



Risk Assessment Form: Air Rifle Shooting at Buckmore Park Scout Campsite

Target shooting is, as its name implies, the sport of shooting at artificial targets as opposed to live quarry. It is an international sport, featured at the Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games. The game is about marksmanship skill; the ability to repeatedly place shots in as small an area as possible in the centre of the target. Real guns firing real projectiles are used so the activity takes place on appropriately-designed ranges and safety is of prime importance. This focus on safety makes target shooting amongst the safest of all sports and shooting develops in its participants a strong safety culture with a self-disciplined approach to the handling of hazardous objects.

As in many aspects of athletics, shooters compete as much against themselves for the satisfaction of improving their own performance as to be 'the best on the day'. Shooting is both an individual and a team sport and is one in which people of both genders and a very wide age range can compete on equal terms. The sport can be enjoyed by wheelchair users and, with modified equipment, by the blind. Success in the sport involves learning fine control of the body and, less obviously, also of the mind in order to overcome the stresses of competition.



HAZARD	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED?	IS THE RISK ADEQUATELY CONTROLLED, OR IS MORE NEEDED?	Risk level
Injury from Equipment/Equipment failure	All	All the equipment should be visually inspected immediately before use. All equipment should be subject to inspections both on a monthly and yearly basis.	Low
Injury from improper handling/improper use of equipment	All	All persons should have adequate instruction and training in using the equipment for its intended purpose.	Low
Lead poisoning from pellets	All	Verbal warning given in briefing. Reminder to wash hands at end of session	Low / Medium
Injury from being shot	All	All persons should have adequate instruction and training in range conduct. There is clear barrier at firing line. Range officer monitors entire range throughout session.	Low / Medium



<p>Injury from being shot</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>No participants are to shoot unless given the instruction to do so.</p> <p>When shooting participants should only point the rifle – whether loaded or unloaded – down the range, towards the target.</p> <p>Observers at the activity or visitors to the activity must obey all instruction from the range officer when in the activity area. The activity area must be specified in the briefing.</p> <p>Members of the public who enter the activity area should be advised of the potential danger and asked to move away.</p>	<p>Low / Medium</p>
<p>Injury from pellet caused by bounce back</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Pellets are made of a soft deformable material (lead).</p>	<p>Low / Medium</p>
<p>Conduct of participants whilst waiting to use range</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>A responsible adult, who is not the staff member in charge of the activity, is responsible for the supervision of the participants when they are not directly engaged on the activity.</p>	<p>Low</p>



Minor Cuts and abrasions	All	<p>Qualified First Aider should be present throughout the activity</p> <p>A First Aid kit is on site during this activity</p>	Low
Weather Conditions	All	<p>Activity leader will assess the weather risk before and during the session and their decision on the abandonment of the session is final</p>	Low



Factsheets on shooting

The following activity factsheets are relevant to this activity:

- [FS120000 Risk Assessment](#)
- [FS120004 Shooting](#)
- [FS120007 Joint Adventurous Activities with Girlguiding UK](#)
- [FS120075 InTouch](#)

Rules on shooting

The following activity rules are relevant to this activity:

- [Rule 9.1 Activity Rules - Application](#)
- [Rule 9.2 Preparations](#)
- [Rule 9.3 InTouch](#)
- [Rule 9.4 Risk Assessment](#)
- [Rule 9.5 Emergency Procedure](#)
- [Rule 9.9 Use of External Centres and Instructors](#)
- [Rule 9.37 Shooting](#)



Additional Control Measures Required

Notes covering Points of Law and Scouting's Policy, Organisation and Rules:

- If any participants are aged under 18 a responsible adult aged over 21 must be present to supervise the activity.
- Parental permission must be provided for under 18's.

Facilitate access for all group leaders to read instruction leaflet in addition to conditions of use and instruction through induction talk to embed methods and risks.

Pre use induction to group leader and provision of risk assessment to guide use and safety checks and measures by volunteer team.

Appropriate clothing: loose enough for free movement. No snagging / flapping bits that may become entangled.
Remove lanyards or hanging jewellery etc. from round neck.

Tie back long hair to prevent entanglement.

On going review of effectiveness of all controls and capabilities of operators.

Accident/ near miss and maintenance record log book is available on site to ensure good communication to facilitate H&S reviews.

Additional maintenance activities not undertaken by users to ensure manufacturers guidelines followed and logged.



Conditions of use for the Air Rifles

1. A responsible adult must supervise all groups.
2. The equipment will be given to hirers of the guns on production of a valid YPS ticket or you will have the use of one of our own instructors.
3. Air Rifle shooting takes place within the rifle range only.
4. On no account should any of the group approach the Archery which is taking place nearby.
5. Any damaged or missing equipment must immediately be reported to the park management.
6. Buckmore Park Scout Campsite or Medway Towns District Scouts accepts no responsibility for damage or injury resulting from use of the Air Rifle equipment of range area unless proven negligent.