



## KDAA General Risk Assessment

### **KDAA Risk Assessment Overview**

Kelvedon & District Angling Association are committed to maintaining a safe and enjoyable angling environment for its members, who in turn, benefit from the angling experience across all KDAA club waters.

Fishing or Angling can best be described as an activity that involves spending time at and around an aquatic environment (Lake or River) with the view to catching fish using the anglers own personal fishing equipment. Angling is generally undertaken as a solitary pursuit and it is highly likely that Anglers will spend much of their time alone on club waters. It should be noted that although other club members may, or will be present at club waters throughout the year, they may be fishing remotely from each other.

Angling is also permitted overnight at three club waters, Silver End, Layer Marney Complex & Seabrooks Reservoir and members may apply each year for a limited number of night fishing permits. It is likely that Anglers choosing to night fish are very likely to be alone during the time spent fishing.

KDAA Club waters are generally maintained and managed entirely by KDAA Club volunteers for the benefit of its members, however KDAA generally lease each water from individual land owners and as such do not control all aspects of each fishing venue (with the exception of Silver End Front Pit). Good relationships exist between land owners and KDAA and there is a recognition of the ongoing need to communicate on matters of safety that may be outside the control of KDAA and sit with the land owner.

It should also be recognised that Anglers can be taken to have willingly accepted the inherent risks associated with their chosen sport, such as the inevitable dangers of deep water and the general rural bankside environment, which may change in its nature throughout the seasons, and the often-solitary nature of angling as a pursuit. KDAA Have therefore taken a proportionate approach to the assessment of risk at all club waters.



The key points relating to angling activities at KDAA waters are;

KDAA do not provide any personal fishing tackle or equipment to members.

KDAA Members (guests & non-fishing guests) are responsible for their actions and behaviour whilst on KDAA club waters as clearly defined in club rules and constitution (see rule book or website).

KDAA Members are actively encouraged to report to KDAA, any situation that may present a hazard to themselves or other members on or at KDAA Club waters, this may be achieved by telephone or email.

In order that Kelvedon & District Angling Association operate safe environments for members and visitors that choose to attend club waters, the following generic risk assessment has been completed. KDAA members should be mindful that new hazards may present themselves on the day and that were unforeseen or not reported at the time of writing this risk assessment.

Where new hazards present themselves, members should immediately report the issue to KDAA via one of the many contact points available to them (email or phone). Where any member is confronted by a hazard or a risk that cannot be adequately controlled or avoided, they should not proceed to fish in that area.

**IF IN DOUBT ABOUT YOUR OR OTHERS SAFETY FROM A HAZARD YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED OR DISCOVERED, DO PROCEED OR FISH IN THAT AREA, REPORT THE HAZARD TO KDAA OFFICIALS IMMEDIATELY.**

Members should be aware that the purpose of the risk assessment which follows, is to identify foreseeable risks which may be encountered by the club and/or individual members. It cannot be an exhaustive list, but it will be reviewed to reflect any changes in risk annually or when circumstances change or are reported to KDAA.



## Methodology

This risk assessment aims to identify potential hazards and the likelihood of persons coming to harm through the activity of attending and fishing at KDAA club waters. Club Officials should be mindful that we have a moral duty of care to ensure the safety and wellbeing of others and that we should take all reasonable steps to protect people from foreseeable harm.

## Definitions

**Hazard** – Something with the potential to cause harm

**Likelihood** – The probability of something being likely to occur

**Risk** – Where the combination of a foreseeable hazard and the likelihood of something occurring combine to present a risk to persons.

**Severity** – The recognition of the potential injury or outcome that a risk may present, this may range from a small graze to the loss of life.

**Control Measures** - The action of reducing the severity or seriousness of risks through reasonably practical interventions i.e. life jackets to be worn on boats.

The table below is simply a guide to define the risk category for those hazards identified, it should be noted that this is not a scientific calculation but based on individual perception and as such should be reviewed annually or where there is a change to the environment where the work will take place.

	Likelihood					Severity	Likelihood
Severity	1	2	3	4	5	1 = Insignificant – no or slight injury	1 = Very Unlikely
	2	4	6	8	10	2 = Minor – small cuts or bruises	2 = Unlikely
	3	6	9	12	15	3 = Significant – medical treatment needed	3 = Possible
	4	8	12	16	20	4 = Serious – emergency medical treatment	4 = Likely
	5	10	15	20	25	5 = Severe – death or permanent injury	5 = Very Likely



No:	Hazard	Assumes no control measures in place			Control Measures	Assessment of residual risk with control measures		
		Severity	Likelihood	Risk		Severity	Likelihood	Risk
1	Ground/underfoot conditions on club waters, slip and trip hazards. The natural rural settings at club waters will offer a number of ground conditions, from grass and mud to hard gravel or wooden swims. These may on occasion be wet and may become slippery or contain exposed tree roots or loose ground.	2	3	6	Anglers should make their own assessment of underfoot conditions prior using a swim or peg. Anglers should be mindful that trip hazards that may be present. Anglers should wear suitable footwear for the ground conditions.	2	2	4
2	Weather conditions on site, may include rain, cold or strong winds. Conversely sunny and hot conditions may prevail. Anglers may suffer from the effects of being cold and wet or experience heat stress or sun burn. High winds present greater hazards from tree branches that may fall or lightweight equipment or debris being blown about. Carbon Fiber Rods & Poles during thunder & lightning	2	3	6	Where severe weather is expected or prevails on the day, Anglers should consider if the prevailing conditions are suitable or safe for angling. Where cold, wet or hot conditions prevail, anglers should make use of suitable clothing to protect them from the effects of weather. Anglers should recognise the benefits of using sun cream and staying hydrated. Avoid the use of carbon fibre rods during thunder storms.	2	2	4
3	Personal injury sustained through using personal angling equipment (hooks etc.), such as minor cuts or bruises.	2	3	6	Anglers should consider bringing their own first aid equipment and treat any cuts or grazes with clean water and antiseptic.	2	2	4



No:	Hazard	Assumes no control measures in place			Control Measures	Assessment of residual risk with control measures		
		Severity	Likelihood	Risk		Severity	Likelihood	Risk
4	Falling into the water from the bank, risk of drowning, cold water shock, hypothermia.	5	2	10	Bankside swims are generally flat ground with easy access and generally free from trip hazards. Wading is generally prohibited other than for fish welfare. If an angler needs to wade to recover or land a hooked fish, they should be wearing appropriate waders and remain within wading depth (life jackets are also preferable but this will be a choice of the angler). Club waters have life rings stationed around the lakes for use in the event of an emergency. <b>Always call the KDAA Bailiff or KDAA for assistance.</b>	2	2	4
5	Litter and waste and discarded lines or hooks found in swims. Risk of cuts and grazes or contamination from rotting waste or hidden excrement.	2	3	6	Club rules are clear on the need to remove litter when leaving a swim. Where anglers discover littering, they should report this to the Bailiff. Soap, water and hand sanitiser to be used after handling litter.	1	3	3
6	Weil's Disease and water borne pathogens. At water margins there is a risk of coming into contact with water borne pathogens, these can enter the body through small cuts or by hand to mouth contact.	3	2	6	Care should be taken with personal hygiene whilst fishing. Existing cuts should be covered. Individuals should wash their hands and use hand sanitiser after contact and before eating and drinking.	3	1	3



No:	Hazard	Assumes no control measures in place			Control Measures	Assessment of residual risk with control measures		
		Severity	Likelihood	Risk		Severity	Likelihood	Risk
7	Avian Flu risk from dead birds or bird faeces found around the banks. Avian Flu may present a seasonal risk to UK birds and those birds may frequent KDAA waters and as such they may present a small risk to human health.	5	2	10	Anglers should not touch dead birds found on the bank side and report the findings to the bailiff. KDAA to report to DEFRA via online portal for corpse collection. Individuals should wash their hands and use hand sanitiser after contact and before eating and drinking.	5	1	5
8	Large animals (Horses) on land adjacent to swims (Silver End Back Pit). Anglers share bank space with domesticated horses, where there is a slight risk to persons from horses, i.e. kicking, biting.	3	2	6	Anglers are informed by signs on field gates that horses are present within the field and that other horse free areas are available should the angler not wish to share the space with horses.	3	1	3
9	Night fishing with Juniors, risk to junior members being left alone (not accompanied) at night by parent or guardian members	5	2	10	<b>See KDAA Rule that specifies the strict rules around parent/junior night fishing.</b> The junior member must be “accompanied”, being in the same swim or closely adjacent swim.	5	1	5
10	Working Parties or Contractors on site, risk from machinery and or moving vehicles.	5	2	10	KDAA close waters and warn/inform members of working parties. Working party members to speak directly with all on site anglers if the water remains open, to remind and inform them of the potential hazards. Safe working distances to be maintained.	5	1	5



No:	Hazard	Assumes no control measures in place			Control Measures	Assessment of residual risk with control measures		
		Severity	Likelihood	Risk		Severity	Likelihood	Risk
11	Anglers/Members vehicles and driving on tracks and within Car Parks may present a risk to pedestrians (anglers) or members of the public where access rights of way exist. Elm Farm has roadside parking with the risk of moving vehicles.	5	2	10	KDAA recommend all members drive motor vehicles slowly and considerately whilst on KDAA waters. Parking should always be in the designated areas and members should park courteously with regard to access and other members. KDAA Recommend drivers remain under 10mph whilst on club waters with the exception of Layer Marney Complex where a strict 5mph speed limit is in force adjacent to the private homes.	5	1	5
12	Lone Angling – members may spend long periods alone on club waters and be removed from areas with general public access. There are no permanently on-site bailiffs or volunteers at KDAA waters.	5	2	10	If anglers are fishing alone, they should inform a partner/family member or other contact of their fishing location and times they expect to return. Anglers should always check local weather conditions before setting off and take extra care when thunderstorms are forecast. Always take a mobile phone (if owned) and consider how and if you can contact emergency services or KDAA should the need arise. Club water locations are listed at the end of this Risk Assessment in appendix 1.	5	1	5



No:	Hazard	Assumes no control measures in place			Control Measures	Assessment of residual risk with control measures		
		Severity	Likelihood	Risk		Severity	Likelihood	Risk
13	Electrical Fences and Overhead Power Lines, risk of electrical shock from touching Electric Fences or fishing poles or rods coming into contact with Overhead Power Lines.	5	1	5	KDAA currently have one water, Pennetts Farm where members are required to turn off an electrical stock fence. This is achieved by utilising a switch that is sign posted. There are currently no Overhead Power lines that span KDAA waters that present a hazard to anglers fishing poles.	5	1	5

Completed for and on behalf of Kelvedon District Angling Association Committee

*Mark Wilson* – Fisheries Manager KDAA

27<sup>th</sup> November 2025

\*Next review date 1<sup>st</sup> November 2026.





## KDAA Water Location Details in the event of an emergency

<b><u>Elm Farm Reservoir</u></b>	Entrance	Elm Lane, Colchester CO6 1HU
What 3 Words Location –	Roadway	<a href="#">///sleepless.stew.tonight</a>
<b><u>Hunts Farm Reservoir</u></b>	Entrance	Station Road, Tollesbury CM9 8RD
What 3 Words Location –	Gate	<a href="#">///strictest.skunks.centuries</a>
What 3 Words Location –	Reservoir	<a href="#">///cushy.rinsed.clincher</a>
<b><u>Layer Marney Complex</u></b>	Entrance	Haynes Green Road CO5 9UF
What 3 Words Location –	Entrance	<a href="#">///limped.irrigated.cafe</a>
What 3 Words Location –	Car Park	<a href="#">///snapping.merely.direct</a>
<b><u>Pennett's Farm Reservoir</u></b>	Entrance	Witham road CM8 1RG
What 3 Words Location –	Gate	<a href="#">///fallback.tonsils.cheater</a>
What 3 Words Location –	Car Park	<a href="#">///robe.barstool.skate</a>
<b><u>Seabrooks Reservoir</u></b>	Entrance	Church Lane, Little Leighs CM13 1PQ
What 3 Words Location –	Car Park	<a href="#">///otter.reward.pinch</a>
<b><u>Shemmings Pond</u></b>	Entrance	Opposite Shemmings Farm CO2 ONY
What 3 Words Location –	Car Park	<a href="#">///bandwagon.motels.chaos</a>
<b><u>Silver End Pits</u></b>	Entrance	Western Road Silver End CM8 3ZD
What 3 Words Location –	Main Gate	<a href="#">///plump.spelled.restored</a>

Kelvedon & District Angling Association



What 3 Words Location – Front Pit [///appraised.lunging.desktop](http://appraised.lunging.desktop)

What 3 Words Location – Back Pit [///tanked.trooper.kiosk](http://tanked.trooper.kiosk)