

RISK ASSESSMENT – to be completed and updated annually

Date Completed and Updated: 1/3/2024

Hazard	Who might be harmed	Is the risk adequately controlled	What further action is needed to control the risk
<u>Off the beach</u> 1. Existing medical conditions	Instructors/clients	- Controlled by checking instructors medical history. - Customers filling out indemnity forms with medical details and history - Ask about medical history when checking in - Reception staff to inform coaches regarding any medical issues	Ensure any client medication is available at all times throughout lesson
2. Dehydration	Instructors/clients	- Make sure clients and instructors have adequate fluid consumption before leaving the surf school. - Supply water to be taken down to the beach in first aid kit	
3.Sunburn	Instructors/clients	- Make sure instructors and clients have applied waterproof sunblock (factor 30) to all exposed areas. - Instructors to wear hats on sunny days - Extra sunscreen carried to the beach in first aid kit - Sunscreen available in surf school for clients and staff to use.	
4. Slipping (on decking & in changing rooms)	Instructors/clients	- Ensure deck is kept as dry as possible and sand is regularly swept away - Floors to be mopped at start and end of each	

		lesson • Keep the drains clear to ensure water run off from showers	
5. Trip hazard when going up / down the steps from surf school deck to path	Instructors/clients	• Ensure all customers are aware of the steps • Ensure steps are kept clear of debris	•
6. Potential issue with surf boards breaking bulbs on festoon lighting on terrace	Instructors/clients	• Ensure surf boards are handled at low level, avoiding hitting lighting • Distribute boards to clients with awareness of this risk	• Any bulb breakages to be cleared up immediately
7. Broken glass (or other) on terrace	Instructors/clients	• Sweep terrace and steps regularly • Be aware of any breakages and act upon immediately	• Easy access to dustpan and brush

<u>Getting to and from the beach</u>			
1. Traffic accidents (when walking beach, crossing the roads)	Instructors/clients	• Instructors spaced evenly within group for walk to beach. When crossing roads ensure one instructor leads communicating with clients at all times • Keep younger and less able members of the group close to instructors	•
2. Falling, tripping, and slipping	Instructors/clients	• Wear appropriate footwear • Instructors to warn clients of uneven surface • Always use designated public pathway	•
3. Sharp objects	Instructors/clients	• Wear appropriate footwear • Instructors to warn clients of sharp objects • Always use recognised footpath • Check footpath to beach is clear of debris	•
4. Moving projectiles (golf balls, when crossing golf course on route to Fistril beach)	Instructors/clients	• Fences in place to protect clients walking on the public pathway through golf course • Stay to the path and be aware at all times of your surroundings	•

<u>On the beach</u>			
1. Falling, tripping and slipping	Instructors/clients	• Advice given by instructors. Re; uneven surfaces, prior to arriving at beach	
2. Beach related debris	Instructors/clients	• Instructors to offer warning of potential trouble areas. • Liaise with lifeguards for up to date information on the beach	•

		First aid kit available on the beach	
3. Heat exhaustion/ heatstroke	Instructors/clients	Instructors to monitor the group at all times ensuring adequate water consumed	Up to date check on weather and warn clients
4.Hypothermia	Instructors/clients	- Check weather condition on a regular basis - Include emergency blanket in first aid kit	
5.Wind blown objects, including surf boards	Instructors/clients	If windy, ensure customers are aware of potential risk and advise to be alert	If any boards are left on the beach, ensure they are secured

<u>In the water</u>			
1. Drowning	Instructors/clients	- Instructors to assess physical competence of each individual. - All clients must be able to swim 50 m min - Parent / guardian to accompany children aged 8-12 in the water	Instructors keeping all clients in waist to chest depth water. (Unless on intermediate lesson)
2.Hypothermia	Instructors/clients	- Use of correct equipment based on the time of year. - Correct size wetsuits offered. - Boots, gloves and hoods if necessary - Emergency blanket on the beach in first aid kit	
3.Common injuries (ankles strain / dislocations)	Instructors/clients	- Follow NOP and EAP procedures - Instructors to brief clients on correct methods to carry and hold surf boards when facing waves, to avoid finger dislocations etc - Instructors to brief	

		clients on correct methods to dismount boards to avoid ankle strain.	
4. Water pollution / sewage outlet	Instructors/clients	- Follow advice of lifeguards on duty - Monitor Surfers Against Sewage Safer Sea App	
5. Marine Stings	Instructors/ Clients	- Use appropriate wetsuits and accessories. - Offer boots to avoid weaver fish stings - Enquire about anaphylactic shocks during health check at beginning of lesson - Access to hot water at Surf school	
6. Client pulled into deep water (rips, currents)	Clients	- All instructors briefed and received training in local conditions. - The lesson will only take place when the sea state, tide and wind are within safe working distance	
7. Collision with other water users	Clients/ instructors	- Clients to be briefed on avoidance techniques, flags and safe use of board. - Instructors to ensure clients are evenly spaced at all times and adhering to the safe code of practice	
8. Spinal injury	Clients	- Due to the gradient of the beaches, the additional hazards of high tide surfing will be covered in the initial brief. - Surfing lessons will be planned around high tide if sea conditions are not within the safe working limit	