

## Risk Assessment for Orienteering



Risk assessments are concerned with identifying the hazards (i.e. things which might go wrong or cause an accident/injury), evaluating the likelihood of a particular event occurring (i.e. level of risk) and putting measures in place needed to reduce or eliminate the risk.

Event	<b>Closed Local – Royal Victoria Country Park</b>	Event Registration Number	
Date of event	<b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020</b>	Event Level	<b>Local (Level D) Closed to Club Members</b>
Venue	<b>Royal Victoria Country Park, Southampton</b>	Organising Club	<b>Southampton Orienteering Club</b>
Name of person in charge	<b>Peter Davis</b>	Position	<b>Event Organiser</b>
Name of person completing this form	<b>Peter Davis</b>	Position	<b>Event Organiser</b>
Signature		Risk assessment dated	
Risk assessment checked by		Position	
Signature		Date	

### Emergency Information

<b>Emergency access point (for emergency vehicles)</b>	<b>Grid reference: SU466075</b> <b>Lat/Long 50.865810,-1.339189</b> <b>What3Words: traded.fees.torch</b>	<b>Place from which signed:</b> <b>NA</b>
<b>Nearest A&amp;E hospital:</b>	<b>Name and Post code:</b> Southampton General Hospital SO16 6YD Distance 9.2 miles. Journey time 28 minutes.	<b>Map available (where):</b> At Event Centre.
<b>Working telephone:</b>	<b>Landline or mobile:</b> mobile. <b>If mobile (reception checked?)</b> Yes, good reception in area	<b>Number:</b> 0774 898 4748
<b>First Aid cover</b>	<b>Name of first aider:</b> Self help. First Aid kit available	<b>Located where?</b> <b>At Finish</b>
<b>Search Plan</b>	<b>Generic search plan</b> Missing competitors identified by Results official	<b>Contact number printed on map - yes</b> <b>Course closing time – 19:30</b> <b>Individuals who would stay to carry out a search:</b> Control collectors and late shift helpers <b>Emergency copies of all course maps plus an ‘all controls’ map held by organiser?</b> Yes, available at the Event Centre. <b>Sunset:</b> 20:01

## The Risk Assessment

It is essential that the mitigation column is completed in detail so that the control measures and who is responsible is fully understood in advance of the activity / session / event and that all staff / helpers are fully briefed.

**NB: it is not sufficient only to put warnings in preliminary information as there is no way of being sure that all participants will have read them.**

Hazard	Possible outcome / injury		Mitigation	
	Notes on potential severity	Likelihood at this event	What control measure?	Who is Responsible?
<b>Equipment and Organisation In assembly areas, starts and finish</b>				
• Emergency access	Emergency access route blocked by vehicles, tents, etc	MEDIUM	Area fully accessible to the public	Organiser
• Electrical Equipment and Cables	Electrical shock – serious injury or death Tripping – minor injury	LOW	Leisure battery.	Organiser
• Petrol / Diesel Generators	Carbon monoxide poisoning – serious injury or death Fire – serious injury or death	NONE	No generator.	
• Tents / guy ropes	Tripping – minor injury	NONE	No tent	
• Flags	Entangle overhead cables – serious injury or death	NONE	No overhead cables in start and finish locations	
• Canes / stakes	Poked in eye – major injury	NONE	None in use	
• Cooking equipment	Fire or scalding – serious injury or death	NONE	None in use	
<b>In event area</b>				
• Uneven surfaces • Slippery surfaces • Tree roots/branches	Tripping / slipping – minor injury	LOW	Courses appropriate to those taking part. Suitable footwear advice in Final Details. First aid kit available.	Planner, communicated via final details Organiser
• Slopes/steps	Falls – minor, or possibly major, injury	LOW	Courses appropriate to those taking part. Country Park - flat ground. First aid kit available.	Planner Organiser
• Vegetation (prickly, stinging)	Scratches or stings – trivial injury	LOW	Full leg and torso cover mandated in Final Details.	Competitor/ Organiser
• Wire / ruined fences	Scratches – minor injury	LOW	Fences marked on map	Planner
• Walls to be climbed	Slipping – minor injury Falling – major injury	NONE	None in competition area.	N/A
• Litter (glass, used needles)	Glass cut – minor injury Needle-borne infection – major injury	LOW	Warning in Final Details	Organiser
• Water (Marshes, ponds)	Drowning – serious injury or death	LOW	Marshes and ponds clearly marked on map. Beginner courses cross water features at suitable locations.	Planner
• High walls, unguarded steep edges	Falling – serious injury or death	NONE	None in area	
• Traffic (including road crossings)	Collision between runner and vehicle – serious injury or death	LOW	10mph speed limit and speed bumps in park. Warning in Final Details	Organiser
• Rail / tram lines	Collision between runner and vehicle – serious injury or death	NONE	None in competition area	N/A
• Mineshafts / caves	Falling – serious injury or death	NONE	None in competition area	N/A
• Military debris	Trips, cuts, scratches – minor injury Explosion – serious injury or death	LOW	None identified in competition area	N/A
• Wildlife	Kicks / bites from wild / roaming animals if disturbed / frightened	NONE	None in competition area	
• Power lines	No HV cables in area.	NONE	None in competition area	N/A
<b>Participant</b>				
• Clothing / shoes	Poor temperature control – see 'Heat' and 'Cold' Slipping or twisting ankle – minor injury	LOW	Clothing suitable for walking/running in woods and parkland.	Competitor

Hazard	Possible outcome / injury		Mitigation	
	Notes on potential severity	Likelihood at this event	What control measure?	Who is Responsible?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing medical conditions</li> <li>Unexpected reactions/allergies</li> </ul>	Sudden serious illness or death	LOW	First aid kit available. A&E details held in Event Centre	Organiser
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lost competitor</li> </ul>	Unable to locate self or find way back to finish..	LOW	Area well bordered by roads, area open so good visibility of other runners. No novices at event. Entry/results system monitors for missing competitors. Missing competitor procedure available in Event Folder.	Competitor/ Organiser
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disorientation (inc caused by tiredness)</li> </ul>	Longer exposure to heat/cold than planned for – usually minor (see 'Heat' and 'Cold' for major considerations) Lost – stumble across hazard off-map or away from courses resulting in injury - usually minor (see individual hazards for major considerations) Lost – unable to find way back	MEDIUM	Courses appropriate to those taking part.	Planner
		MEDIUM		
		MEDIUM		
<b>Other people/activities in area</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General public</li> <li>Cyclists</li> <li>Horse riders</li> </ul>	Runner collides with walker Collision with cyclist – minor injury Collision with horse – minor injury	LOW LOW NONE	Competitor's advised to take care.	Competitor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walking dogs</li> </ul>	Attacked by uncontrolled dog – major injury	LOW	First aid kit available.	Organiser
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forest maintenance</li> </ul>	Machinery/ Falling tree/Log piles – major injury	NONE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shooting / archery</li> </ul>	Accidental shooting – serious injury or death	NONE	None permitted in area	N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stranger danger</li> </ul>	Vulnerable person injured by stranger	LOW	Warning given in briefing. Competitors made aware. BO O-Safe guidelines referred to.	Organiser
<b>Weather</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heat / sun</li> </ul>	Heatstroke – serious injury or death	LOW	Any hot weather warnings to be stated in Final Details	Organiser
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cold / rain / snow / hail / ice</li> </ul>	Hypothermia – serious injury or death Slippery surfaces – major injury	LOW LOW	Late August event.	Organiser
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excessive wind</li> <li>Lightning</li> </ul>	Wind blown items / falling branches – major injury Lightning strike – major injury	LOW	Plan for event cancellation via if necessary	Organiser

**Throughout the risk assessment, the following have been used as guidelines for 'likelihood'**

HIGH = might reasonably expect this to happen to at least one person during the event

MEDIUM = might reasonably expect this to happen at least once during a season

LOW = might reasonably expect never to see this even in many years of such events

NONE = not applicable because the risk does not exist. Included as confirmation that the risk has been assessed.