

WPSC Camping Risk Assessment

Activity / Venue: Camping on Club activities

Completed by: Chris Scott

Date of assessment: 1/9/2021 **Checked By:** Gary Cadman **Date:** 26/08/2024

Activity	Hazards	Possible outcome/ injuries	Who affected	What controls	Further controls / comments
Camping	Stoves	Burns	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants instructed/trained, briefed & assessed in safe use of stoves prior to trip. Type of stoves for assessment expeditions to be considered and to be appropriate for the group and in relation to what they have been trained in using. All cooking to take place away from tents, or any other flammable materials, & to be done on flat ground. Refuelling should take place away from tents Trangia must be cool enough to put hand over before it is refuelled. Fuel must be stored away from tents & in appropriate containers. Activity leader / Coach to supervise & control 	<p>If Trangia's are used, then it may be necessary for the instructor to be responsible for Meth's (this will depend on group and the decision should be discussed with the Activity leader prior to a trip).</p> <p>Meth's / liquid fuels should be stored in self-sealing bottles and if it is bought in a large volume, e.g. 5L then this must be decanted into smaller bottles before use by the instructor.</p> <p>There are many different types of stoves, with different considerations – This must be built into training and/or participants should use type of stove that they have been trained with.</p> <p>Activity leader / Coach to have relevant and up to date experience or ideally hold a recognised Leadership qualification eg ML, LEL or WGL</p>
“	Tent Fire	Burns, serious injury, death.	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See controls for stoves. Tents not to be pitched too close together to reduced chance of chain fire scenario. Stove fuels never to be kept in tents. Activity leader / Coach to supervise & control 	<p>Considerations and precautions should be covered in training.</p>
“	Naked Flames	Burns/ damage to equipment/ tent fires.	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants instructed that there should be no smoking in or near the tents All cooking, and therefore lighting of stoves, to take place away from tents, or any other flammable materials, & to be done on flat ground. Activity leader / Coach to supervise & control 	<p>It may be necessary to identify a smoking area. If this happens it is important cigarette ends aren't dropped. Midge candles etc to be avoided.</p>

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“	Guy Ropes	Trips	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guy ropes to be kept short if possible • Participants briefed on trip hazards of guy ropes • Activity leader / Coach to supervise & control 	The amount of guy ropes used and length will often depend on size of camp area and weather conditions/forecast.
“	Poor Cooking Practice	Food poisoning, Bacterial infection, Pollution of water source.	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants to be briefed on food hygiene and safe cooking (all food should be cooked thoroughly) • Any water taken from natural water source should be brought to a rolling boil before use. • Care should be taken with food handling, especially where sheep faeces is present. • Choice of appropriate food types covered in training. • All food cooked should be heated thoroughly and stored appropriately. • All food remains should be taken away from campsite. • The importance of good hygiene and effective cleaning of cooking utensils promoted. • If a stream is used as the water supply, water should be taken from stream and all washing done away from water source. • Activity leader / Coach to supervise & control 	<p>In most cases participants should be instructed to use water from outside tap at campsites for cooking purposes.</p> <p>The campsite wash facilities should be used for washing and cleaning of pots, pans & cutlery & everything used should be washed and dried thoroughly. Anything that has come into contact with raw meat should have extra attention given.</p> <p>Food must be stored appropriately, i.e. sealed, at appropriate temperature etc.</p>
“	Poor Hygiene	Bacterial Infection	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants to be briefed on good personal hygiene (particular attention should be given to washing hands before handling and eating food) • Participants advised not to share water bottles, cutlery, etc. • Activity leader / Coach to supervise & control 	Cleaning area should be used for washing if appropriate to the session. Participants should be instructed to use the campsite Toilets and washing facilities.
“	Weather (cold, rain, strong winds)	Hypothermia, flooding, tiredness, damage to & loss of equipment.	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forecast must be obtained prior to trip • Instructor should be aware of any stream flooding potential and any implications for campsites. • If conditions are inappropriate for group, i.e. wintery conditions, then a bunkhouse should be used. Where possible, this should be built into the contingency plans. In the worst case scenario, it may be necessary to cancel or postpone the expedition. 	The Club camping expeditions to work within the remit of relevant awards, e.g. LEL, Summer ML: summer conditions in non-mountainous hilly terrain (this may include harsh weather conditions at times) If temperature is below 2°C then participants should have bunkhouse accommodation as an option. Forecasted temperatures and wind-chill should be taken into consideration.

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather conditions Monitored by Instructor Participants briefed on how best to have a comfortable night in tent Instructor checks on student kit and that they have all eaten appropriately Participants briefed on how to pitch tents effectively in windy conditions and not to leave things lying about outside of tent. Activity leader / Coach to supervise & control 	<p>Activity leaders must check that participants sleeping bags are appropriate for the conditions.</p> <p>Avoid pitching tents under trees (Activity Leaders to inform participants)</p>
“	Personal illness	Infection transferral	People in shared tent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ill participants don't start trip. Participants who become ill should sleep in the separate tent & measures put in place for them to be taken home if necessary. 	
“	Road/ traffic	Various injuries/ lack of sleep	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warn participants to stay off roads whenever possible and minimising risks when walking along roads and leadership considerations covered in training. Take and use a torch if walking along road side at night. Plan expeditions to minimise time spent walking on roads. Activity leader / Coach to supervise & control 	
“	Walk to toilets at night	Slips/ Trips	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants to carry torches & torches to be used when leaving tent at night. Brief participants on hazards, e.g. guy lines. Activity leader / Coach to supervise & control 	
“	Farm machinery/ Chemicals etc	Various injuries/ poisoning	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor check campsite area on arrival if possible & brief participants on out of bounds areas, particular hazards, etc. if necessary. Activity leader / Coach to supervise & control 	

Expeditions & camping:

The above risk assessment has been completed & designed in relation to a journey/expedition which will include overnight camps.

Activity leaders /Expedition Leaders/Coaches: Those responsible for overseeing the planning of the trips and supervision of the groups must have relevant and up to date experience or ideally hold a recognised Leadership qualification eg ML, LEL or WGL as a minimum qualification.

The level of control, supervision and leadership style will depend on the group and the given situation.

Activity leaders must hold relevant qualifications and have prior knowledge of the area. They must hold an up to date First aid Certificate and be DBS checked.

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Activity Leaders should carry full leadership kit including a comprehensive first aid kit & group shelter and have a copy of medical consent forms with emergency contact numbers.

On arrival at accommodation/campsites, participants are encouraged to adopt approaches in line with their previous experiences be briefed on all relevant accommodation/campsite rules and guidelines. They should also identify themselves, or be briefed on, the fire drill for the accommodation and then given a guided tour if appropriate. Participants are split into rooms/dormitories and split into male/female/staff and over 18/ under 18 whenever possible. Accommodation may include youth hostels, bunkhouses, camping barns, campsites.

Names & positions of those carrying out this risk assessment:	Signatures and date:	Date that this risk assessment was last reviewed and updated:
Chris Scott (Club Chair)	<i>Chris Scott 1/9/2021</i>	26/08/2024 Date for next review: 26/08/2025