

Valley Adventure Centre – Archery and Axe Throwing Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment for: Archery and Axe Throwing	Assessor(s): Max Kemp	Date: 02/01/2026
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Overview of activity/ location/ equipment/ conditions assessed:	Archery and Axe Throwing takes place on a designated range. This has a defined area, shooting/throwing line and target line, with up to 4 targets mounted on stands. The target line is 10 metres from the shooting line or 4 meters from the throwing line. Equipment provided for participants includes: bows in right and left-handed versions, aluminium arrows, and optional arm braces and axes. The activity is supervised by an in-house trained Instructor with a minimum of 6 hours supervised sessions or a qualified GB Archery Instructor. Only four persons may be using the range at any one time, but the session may take up to 12 people
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Generic or specific assessment:	Specific			
Serial	Hazard(s) identified	Persons affected	Existing Controls	Additional Controls
1	General Site safety	All staff and public	Participants must attend a safety brief prior to the activity No person will be allowed to take part unless they can demonstrate that they have fully understood the safety instructions and rules for the centre and activity	See the Safety Brief
2	Slips, trips, falls and personal injury	All staff and public	The site is inspected prior to use. At the time of booking participants are informed about wearing suitable clothing and footwear for the session. To avoid injury the participants should be briefed before the activity begins. The brief should cover how injuries may occur and how to avoid them. Correct PPE must be worn where necessary at all times.	See the Safety Brief

3	Young persons and vulnerable adults	All staff and public	<p>Additional information is requested before the session in order for any adaptations to be made.</p> <p>Under 16's require a 'Consent Form' signed by a parent or guardian or have a parent/guardian in attendance.</p> <p>The minimum age for Airsoft is 12</p>	<p>Young persons and vulnerable adults will tend to forget the safety instructions and rules when they are excited. It is essential to repeat the rules at frequent intervals.</p>
4	Health and/ or fitness	All staff and public	<p>Each participant should understand that the activity is physical and mentally challenging</p> <p>All users should be fit enough to undertake the activity and operate within their personal limits.</p> <p>Participants are advised to seek professional assistance if in doubt about the fitness level required for the activity.</p> <p>Participants with current injuries or undergoing medical treatment should consult with the Senior Staff before participating in the activity</p>	<p>See the Safety Brief</p>
5	First aid and medical requirements	All staff and public	<p>Supervising staff have received first aid training.</p> <p>In addition The Duty Manager has a valid first aid award.</p> <p>First aid kits are available in the Tower and the Office</p> <p>An accident reporting record is kept by the Centre Manager.</p> <p>Participants 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 medications if required.</p>	<p>It may be impractical for participants to carry personal medications during activity.</p> <p>All personal medications should be immediately available in the 'Tower' or carried by a supervisor if requested.</p> <p>The activity may be stopped if personal medications are required.</p>

6	Alcohol and drug misuse	All staff and public	Any person who appears to be under the influence of alcohol and / or drugs will be asked to leave the site.	
7	Fire and Emergency	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 or 112 from the office or by mobile phone. There is a mobile reception for most networks on-site.	In the event of a Fire or Emergency all users will be escorted by an instructor to the Emergency Assembly Area which is located next to the water pumping station at the main gate entrance to the centre.
9	Staff and Public entering the activity area during a session	All staff and public	During the site briefing everyone is instructed on the use of PPE within the site Access should be blocked to an active range. Signage should be used to advise that a game is underway	
10	Weather	All staff and public	All staff and public are to wear suitable footwear and clothing for the conditions Force 8 wind conditions will halt all activities. Heavy rain will halt activities at the discretion of the duty manager. Participants should be briefed to take more care in adverse conditions.	A dynamic risk assessment is made before and during sessions. Participants are briefed on weather conditions as required. The activity can be adjusted as conditions dictate i.e. only use level 1 if windy. Activity will be stopped if necessary.
11	Inadequate personal clothing and/ or footwear	All staff and public	Participants are advised to remove rings and jewellery and are advised to wear sturdy, close-toed footwear. Hair tied back and no objects in pockets.	Spare hair bands should be kept in the Office for use by participants.
12	Equipment failure	All staff and public	Instructors should ensure all PPE equipment is clean, fits properly and conforms to safety regulations. Defective equipment should be quarantined	

			All equipment should have a pre-use check and be inspected every 3 months by a suitably qualified or experienced member of staff.	
18	Personal Equipment	All staff and public	Personal Equipment must be inspected by a trained or experienced member of staff	

Date of review:	Serial amended:	Reviewed by:	Date of review:	Serial amended:	Reviewed by:
Jan20	8 & General Review	Colin			
April 21	General Review	Girdwood			
Jan 22	Review	Girdwood			
Jan 23	11 & Review	Girdwood			
Jan 25	Full Overview	AD			
Jan 26	Review	MK			