

Creepy Valley Adventure Centre – Arena Paintball Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment for: Arena Paintball	Assessor(s): Alex Dodds	Date: 06/01/2024
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Overview of activity/ location/ equipment/ conditions assessed:	High speed paintball activity in a close quarters arena environment, using bunkers and wooden structures for cover. Full head helmets, padded vests and low power .68 cal balls used. Air filling panel and compressed air bottles in use.
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Generic or specific assessment:	Specific			
Serial	Hazard(s) identified	Persons affected	Existing Controls	Additional Controls
1	Induction/ Safety Brief	All staff and public	All staff and public must attend a safety brief prior to entering the Arena.	A Safety Brief is attached
2	Slips, trips, falls and personal injury	All staff and public	Where possible, obstacles shall be removed. At the time of booking participants are informed about personal clothing and equipment and the perceived risk of paintball.	
3	Young persons and vulnerable adults	All staff and public	<p>Ensure that young persons and vulnerable adults receive an induction talk and safety brief. It is vitally important that they not only listen to, but also fully understand. the safety issues and rules of play.</p> <p>Ensure that young persons and vulnerable adults do not enter sessions where there are older or more experienced players.</p> <p>No person will be allowed to play unless they can demonstrate that they have fully understood the safety and game-play rules.</p>	Young persons and vulnerable adults will tend to forget the safety and game-play rules when they are excited. It is essential to repeat the rules at frequent intervals.

			<p>14 to under 18 year olds require a 'Consent Form' signed by a parent or guardian or have a person responsible for them in attendance.</p> <p>All participants must read and sign the 'Participation Statement' (the responsible adult accompanying 14 to 18 year olds will sign on their behalf).</p>	
4	Injury due to problems with health and/ or fitness	All staff and public	<p>Arena paintball can be a physically demanding activity.</p> <p>All players should be fit enough to undertake the activity and operate within their personal limits.</p> <p>Players are advised to seek professional assistance if in doubt about the fitness level required for the activity.</p> <p>Players with current injuries or undergoing medical treatment are discouraged from playing.</p>	
5	First aid and medical requirements	All staff and public	<p>Supervising staff must have a valid first aid award or have received specific training as an Appointed Person.</p> <p>First aid kits are available in the 'safe zone', the Tower and the Cabin. An accident reporting record is kept by the Centre Manager.</p> <p>Players with additional medical requirements such as asthma, inhalers, diabetes etc should make themselves known to supervising staff so that appropriate measures may be taken to ensure the availability of personal</p>	<p>It may be impractical for players to carry personal medications during game play. All personal medications should be immediately available in the 'safe zone' or carried by a supervisor if requested.</p> <p>Game play is stopped if personal medications are required.</p>

			medications if required.	
6	Alcohol and drug misuse	All staff and public	All staff and public are particularly at risk when exposed to alcohol and/or drug misuse. Members of the public who appear to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs will be asked to leave the site.	This is included in the safety brief. ALCOHOL, DRUG MISUSE AND PAINTBALL DO NOT MIX.
7	Fire	All staff and public	The site is 'No Smoking'. Naked flames are not allowed on-site unless as part of the 'Bushcraft' sessions at a designated fire pit. Staff are inducted and trained to respond in the event of a fire. Contact the emergency services by calling 999 from the cabin or by mobile phone. There is a mobile reception for most networks on-site.	
8	Staff and Public entering the Arena during a session	All staff and public	Ensure the gate is closed. Ensure safety signs are in place. Ensure the net is in place and at a sufficient. All public and staff entering or leaving the Arena must do so through the 'SAFE ZONE', which is monitored by staff. The viewing platform can be used by participants at the discretion of the Instructor.	
9	Injury due to ground and/ or weather conditions	All staff and public	All staff and players are to wear suitable and supportive footwear for use outdoors and on uneven ground.	A dynamic risk assessment is made before and during sessions. Players are briefed on ground conditions as required. The game-play can be

			<p>The Arena is inspected prior to and during play.</p> <p>Games may go ahead in all conditions, except lightning storms, as long as players are made aware of the implications of hard, icy, wet, uneven ground, wood splinters and from rain, snow or fog.</p>	<p>adjusted as conditions dictate.</p> <p>Games will be stopped if necessary. In the event of a lightning storm, the activity will be stopped immediately.</p>
10	Injury from inadequate personal clothing and/ or footwear	All staff and public	<p>Thick layers of clothing are recommended to minimise the paintball impact.</p> <p>Protective padding vests are provided for each player.</p> <p>Full-length heavy-duty overalls are available for rental.</p> <p>Players are advised to remove rings and jewellery.</p> <p>Players are advised to wear gloves, neck scarf, and sturdy footwear.</p>	
11	Injury from static and mobile Arena equipment	All staff and public	<p>The Arena equipment is to be inspected and maintained.</p> <p>Individual elements such as forts, walls, bunkers, tyres, are to be in good condition and inspected for splinters, wires etc.</p>	
12	Issue of personal protective equipment (PPE)	All staff and public	<p>Ensure all PPE equipment is clean, fits properly and conforms to relevant safety regulations. NEVER issue any worn or defective PPE.</p> <p>Stress the importance of 'looking after equipment'.</p>	
13	Injury to head, face	All staff and	Trained and inducted staff must inspect	

	and eyes	public	<p>facemasks and full head helmets before, during and after use.</p> <p>Facemasks are NOT to be removed under any circumstance when in the Arena.</p> <p>Facemasks and full head helmets meet or exceed current industry safety ratings.</p>	
14	Injury from Paintball guns (markers) when in the Arena	All staff and public	<p>Ensure all air bottles are properly secured to the marker, as per manufacturers' guidelines.</p> <p>All markers are regulated and chronographed to discharge paintballs at less than 300fps.</p> <p>All players and supervisors are to wear facemasks AT ALL TIMES when in the arena.</p> <p>Players and staff are to comply with supervisor instructions AT ALL TIMES.</p> <p>Horseplay is NOT permitted. Players will receive a 'time out' or be asked to leave the game if necessary.</p>	
15	Injury from high velocity paintballs due to faulty chronographic equipment	All staff and public	<p>Chronograph is to be serviceable. Markers are to be chronographed to ensure paintballs are discharged at less than 300fps, at regular intervals throughout the day.</p> <p>Personal markers are tested.</p>	
16	Filling air bottles for markers	All staff and public	<p>Staff should receive induction training and supervision in the use of the air filling panel and related equipment.</p> <p>Public should not be in the proximity of the air filling panel when air bottles are being filled.</p>	

			<p>Do not overfill the bottles.</p> <p>Air bottles are to be stored out of direct sunlight, as per manufacturers' guidelines.</p>	
17	Air bottles breaking, leaking, explosion from exposure to heat	All staff and public	<p>Ensure all air bottles are properly secured to the marker, as per manufacturers' guidelines.</p> <p>Keep air bottles clean and dirt free and away from heat sources, store in the correct environmental conditions, as per manufacturers' guidelines.</p>	
18	Injury through damaged or faulty paintball markers	All staff and public	<p>Markers are to be inspected, serviced and maintained as per manufacturers' guidelines.</p> <p>Only trained and inducted staff may inspect, service or maintain the markers.</p>	
19	Injury from personal paintball markers	All staff and public	<p>Personal markers may be used as long as they comply with the following: The marker is in a serviceable condition .68 in calibre Chronographed and regulated, by staff, to discharge paintballs at less than 300fps.</p> <p>Only paintballs bought from the Centre are to be used.</p>	
20	Injury from Paintball markers when taken out of the Arena	All staff and public	<p>Ensure that all barrels, hoppers and air bottles are removed from the marker when not in use and the marker breach is clear of paintballs.</p> <p>Barrel Plugs are to be fitted. Markers should only be moved from the site by trained staff.</p> <p>Supervisors are to ensure that markers do not enter the safe zone and that players do not</p>	<p>A supervisor must remain in the Safe Zone at all times to control players entering and exiting the Safe Zone.</p>

			enter the Arena without fitted facemasks.	
21	Effect on equipment due to poor storage conditions	All staff and public	Markers, air bottles, compressors, helmets, facemasks, overalls, paintballs and associated paintball equipment are to be stored in a cool dry environment.	
22	Misuse of paintball equipment	All staff and public	Markers and paintballs are to be stored separately in a locked area when not being used in session. A lockable trailer is located at the arena and a lockable cupboard is located in the instructor cabin for the storage of air tanks, markers, air bottles and associated equipment.	
23	COVID-19 Infection risk	All staff and public	Strict infection control procedures to be followed at all time. Physical distancing to be maintained between members of different households during all activities, and all time spent at the centre.	Government guidance to be monitored in order to ensure procedures are update in accordance with current information

Date of review:	Serial amended:	Reviewed by:	Date of review:	Serial amended:	Reviewed by:
Aug 12	N/A	Wilkes	Jan 23	Review	Girdwood
Apr 13	3, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22	Wilkes			
Jun 13	Assessor(s)	Corbett			
Jun 14	Overview, 3, 8, 16	Corbett			
Aug 15	3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 13, 19	Corbett			
May 16	Review	Robinson			
May 17	Review	Wade			
April 18	3	Colin			
Feb 19	Review	Colin			
Jan 20	8 & Review	Colin			
May 20	23 & Review	Colin			
May 21	General Review	Girdwood			
Jan 22	Review	Girdwood			