

Risk assessment

Name of activity, event, and location	Cranham Scout Centre Tomahawks and Small Hawks (Mini Angels) on the Archery Range	Date of risk assessment	11/11/2025	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Brandon Ely Operations Manager
		Date of next review	11/11/2026		

What could go wrong? What hazard have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	What are you going to do about it? How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed? How will they be communicated to young people and adults and remain inclusive to all needs? The Session Leader will...	Review & revise What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
Inadequate instruction and/or control of participants, causing distraction, leading to accident/injury.	Instructors & Participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the instructor has completed an appropriate training course and holds a current first-aid qualification. Have a group-specific risk assessment in place prior to the session. Ensure that you have the correct instructor/participant ratio ensure there is at least one responsible adult, in addition to the Session Leader, to help manage behaviour. 	
Danger from a thrown axe.	Instructors, participants and spectators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the range is laid out in accordance with FS120011. (Published November 2024, replacing January 2022). 	
Defective equipment causing injury.	Instructors & Participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check all equipment before and after the session and remove any faulty axes from use. Report any damage to the Operations Manager. 	
Release of the axe behind the thrower, causing injury.	Instructors & Participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that axes are held correctly. Ensure that spectators stand to the side of the throwers and not directly behind them. 	

You can find more information in the Safety checklist for Section Volunteers and at scouts.org.uk/safety

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Injury caused by dropping an axe blade.	Instructors & participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruct participants to wear suitable footwear, i.e., walking boots, before the event. 	
Slips, trips and falls causing injury.	Instructors & Participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that all participants walk when on the range. 	
Injury due to unsafe transport/handling of equipment.	Instructors & Participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that axes are sheaved and carried across site in a locked box. Ensure that when an individual axe is handled it is held to the side of a person, by the head, with the sharp edge away from the body Ensure the axes are locked away securely. 	
Injury caused by an axe blade.	Instructors & Participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure there is a first-aid box. Report any accidents or near misses either via the QR code displayed on site or, failing that, directly to the Operations Manager. 	

Review due:-

A risk assessment needs reviewing if circumstances change but also schedule regular reviews to ensure they are current, recommended every 12 months? The review must include a detailed look at each element of the risk assessment in order to establish if any change is required.

Don't forget, as part of your programme planning, you should have contingency activities in reserve just in case you can't do what was planned or you need to stop half way through. Make sure this is shared with those involved, so everyone knows how to respond. You should have risk assessed contingency activities prior to them taking place and communicated key information to those involved as with all activities.

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