

# RISK ASSESSMENT: Soft Tomahawk Throwing

Completed by: Activities Management Team

Date: 18/12/2025

Review Date: 18/12/2026



What is the Hazard?	Who may be harmed?	How might people be harmed?	Risk Rating			Control Measures in Place	Remaining Risk		
			Probability	Severity	Risk		Probability	Severity	Risk
Slips, Trips and Falls	All	Cuts, grazes, bruises	3	2	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All equipment not in use is stored securely away from the range.</li> <li>All participants are instructed to wear appropriate footwear.</li> <li>Participants warned about exposed tree roots and potential hazards</li> </ul>	1	2	2
Exposure /Hypothermia and Sunburn	All	Sunburn, high temperature and dehydration.	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff and participants urged to make sure they have suitable clothing for the weather and activity.</li> <li>Sun cream applied when needed.</li> <li>Staff and participants to drink plenty of water.</li> </ul>	1	2	2
Group Behaviour	All	Loss of control of the group, participants being distracted/ not listening.	3	2	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group leaders are to ensure that the group is always under control.</li> <li>Instructor is to stop the session if participant's behaviour becomes dangerous.</li> <li>Instructor to check with group leader to if there at the start of the session for any neurodiverse participants and ensure control measures are in place to appropriately manage their needs.</li> </ul>	1	2	2
Unauthorised Access	All	People wandering on to the range unaware of what it is could result in standing on a live range.	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear signs to be posted at all access points stating 'No Admittance to Unauthorised Persons' or "target sports in progress"</li> <li>All access points to be locked when the activity is not in use.</li> <li>The range is constructed in an appropriate area for the nature of the activity.</li> <li>The range is completely fenced with the only access through a gate behind the throwing line.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Misuse of Tomahawks	All	Cuts, bruises, grazes and contusions.	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tomahawks are not taken out of the enclosure during the session.</li> <li>The participants do not have access to the Tomahawks when they are not being supervised.</li> <li>Participants only allowed in the enclosure when it is their turn to throw.</li> <li>Instructor to stay vigilant as group collects Tomahawks and ensure they are put back on the Tomahawk stand.</li> </ul>	1	3	3

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<b>Tomahawk Hitting Participants</b>	Participants	Cuts, bruises, impact wound	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants are instructed on the correct way to throw.</li> <li>Participants notified that Tomahawks could bounce back and warned to move out of the way if it happens.</li> <li>Participants instructed not to throw the Tomahawk too hard, instead to ensure it rotates.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
<b>Equipment Failure</b>	All	Cuts, bruises, grazes and contusions. Concussion.	3	2	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All equipment is inspected periodically and anything faulty is removed from use immediately, recorded and repaired or replaced.</li> <li>All equipment is checked by the instructor prior to being used. Items deemed to be faulty are removed from use immediately, logged and placed in the quarantine bin. As per policy 5.3 faulty or damaged equipment.</li> </ul>	1	2	2
<b>Human Error</b>	All	Instructor complacency and loss of focus could put everyone at risk	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All instructors have received adequate training to be competent in the running of the activity</li> <li>All instructors are regularly monitored to ensure procedures are complied with.</li> <li>All instructors are shown where risk assessments and operating procedures are stored.</li> <li>Where possible, instructors to only work the same session twice in one day.</li> <li>Instructors made aware of any changes to activity, via activity change sheet.</li> </ul>	1	3	3

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Level	Likelihood Factor	Severity Description
1	Very Unlikely	Insignificant – No injury or No First Aid required.
2	Unlikely	Minor – Minor injuries requiring first aid such as cuts, grazes, bruising.
3	Fairly Likely	Moderate – Injuries resulting in up to three days' absence from work.
4	Likely	Major – Injuries resulting in a week or more absence from work, for example broken bones, deep cut etc.
5	Very Likely	Catastrophic – Amputations or Death.

Remaining Risk Level	Description
1-5	Very low, minimal risk, control measures more than adequate
5-10	Low, control measures satisfactory
10-15	Medium, control measures adequate
15-20	High, control measures need further consideration
20-25	Very high, intolerable, stop Job