



### 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.

<b>Name of Club / satellite club name / after school club</b>		Harlequins Orienteering Club	
<b>Name of person completing this form</b>	David Williams	<b>Position of person completing this form (coach, organiser etc)</b>	Event organiser
<b>Venue for session / event / activity</b>	Burlish Top and Burlish Meadows	<b>Date for session / event / activity</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
<b>Name of person in charge of session / event / activity</b>		David Williams	
<b>Risk assessment signed</b>		<b>Risk assessment dated</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
<b>Risk assessment checked by (name, position and date)</b>	<b>Print name &amp; position (coach mentor, controller etc):</b>		Robert Vickers, Land Access Coordinator
			8 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
	<b>Sign and date:</b>		

### Emergency Information

<b>Emergency access point (for emergency vehicles)</b>	<b>Postcode / grid reference:</b> S0810731 Nearest postcode DY11 7DY	<b>Place from which signed:</b> N/A
<b>Nearest A&amp;E hospital:</b>	<b>Name and Postcode:</b> Kidderminster General (minor injuries only) – 01562 823424 Royal Worcester (full A&E) – 01905 763333	<b>Map available (where):</b> At event registration
<b>Working telephone:</b>	<b>Landline or mobile:</b> <b>If mobile (reception checked?) Yes</b>	<b>Number:</b> 0793 478 9689

**First Aid cover**

**Name of first aider:** Robert Vickers. First aid kit available.

**Located where?** At start/finish

## 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 – note under these headings (see suggested examples to consider)	Possible outcome / injury including note on severity and likelihood of occurrence	Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What control measure?</li> <li>• Who is responsible?</li> </ul>
<p><b>In area to be used (indoor / outdoor)</b></p> <p>Rough ground, slopes, vegetation.</p> <p>Area is former military ground; some old pits, walls, rubble piles, memorial markers and foundations remain.</p> <p>Small but deep brick lined drainage pits around former operating theatre and possibly other building bases</p> <p>Maintained Fences – substantial barb-wire topped and (potentially) electrified</p> <p>Two road crossings – first on way to start, second while on course.</p> <p>Pond</p>	<p>Minor scratches/trips/falls</p> <p>Falls, trips, bruising</p> <p>Cuts, broken limbs, heavy falls with concussion</p> <p>Cuts, sprains/twisted limbs, electric shock</p> <p>Road is busy, cars drive fast. Severe injury/Death arising from impact with vehicle.</p> <p>Risk of drowning – unlikely</p>	<p>Normal orienteering terrain. Participants to wear appropriate clothing (full body cover) and footwear. (Competitors)</p> <p>Competitors briefed (DDW)</p> <p>Courses planned to avoid (where not marked on map). Competitors briefed (DDW)</p> <p>Course planned to avoid need to cross fences except at gates and stiles, which are shown on the map. (DDW)</p> <p>Crossing sites chosen so approaching vehicles are visible. “Runners Crossing” warning signs placed in appropriate positions. Competitors briefed. Younger junior runners must be accompanied by adult. (DDW)</p> <p>Pond is shown on the map and is fenced.</p>
<p><b>Participants/Control Collectors</b></p> <p>Age and experience</p> <p>Disorientation/tiredness</p> <p>Possible medical problems</p>	<p>Getting lost in the dark</p> <p>Getting lost/cold</p> <p>Cold/exposure, dehydration,</p>	<p>Minimum age 16 unaccompanied. Check if all participants have experience of night orienteering and offer guidance if not. DDW</p> <p>Water for emergency use at Finish DDW</p> <p>Advice to wear/carry appropriate clothing. DDW</p> <p>Waterproof, hooded top will be compulsory in case of rain, snow or other inclement conditions.</p>

Control Collection in dark	Hyperthermia  All above	Adequate lighting to be carried (including a spare torch) Whistles compulsory Mobile phone advised. Manned finish. No clearance of site until all accounted for. Two people to remain at Finish until collectors safely back. DDW
Pre-registration required	Predominantly adults experienced in night orienteering.	Briefing for any “newcomers”. No “under 16” participants unless accompanied by a responsible adult. DDW
<b>Coronavirus infection</b>	Possible respiratory illness. Latest data suggests that current variant generally causes relatively mild symptoms in fully vaccinated people.	Suitable outdoor venue with parking for registration and download to be identified DDW Competitors asked to maintain social distance at registration and to pay in a contactless manner. DDW
<b>Other people/activities in area</b>  Dog walkers, mountain bikers etc.  Youth, Trade and “Local Characters”  Cattle – There may be cattle in the meadows.	  Trips, bites, collision – severity and likelihood low  Interference and attack – Low risk  Impact and crush injury from spooked or aggressive cattle.	  Participants advised to take due care when encountering other location users.  While close to habitation, the area does not appear to be frequented after dark except by legitimate users,  Cattle are a docile breed used to walkers and dogs. Typically they will ignore runners. Competitors briefed not to approach or “confine”, not to shout or wave arms and to observe behaviour and avoid if cattle give signs of being stressed, aggression or “wishing to play”. If cattle are around a control site competitor may claim control without punching.
<b>Weather</b> Cold and wet conditions possible	Hypothermia	Participants to wear appropriate clothing for the conditions and carry whistles. Mobile phone recommended. Organiser’s number will be on the map.
<b>Equipment</b> No significant risk with SI controls and stakes		

## Examples of hazards with the potential to cause harm

**NB: this list is not exhaustive; nor will all these be present. It is given as an aid to the person completing the risk assessment.**

<p><b>Area to be used: Indoors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Floor surface</li> <li>• Other equipment/obstacles</li> <li>• Shared use (dining room / other activities)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Area to be used: Outdoors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uneven surfaces</li> <li>• Slopes/steps</li> <li>• Slippery surfaces</li> <li>• Tree roots/branches</li> <li>• Vegetation (prickly, stinging)</li> <li>• Wire / ruined fences</li> <li>• Walls to be climbed</li> <li>• Litter (glass, used needles)</li> <li>• Water (streams, rivers, ponds)</li> <li>• Cliffs / crags</li> <li>• Traffic (including road crossings)</li> <li>• Rail / tram lines</li> <li>• Mineshafts / caves</li> <li>• Military debris</li> </ul>	<p><b>Equipment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pencils in hand when running</li> <li>• Pin punches</li> <li>• Cane tops</li> <li>• Tent guys</li> <li>• Electrical equipment – cables</li> <li>• Generators</li> <li>• Cooking equipment</li> </ul>
<p><b>Participants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clothing / shoes</li> <li>• Existing medical conditions</li> <li>• Unexpected reactions/allergies</li> <li>• Disorientation</li> <li>• Tiredness</li> </ul>	<p><b>Other people / activities in area:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking dogs</li> <li>• Cyclists</li> <li>• Horse riders</li> <li>• Forestry operations</li> <li>• Park maintenance</li> <li>• Shooting / archery</li> <li>• Golf</li> <li>• Stranger danger</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weather:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cold / heat</li> <li>• Rain / snow / hail</li> <li>• Excessive wind</li> <li>• Lightning</li> </ul>