



**MATLOCK  
RAFT EVENT**

# **PRE-EVENT SAFETY BRIEF**

2022



**Lifeboats**

Fundraising in aid of the RNLI

# SAFETY NOTES

Notes of particular importance have been flagged up by the event Insurance Companies, please take notice now to avoid lengthy arguments later.

**MINIMUM AGE is 18 for ALL RAFTERS.**

Please be aware we do still have to take COVID into account so if applicable, follow government advice on the day.

Some of you are entering the event for the first time, some of you have been here before, and both are welcome. Should you have any issues with the organisation of this charity event please do not remonstrate with any of the staff on site, they have a job to do which does not include complaints department. Bring your complaints to a DASAC meeting and address them to the chairman where they will be dealt with in the correct manner.

If you don't understand any part of this brief, please raise this immediately.

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# BE AWARE OF...

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## The possibility of ice along the course

If there is any ice on bridges or trees and it drops on you it can cause serious injury.

## The risks of hypothermia

All rafters will be checked as to the correct apparel for the occasion at the start point – **Wet Suit, Semi-Dry** or **Dry Suit**. These **MUST** be worn at all times. No suit, no event, no argument.

## The effects of immersion into cold water

Even when protected by wearing a wet/semi or dry suit, prolonged periods in water at this time of the year can be fatal.

## Entering fast flowing water

You could get separated from your raft, if you do, swim to the nearest safe bank, get out of the water and rejoin your raft when safe to do so.

## Uncharted under water obstacles

They will take the form of rocks, or other man-made obstacles in the river, which could hurt the unsuspecting swimmer.

## Missiles

Thrown by other river users and spectators. Eggs and flour are banned and will be confiscated.

**NO WATER PUMPS ALLOWED.** There will be a search of the rafts at the start and police surveillance en route for spectators.

## Possible injuries at the weir

If in doubt let the raft go over on its own, leave the water, walk round by the path, the raft will descend on its own, then pick it up when convenient at the bottom, this part of the course is potentially the most dangerous.

## The Raft Event Risk Assessment

Read it **NOW**. In accordance with the requirements of the event organisers, for the satisfaction of the Emergency Plan, Health & Safety, and the Event Insurers, please make yourselves aware of the content of this risk assessment.

## The Raft Event Rules

A set of raft event rules have been prepared – these **must** be read and understood before going in the water with the raft.

ALL rafts must be taken away at the end of the event. Whatever you bring with you, please take home.