

The Barbel Society Safety & Risk Assessment Statement:

General risks associated with angling on Barbel Society Fisheries:

All Barbel Society members, officials (committee, fishery managers and bailiffs), visiting anglers fishing under day ticket arrangement and accompanying family members, as member guests, should make themselves aware of the risks they face in the surroundings they find themselves in and carry out their own risk assessment which generally amounts to common sense and taking appropriate action to ensure their own safety and that of others.

It is however the duty of The Barbel Society to advise those referred to above with the principals of safety and risk assessment. Specific risks associated with The Barbel Society Fisheries can be found under the Fisheries tab on our website. These must be read in conjunction with our Fishery Rules and the Barbel Handling Code (together with the supplement for extreme hot weather) and followed at all times whilst on Society fisheries.

Therefore, it is a requirement that all of the above mentioned individuals read, understand and accept this Safety and Risk Assessment Statement.

Additional risks associated with bailiff duties and working party volunteers:

Bailliffs and volunteers for working parties are not employees of the Barbel Society and therefore health and safety law does not normally apply. However, the Barbel Society may still have duties under civil law.

Under the common law, voluntary organisations and individual volunteers have a duty of care to each other and others who may be affected by their activities. Where something goes wrong, individuals may, in some cases, sue for damages using the civil law if they are injured as a result of another person's negligence (the Barbel Society may be a person in this case).

Many of the activities carried out by volunteers will be low risk. However, bailiffs and working party volunteers may also be involved in higher-risk activities (see risk assessments). Where the risk is higher the risk assessment the Society has made is proportionate and considers these additional hazards that individuals may be exposed to.

Additional factors to be considered by Fishery Managers in running working parties that are engaging volunteer members on their fisheries include:

- Plan and prepare the activity effectively so you know how many volunteers are attending and how such volunteers will be deployed;
- Match the task to the individual by checking they have the capability, confidence and competence to do the activity;
- Make sure effective supervision and monitoring arrangements are in place;
- Make sure accidents and near misses involving volunteers are recorded and followed up;
- Make sure your volunteers are covered by the Society's insurance policy.