30	18
16:30	18:00	18		16:30	18:00	18
18:00	19:30	18		18:00	19:30	18

