

Valley Adventure Centre – Splatmaster Paintball Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment for: Splatmaster	Assessor(s): Max Kemp	Date: 06/01/2026
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Overview of activity/ location/ equipment/ conditions assessed:	Low velocity paintball activity in a close quarters arena environment, using bunkers and wooden structures for cover. Full-face helmets, padded vests and low power .50 cal balls are used. Spring powered, pump action, single shot shotgun body style equipment is used.
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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 Splatmaster paintball.	
3	Young persons and vulnerable adults	All staff and public	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. Ensure that young persons and vulnerable adults do not enter sessions where there are older or more experienced players. No person will be allowed to play unless	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 and receive verbal or physical confirmation that the communication has been received.

			<p>they can demonstrate that they have fully understood the safety and game-play rules.</p> <p>The minimum age for Splatmaster is 9 years old.</p> <p>9 to under 16 year olds require a 'Consent Form' signed by a parent or guardian or have an adult responsible in attendance.</p>	
4	Injury due to problems with health and/ or fitness	All staff and public	<p>Splatmaster 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.</p> <p>A first aid kit is available in the 'safe zone'.</p> <p>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	Fire	All staff and public	<p>The site is 'No Smoking'.</p> <p>Naked flames are not allowed on-site unless as part of the 'Bushcraft' sessions at a designated fire pit.</p> <p>Staff are inducted and trained to respond in the event of a fire.</p> <p>Contact the emergency services by calling 999 from the cabin or by mobile phone. There is a mobile reception for most networks on-site.</p>	
8	Staff and Public entering the Arena during a session	All staff and public	<p>Ensure the gate is closed.</p> <p>Ensure safety signs are in place.</p> <p>Ensure the net is in place and at sufficient height, and at sufficient security for the forecasted weather during the session.</p> <p>All public and staff entering or leaving the Arena must do so through a 'SAFE ZONE', which is monitored by staff.</p>	
9	Injury due to ground and/ or weather conditions	All staff and public	<p>All staff and public are to wear suitable and supportive footwear for use outdoors and on uneven ground.</p> <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>A dynamic risk assessment is made before and during sessions. Players are briefed on ground conditions as required. The game-play can be 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>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 safety regulations. NEVER issue any worn or defective PPE. Stress the importance of 'looking after equipment'.</p>	
13	Injury to head, face and eyes	All staff and public	<p>Goggles and full-face helmets are inspected by trained and inducted staff before, during and after use.</p> <p>Goggles are NOT to be removed under any circumstance when in the Arena.</p> <p>Goggles and full-face helmets meet or exceed current industry safety ratings.</p>	

14	Injury from Splatmaster guns (markers) when in the Arena	All staff and public	<p>All players and supervisors are to wear goggles AT ALL TIMES when in the arena.</p> <p>Players and staff are to comply with supervisors' 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 through damaged or faulty splatmaster guns	All staff and public	<p>Splatmaster 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 Splatmaster markers.</p>	
16	Injury from Paintball markers when taken out of the Arena	All staff and public	<p>Ensure the marker breach is clear of paintballs.</p> <p>Barrel Plugs are to be fitted.</p> <p>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 enter the Arena without fitted face-masks.</p>	A supervisor must remain in the Safe Zone at all times to control players entering and exiting the Safe Zone.
17	Effect on equipment due to poor storage conditions	All staff and public	<p>Guns, masks, goggles, paintballs and associated Splatmaster equipment are to be stored in a cool dry environment.</p> <p>Markers and paintballs are to be stored separately.</p> <p>A lockable trailer is located at the arena for the storage of Splatmaster markers,</p>	

			goggles paintballs, and associated equipment.	
18	Alcohol and drug misuse	All staff and public	<p>All staff and public are particularly at risk when exposed to alcohol and/or drug misuse.</p> <p>Members of the public who appear to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs will be asked to leave the site immediately.</p>	<p>This is included in the safety brief.</p> <p>ALCOHOL, DRUG MISUSE AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES DO NOT MIX.</p>

Date of review:	Serial amended:	Reviewed by:	Date of review:	Serial amended:	Reviewed by:
Apr 13	3, 14, 15, 16, 17	Wilkes	Jan 2026		MK
Jun 13	Assessor(s)	Corbett			
Jun 14	3, 8	Corbett			
Aug 15	3, 5, 9. Serial 18 added	Corbett			
May 16	General Review	Robinson			
May 17	Review	Wade			
April 18	3	Colin			
Feb 19	General Review	Colin			
Jan 2020	General Review	Colin			
May 2020	19 & Review	Colin			
April 2021	19 removal & General	Girdwood			
Jan 2022	Review	Girdwood			
Jan 2023	Review	Girdwood			