



Tees Wheelyboats

River Tees Watersports Centre, The Slipway, Northshore, Stockton on Tees, TS18 2NL
Tel.No: 07748908646. E-mail: info@tees-wheelyboats.org.uk. Website: www.tees-wheelyboats.org.uk
Patron: Baroness 'Tanni' Grey-Thompson DBE

BY-LAW No.2 Guidelines for completion of a RISK ASSESSMENT FOR WHEELYBOAT USERS AND IN PARTICULAR VULNERABLE PEOPLE.

SCOPE

These guidelines apply to all members of Tees Wheelyboats (TW).

RISK ASSESSMENT AND DISABILITY

- Risk Assessment is done to establish 'hazards and who might be harmed'.
- This means thinking about others, including disabled people. People worry because they don't understand disability and
 - Able bodied think it might get in the way of getting the job done.
 - Able bodied fear they might break health and safety law.
 - Some disabled people fear that health and safety might be used as an excuse to exclude them opportunities.

By working together, able and disabled people can get to grips with disability and health and safety. The process therefore works best when the disabled are involved and think about their individual circumstances, i.e.

- Able bodied – DO NOT assume you understand any limitations of the disabled – discuss your plans with them and their carers / representatives.
- Disabled /Carer / Representative – DO NOT assume the able bodied understand your limitations - discuss your concerns with them.
- All - consult others who have appropriate expertise where necessary.

WHAT IS A RISK ASSESSMENT?

A risk assessment is simply a careful examination of what could harm people and how likely this is to happen, so that an assessment can be made as to whether or not actions are required to prevent such harm. Risk assessments are required to comply with Health and Safety law.

Risk assessments can be carried out in five steps:

1. Identify the hazards.
2. Decide who might be harmed and how.
3. Evaluate the risks and decide on precautions.
4. Record the significant findings and act on them.
5. Review the assessment and update if necessary.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Everyone is responsible for health and safety.

- Take reasonable care of your own health and safety and the health and safety of anyone who might be affected by what you are doing;
- Co-operate with others on health and safety - for instance, follow rules, warnings or guidance.
- Inform others if you see something that might harm you or someone else.
- **Disabled**
 - If you have a disability or long-term health condition, you may need to tell others so you can meet your health and safety responsibilities.
 - Work with others on any 'reasonable adjustments' that may be needed.
 - Work with others if a risk assessment is needed or if you have concerns about its results.



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- **Able Bodied**

- Involve disabled and appreciate the skills and insight they may have to find the best outcome.
- Work together with disabled applicants if it is necessary to assess whether their disability affects health and safety and, if so, to what extent.
- Work together when doing risk assessments that consider the effects of the person's disability.
- When thinking about the 'reasonable adjustments' needed for them.
 - Take account of any adjustments already in place, so your conclusions are based on any remaining risks, if they exist.
 - Make new 'reasonable adjustments' to overcome remaining risks, remembering to work with the disabled person to tailor the adjustments to their needs.
 - Be sensitive and timely to support the disabled person and avoid delays. Where delay can't be helped you may have to make short-term temporary arrangements so they are not at a disadvantage.
 - Involve others, such as specialists.
 - Many disabled people are experts in their disability, but others may be less familiar.
 - Attend professional disability-awareness training if needed.
 - Check that others understand disability discrimination.
 - Share with the disabled person (and their representative) any specialist information to give them a say in its contribution to the assessment.



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Operational Safety Analysis and Risk assessment

TW is an organisation formed to provide access to and on the River Tees, upstream from the Tees Barrage and other waterways.

The Wheelyboat is a craft specifically designed to cater for the mobility impaired, and particularly for wheelchair users.

Description of boat

Type Open motorboat, monohull, aluminum construction with petrol driven outboard engine.

Design category C

Wheelyboat Mk 111

Hull length 5.30m

Beam 2.00m

Max draft 0.55m

Max persons 8

Max load 1200kg

The vessel complies with the Essential Safety Requirements to EU standards

Crew

Crew of two: Skipper qualified to standards set by Marine and Coastguard Agency for the operation of Inland Waters Small Passenger Boat Code, e.g. RYA Power Boat Level 2 National Powerboating Certificate. Skipper and crew have received club training in the safe use of a Wheelyboat and the welfare of passengers.

Operation

The Wheelyboat is to be used on the Tees, upstream from the Tees Barrage and other inland waterways to provide a facility for persons with disabilities, their carers, friends and family wishing to experience the pleasure of boating rivers or lakes.

Passenger numbers

The boat is certificated for 8 persons maximum, two crew and six passengers.

A passenger using electrically powered wheelchairs is deemed to be two persons due to the weight of the chair. The skipper determines the numbers based on passenger space requirements and overall weight.

Briefing

Prior to embarkation the passengers will be given safety instructions with regard to use of the slipway, entering the boat, when afloat and leaving the boat.



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Risk Assessment

Hazard	Who may be harmed	Likelihood	Mitigation
Slipping	Passenger	Medium	Slipways not to be used if not clean. Non slip surface to boat deck.
Wheelchair	Passenger	Medium	Users must ensure that their wheelchair is suitable for the individual and in good mechanical operation. Passenger pre embarkation briefing.
Fall from wheelchair		Medium	Safety belt to be used by to aid security where appropriate (users decision) All manual wheelchairs to be reversed onto the boat. Passenger pre embarkation briefing. Crew briefing
Strains	Passenger + Crew	High	Only persons with sufficient strength should assist in pushing wheelchairs. Passenger pre embarkation briefing. Crew briefing
Fall from boat	Passenger + Crew	Low	All passengers to remain seated at all times when boat is moving. Wheelchairs to be braked when loaded. Passenger briefing on board. All passengers must wear an automatically activated lifejacket. All crew must wear an automatically activated or manual lifejacket.
Entrapment	Passenger	Low	Passengers must not have limbs outside the boat when leaving or entering the mooring. Passengers must not assist in mooring or handling any ropes or lines on the boat. Passenger briefing on board.
Cold - Rain	Passenger + Crew	High	All passengers and should wear appropriate clothing. Passenger pre embarkation briefing. Crew briefing Emergency waterproofs carried for passengers
Engine failure	Passenger + Crew	Medium	VHF radio and/or mobile phone carried to call assistance. Paddles provided for short travel Anchor on board with suitable warp Crew briefing
Collision	Passenger + Crew	Low	International collision regulations must be observed. Teesside Princess has right of way due to restricted draught. Sunder on board. Crew briefing.
Emergency stop	Passenger + Crew	Low	All passengers to remain seated at all times when boat is moving. Wheelchairs to be braked when loaded. Electric wheelchairs to power off. Passenger briefing on board. Engine Kill Cord to be used all times. Crew briefing.
Water borne diseases	Passenger + Crew	Low	Diseases, in particular Weil's disease, can be contracted from river water. Always wash hands or other parts of the body if contacted by the water. If feeling flu like symptoms, consult the doctor