

Activity Risk Assessment

Name of activity, event, and location	Air Rifle Shooting Hertfordshire Scout Activity Centres	Date of risk assessment	October 2025	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Katy Pearce EM HCSC Reviewed by: Doug Stack ACM HCSC
		Date of next review	October 2026		

Hazard- what could go wrong?	Who is at risk?	Assessment of risk	Control measures in place	Remaining risk using control measures
Misuse of Rifle	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All instructors must hold a NSRA YPS qualification and be over 21 years old or have someone over 21 years old present at all times. Participants are told that rifles must be pointed down the range at all times. Safety cord must be kept in barrels when rifle is not in use. In the safety briefing, participants must be provided with a clear demonstration of how to load/fire the rifle correctly. Participants must be able to hold and control the rifle safely before shooting commences. Equipment must not be left unsupervised and must be locked away when not in use. 	Low
Misuse of pellets	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pellets must be in control of the instructor at all times. Pellets must be kept in sealed container and instructors must limit the number issued. Anyone that has handled a pellet must wash their hands after the session prior to consuming food. 	Low
Hit by pellet when inspecting and replacing the target	Participants, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure participants have clear instruction on process. All rifles must be checked by the instructor, for pellets, before participants inspect/replace the target. Any rifles left cocked must be discharged safely by the instructor. Participants await instructors permission before walking down the range. 	Low
Someone entering range or crossing shooting line	Person who is on the range	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ranges are enclosed with clear physical boundaries. Participants must be made aware of the 'stop' command during the safety briefing. 	Low
Injury from pellets to the eye	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals on the shooting line must be wearing the safety goggles provided. 	Low

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Weather	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centre Management Team/Lead Instructors must check weather at start of day and monitor throughout. Sessions must be stopped if wind speeds exceed 24mph, dependant on location. Sessions must be stopped immediately in thunder and lightning, and wait for 30 minutes after end of storm, before recommencing. Sessions to be cancelled in extreme hot or cold temperatures. 	Low
Uncontrolled groups of young people	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep all young people involved sitting down while not participating. Groups must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Group leader is responsible for managing the groups behaviour as stated in the booking terms and conditions. 	Low
Self-led sessions/ equipment	Participants, Leaders	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group leader is responsible to ensure that those with own permits/qualifications must have completed and signed a Self-Led Activity Registration Form for the activity. Up-to-date permits/qualifications must be uploaded. Supervising adult must be shown the activity area/activity equipment by centre staff before commencing the activity or been provided an alternative method. An additional competent adult should be present supervising individuals that are not engaged on the activity. Those with own permits/qualifications are responsible for their own risk assessment in addition to this risk assessment. When using own equipment individuals are responsible for their own risk assessment ranges must be set-up and run to HCSC standard operating procedureS. 	Low
Clients with additional abilities/pre- existing health issues	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group leader must provide information about significant medical requirements and additional needs during the booking process Instructors should discuss any needs with group leaders before the session is started. Lead instructors/management should review information and make any specific adaptations, determined with an individual risk assessment. Group leader is responsible for having access to essential medication i.e. inhalers. Participants with a history of injuries should be warned about the physical nature of taking part in this activity and have read the activity information before starting. 	Low
Novice participants	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ratio of 1 instructor and at least one competent adult per 15 participants. Safety briefing given at the start of the session to identify the specific hazards and safety rules to follow and reinforced throughout. 	Low

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Failure of equipment	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly equipment checks are carried out. Routine visual inspections completed and signed for at the start of the day and before each session by the activities team. If the activity equipment has a defect during use, the activity must be stopped immediately until repairs are completed, safety checks carried out and verified so activity can recommence. This must be recorded appropriately. 	Low
Poorly maintained activity area	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly activity area checks are carried out. Routine visual inspections completed and signed for at the start of the day and before each session by the activities team. If the activity area has a defect during use, the activity must be stopped immediately until repairs are completed, safety checks carried out and verified so activity can recommence. This must be recorded appropriately. 	Low
General Injury	Participants, Leaders, Instructors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups are responsible for their own first aid. Groups must have someone adequately trained and have a suitable first aid kit. Additional first aid kit and defibrillator are available at reception/activity and key staff on duty to offer further support if required. 	Low