



Angling Match Risk Assessment

Newtown Angling Club (Bracknell) is committed to maintaining the safety of those who fish Newtown Angling Club matches and maintain Newtown Angling Club match venues.

Newtown Angling Club wants all involved to enjoy angling matches without incident or harm and remind all involved that we all have a responsibility for our own and each others safety.

All activities carry risk which Newtown Angling Club is committed to managing as far as reasonably practicable. Officials, members and guest anglers have a duty of care to themselves and others. and must follow the Newtown Angling Club and match venue safety requirements at all times.

| Hazard | Person(s) at risk | Potential consequences | Control measures to take in order to mitigate hazard. | Additional measures |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| Slippery swims, banks, paths | Angler | Fall | Wear the appropriate footwear with good grip and be particularly careful in wet or icy conditions | Always carry a mobile phone while fishing. If conditions are too hazardous then do not fish the swim. Inform the event organise and owner of the venue of potential hazards. |
| Falling into water | Angler | Drowning, hypothermia | Wear appropriate footwear, especially in wet or icy conditions. Take extra care near the edge of the bank. | Avoid waters edge, assess for any trip hazards |
| Wading in water | Angler | Drowning, hypothermia | There is no angling match restriction on fishing from the bank. Anglers may wade or use a platform if required, but must be able to touch the bankside. | Wading is a considerable risk to the angler and should be avoided. If you plan to enter the water only do so in the presence of another angler. |
| Conflict with others | Angler and other water users | Abuse and physical injury | Be aware of other bank and water users that may be passing during the event. Where possible step aside and let them pass. If confrontation develops remain calm and | |



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|------------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|---|
| | | | summon help as quickly as possible, | |
| Water borne diseases and pollution | Angler | Becoming sick or unwell from contact with the water or polluted material | Carry anti-bacterial hand sanitiser and ensure hands are washed before eating. Keep hand away from mouth and eyes. Cover any cuts and grazes before starting fishing, Wash hands thoroughly after fishing. Avoid outlets e.g. storm water overflows. | Wear protective gloves when collecting litter. Use litter pickers to handle litter wherever possible. Weil's disease is carried in rats urine. Symptoms include but are not limited to: fever, chills, headaches, nausea, and vomiting. Do not put your hand in your mouth after immersing in river water, and never place bait or fishing line in your mouth. |
| Access | Angler | Injury | Only use obvious paths along the bank, Do not use paths which are closed off for any reason. Beware of slippery, uneven surfaces, tree roots etc. Particularly in bad weather. Use the gates and stiles available and do not climb fences. Be aware of overhanging branches particularly at eye level. Beware of unstable banks. | |
| Weather conditions | Angler | Injury | Lightning can kill. Leave the water if you become aware of lightning. Your rod may be the highest point around and a prime target for a lightning strike. Be constantly aware of changing weather and it's consequences. Stay hydrated and use sunscreen when necessary. | |



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| | | | Fishing under trees can be unsafe in windy conditions. Beware of falling branches. Be vigilant for storm damaged areas where trees and their surroundings may be unsafe. | |
| Casting | Angler and others | Injury | Be aware of your surroundings and any others nearby. You are responsible for ensuring your back cast does not make contact with anyone else. Wear eye protection. Use caution when handling and casting hooks, lures and flies. Particularly if weighted. | |
| Power lines, pylons | Angler | Electrocution | Electricity can kill and can arc over considerable distances. Do not fish near power lines and pylons. Pay attention and adhere to warning signs and restrictions. | Carry a mobile with you at all times to contact emergency services. |
| Junior anglers | Angler | Injury | Junior anglers shall fish “double” draw swims with their parent or guardian. The junior angler is to fish (upstream on rivers and canals) within sight of their parent or guardian. | The “double” draw shall take place before the main event drawer. |
| Disabled and elderly anglers | Angler | Injury | Disabled and elderly anglers with “limited mobility” may request to fish swims that is near nearest to car parking. | The “limited mobility” draw shall take place before the main event drawer. Having requested a “limited mobility” draw the angler shall fish all matches with a “limited mobility” draw, |

Risk assessment completed for 2025/2026. Next review date 01/06/2026.