





Tomahawk Risk Assessment – Patshull Activity Centre

To use this risk assessment:












- 1) Read the Generic risk assessment, THEN
- 2) Read the Element specific risk assessment for the activity

| | |
|--|---|
|  | Systematic Controls – these are processes or management actions. They happen outside of the instructed session time. |
|  | What to say – these are instructions or information that the instructor leading the session has to give to the participants. |
|  | What to do – these are actions that the instructor leading the session has to take either before or during the session. |
|  | What to check – these are the key things the instructor leading the session must confirm – they can be either physical things or participant understanding. |

Severity Factor & Remaining Risk Assessment

















The following descriptors are used in each risk assessment. Note that a **MEDIUM** residual risk is used to show that a hazard requires dynamic risk assessment and deliberate management within the session by the instructor.

| Level | Severity Description | Residual Risk Description |
|--------|---|--|
| Low | Minor injury requiring no treatment, or simple first aid. | Control measures have reduced the severity and/or likelihood to minimal levels. |
| Medium | Injury would require the participant to stop doing the activity; medical treatment is beyond the skills of a basic first aider. | Control measures have reduced severity and/or likelihood to an adequate level but hazard still requires dynamic risk assessment and conscious consideration. |
| High | Injury would require expert medical attention and/or be fatal. | Control measures haven't reduced severity or likelihood to an acceptable level. |

| Hazardous Event | Who may be harmed? | Foreseeable Severity | Control Measures in Place ( Systematic controls  What to say  What to do  What to check) | | Residual Risk |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--|---|---------------|
| Inadequate training for activity | All | High |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PAC Management to ensure all instructors have up to date and appropriate training and understand the risk assessment | Low |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear, comprehensive safety briefing given by the instructor | |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the briefing ensure all participants are focused on you as the instructor and listening to what you are saying | |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all participants have attended the safety briefing and took an active part in listening and understanding | |
| Failure of equipment | Participants | High |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular inspection, testing & maintenance of equipment | Low |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check all equipment before each session Store equipment in a safe and secure location | |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tomahawks to be checked for damage before and after use Range to be checked for damage before and after use | |



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| Hazardous Event | Who may be harmed? | Foreseeable Severity | Control Measures in Place ( Systematic controls  What to say  What to do  What to check) | | Residual Risk |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--|---|---------------|
| | | | | | |
| Unsupervised use | All | High |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment to be stored securely when not in use Range to be locked when not in use | Low |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store tomahawks in the safe on the range Range to be locked if instructor is not present | |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Range is locked Equipment is secured | |
| Slips, trips and falls | All | Low |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular inspection of the range and surrounding areas | Low |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the briefing highlight any steps, ramps, ground conditions or weather that could increase the likelihood of a slip, trip or fall | |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure a no-run policy is in place around the range Ask the Leader in Charge of the participants to remain at the range and be responsible for crowd control and behaviour | |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep an eye on anyone in the vicinity of the range | |
| Hit by a tomahawk | All | Medium |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to reinforce the safety information | Low |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure tomahawks are only thrown from the firing line and non-throwers are located in the safe zone. | |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the throwers are always facing in the direction of the target when holding a tomahawk | |
| Cut by a tomahawk | All | Medium |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor to ensure that all participants understand how to handle the tomahawks | Low |
| | | |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch the participants to ensure they are following the instructions | |



| Revision History | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Date | Author/Reviewer | Notes |
| 25/02/2020 | Charlie Whitehouse | |
| 01/11/2023 | Joe Trusselle | Reviewed original RA |
| 16/10/2025 | Richard Shackleton | Rewrote RA in new format |
| 16/10/2025 | Charlie Whitehouse | Reviewed rewritten RA |
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