

Risk Assessment

Windsurfing

Hazards	Control Measures	Arrangements
Lifting and moving equipment. Possible strain to back and muscular strain.	Boards. 2 persons to lift 1 or 2 boards, front and back. 1 person to lift sail according to instruction, and to move under supervision of instructor and to place the sail on ground with 'luff' towards wind.	Briefing and demonstration by instructor on correct way to lift and carry board and sail. Instructor to supervise lifting, carrying and placing of equipment.
Risk to third parties Ashore: - Person(s) being struck by moving equipment. Afloat: - Other water users being struck by moving board or sail being dropped.	Ashore:- Instructor to act as 'policeman' in order to control movement of equipment. Afloat:- All boards to be contained in a designated area, safety boat on the water ensures this and keeps a sharp lookout. On lake instructors to patrol the side and water to ensure windsurfers are aware of other water users.	Instructor to brief students on the possibilities of hitting other people due to the length of the equipment. Instructor briefing and demo. On simulator on dropping the sail. Instructor to supervise from the safety boat, when on the water, at all times. On the lake supervise from the side and water.
Stepping off and falling off in shallow water	Instructor to make participants aware of stepping off and falling off in shallow water and the risks to legs and backs	Instructor to set safe areas so that participant's understand depth areas
'Star burst effect' windsurfers drifting due to wind and tide effect.	Safety boat to bring windsurfers back to designated area, if all are drifting SB to bring all personnel back ashore and then collect equipment.	Brief Instructor and safety boat to keep all windsurfers in designated area , if a problem bring all students ashore and tether the boards. Brief students to stay in the designated area, if unable to do so to drop sail and sit on board and wait for the safety boat.
Cold	Ensure students are wearing wet suits and buoyancy aids. If students look too cold they should be taken ashore. Monitor students well being at all times	Instructor to brief students to sit on board when they feel cold and they will be taken ashore. Briefing on distress signal.

Injury Dislocation Bruising	Students to sit on board and give distress signal if possible. Safety boat to take student ashore.	Brief students on the distress. Safety boat to radio ashore with details of injury.
Drowning	Ensure students are wearing correctly fitted buoyancy aids.	BA to be checked after breaks & lunch
Weils Disease & Blue Green Algae	Students to be made aware of the importance of showering and to cover up cuts and abrasions	Instructor is look at amount of bloom on the lake and decide with SI / Principal as to whether it's safe for the session to go ahead
Simulator use – shins & legs	Instructor to monitor the position of the group when using the simulator.	Instructor where necessary help up the student onto the simulator.
Simulator storage – risk of inappropriate unsupervised use.	Store simulator(s) against hedge at the end of each session so that they can not rotate.	Teaching team to move simulator to safe position at the end of each session.

Windsurfing - Operational Procedures

All instructional staff must hold current certificates and hold an award appropriate to the teaching being undertaken.

RYA Senior Instructor Windsurfing

RYA Instructor Windsurfing

RYA Assistant Instructors Windsurfing Award

Staffing Levels

Staffing levels are based upon the type of course being offered, the Instructors qualification and the participants level of ability but must be based no greater than the following unless a written risk assessment and approval by PSC Chief Windsurfing Instructor is made.

RYA Approved Courses

6 participants to 1 instructor

Fun sessions

1:12 boards – 2 safety boats *1 of these boats must be dedicated to windsurfing*

All the above are dependant on the water conditions & weather.

1. Buoyancy aids must be worn at all times while on the water.
2. Instructors must make themselves aware of students who cannot swim, or who have low water confidence. If such students are taken windsurfing then the safety precautions and the structure of the session must be adapted appropriately. Discussion must take place with the SI / Lead Instructor and the individuals concerned and any accompanying staff prior to the session.
3. The instructor must check the boards for suitable rigging and fin security before the activity session and prior to the boards being launched on to the water.
4. All students must be made aware of what to do when they fall off or need assistance. This must happen before students go on the water.
5. Safety Boat drivers should check that the boats are equipped with enough fuel for the session, the first aid kit and safety knife are present.