

## BOYS' BRIGADE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB – GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT

### WALKING IN OPEN COUNTRY (VALLEYS, FORESTS, HILLY BUT NON-MOUNTAINOUS) TERRAIN & AREAS

HAZARD	WHO MAY BE HARMED	RISK LIKELIHOOD	RISK CONSEQUENCE	CONTROL MEASURE
<b>WEATHER</b>				
General	Group			<b>Meet Organiser and Activity Leader(s) to check weather forecast prior to meet and brief the group.</b>
Cold and/or wet	Group	H	H	Activity Leader(s) to brief participants in advance of the activity commencing on suitable clothing. I.e. waterproof hooded coat and over trousers, hat, gloves and additional clothing for when on rests/lunch or on higher ground. Activity Leader(s) to check that all participants have suitable clothing prior to commencing the activity, those without should not participate if at risk. Activity Leader(s) to carry group shelters for use in emergencies or on lunch/rest stops. Activity Leader(s) must always wear appropriate clothing in order to run the activity safely.
Sun	Group	H	M	Activity Leader(s) must ensure that group aware of the dangers relating to the sun, i.e. heatstroke and sunburn. Activity Leader(s) to ensure that the team have suitable clothing, e.g. long sleeves, trousers and hat and apply sun cream if required. Activity Leader(s) to factor in hot weather with planned route choice:- early start, more rest, reduced load, water intake,
Lightening and/or storms	Group	L	VH	Activity Leader(s) not to do this activity in any serious storm. If caught out during a lightening storm, then the Activity Leader(s) /Asst Leader must cease the activity immediately and seek out appropriate shelter.
High Winds	Group	M	M	Activity Leader(s) to monitor weather and alter or suspend/cancel session when wind conditions cause safety to be affected. Activity Leader(s) to consider a lower level alternative route which provides better protection from high winds and take into account any falling objects if in/near forests or valleys.
<b>TERRAIN</b>				
Falls, Slips and Trips	All	H	M	Activity Leader(s) to ensure participants advised before meet that appropriate footwear is required. Activity Leader(s) are experienced and qualified in walking in terrain and leading

Falls, Slips and Trips (Continued)	All	H	M	<p>groups.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) have detailed knowledge of the area used and significant hazards (cliffs, water hazards, quarries etc.)</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to ensure a 'Specific Risk Assessment' is done if hazards identified which are not covered by Generic Risk Assessment.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) brief group about terrain to be encountered during walk and taking into account recent and current weather conditions, advise of likelihood of slips, trips and falls and to ensure participants take precautions.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to ensure before and descent that group reminded to descend at a steady pace and be aware of risk of slips, trips and falls.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to carry out an ongoing assessment during the activity and be prepared to alter plans if required.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to brief participants to be wary of other people (public) when passing on paths or ascending/descending and how trips can be caused when this happens.</p>
Drowning	Group	L	VH	<p>Activity Leader(s) to factor in water hazards when planning route.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to check weather forecast and recent weather conditions and assess if water hazards encountered pose any additional risk.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to have detailed knowledge of area used and its water hazards.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to brief group if water hazards are to be encountered and to ensure when stopping at locations near tarns or lakes group is constantly visible and no-one to go swimming or near water.</p>
Getting Lost	Group	VL	L	<p>Activity Leader(s) to ensure that group remains together during walk.</p> <p>Meet Organiser is to ensure a route card has been produced in advance of walk if required and copies issued to group.</p> <p>Participants are not to become separated from group and should remain within group which is made up of Activity Leader(s) and accompanying adults.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to have sufficient navigational skills and area knowledge.</p> <p>Group/Activity Leader ratio should be as low as possible.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to take head counts and ensure group moves a pace of slowest participant and makes ongoing assessments and briefing group.</p>
Animals	Group	H	M	<p>Activity Leader(s) to brief group about dangers of infection from animal faeces (Ecoli) and preventative measures.</p> <p>Group should avoid contact/injury from large animals (cattle, horses etc) if footpath crosses a field containing these animals Activity Leader(s) should assess the situation and act appropriately i.e. cross quietly as a group or take other route.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to advise groups in entering areas prone to presence of</p>

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Exposure to Moor land Fires	Group	L	VH	Activity Leader(s) to be aware of possibility if route in moor land area. Group to abide by instructions/advice from public body about closure of moor land/footpaths. Activity Leader(s) to be aware of wind direction, visual checks for signs of smoke and be ready to change route or exit route needed if necessary.
Insects & Poisonous Plants	Group	L	VH	Participants with any known medical allergies are requested by Meet Organiser to inform Activity Leader(s). Activity Leader(s) to ensure those with known allergies take necessary avoidance actions if encountered and suffers carry medication.
Travel On Roads	All	M	VH	Activity Leader(s) & Meet Organiser to avoid roads where possible when planning a route or during the walk unless unavoidable. Where travel on a road is required Activity Leader(s) to ensure Group walks facing oncoming traffic, is in single file and as close to edge of road as possible, Adults ideally should be at start and end of group and use of any ipods, phones should not be allowed. Crossing of major roads should be monitored by Activity Leader(s) and only when clear. If in failing light/dark then high vis jackets should be worn if available and torches used.
Military Firing Ranges	Group	L	VH	Meet Organiser and Activity Leader(s) to check if planned area has risk of exposure to these areas and ensure that adequate measures taken so that route avoids these areas. These areas are controlled by MOD.
<b>EQUIPMENT</b>				
Personal Equipment Required	Group	L	VH	Meet Organiser to ensure that before meet all participants are given list of the equipment required for the activity – rucksacks, packed lunch, water, hot drink, emergency survival bag, head torch or small torch, trekking poles and option items such as binoculars, small bird/flower reference books and digital cameras if wished. Activity Leader(s) responsible for ensuring all participants have the required equipment for the day's activity and it is suitable. Participants requested to inform BBMC if struggling with certain items. Activity Leader(s) have the right to refuse any participant who is not properly equipped.
Personal Clothing Required	Group	M	VH	Meet Organiser is to ensure that before event, all participants are briefed on wearing suitable clothing for conditions and environment and to pack some spare items to put on during walk should weather change. Also worth bringing complete change of cloths in event of poor weather.

				Activity Leader(s) to ensure all participants have the correct clothing required to safely participate in the activity and has right to refuse any participant who is not properly dressed.
BBMC Equipment	Group	L	VH	Meet Organiser and Activity Leader(s) to ensure any BBMC equipment to be used during the activity (group shelters, compasses, maps etc) is inspected before and after use and any defects reported to Equipment Officer so can be replaced. Use of club equipment minimal as participants and Activity Leader(s) should have own equipment.
<b>OTHER</b>				
Emergencies	Group	M	VH	Meet Organiser to ensure that participants (Young People from BB Companies especially) are informed that the Company and Accompanying Officers are responsible for gaining parental consent to attend the activity and having emergency contact numbers and details of any medical conditions/information. Meet Organiser to ensure Activity Leader(s) are informed of any information or details which may become relevant in an emergency. All Club Activity Leaders are first aid trained and hold a current first aid certificate and carry first aid kits. Meet Organiser to ensure that routes are planned with escape routes where aid can be obtained. Activity Leader(s) to carry mobile telephones and know how to summon aid if required – i.e. whistle and torch SOS signals. Activity Leader(s) hold qualifications which include training and or details of group management in emergency situations. Activity Leader(s) to continually assess the risks to the group during walks and act accordingly. Participants encouraged to use and carry BBMC ICE cards in rucksacks on all meets/courses/activities.
Specific Needs of Individuals	Group	M	H	Meet Organiser to ensure that obtains information from Participants prior to event of any participants who have medical or behavioural needs and to ensure that the Activity Leader(s) are informed well in advance to enable discussion to take place before the walk and actions needed can be addressed. If required depending on individual circumstances carry out an Individual Risk Assessment and obtain any additional staffing required or necessary. Activity Leader(s) to ensure that any individuals with specific needs or behavioural needs are not excluded if possible but the safety and wellbeing of the group is paramount. Meet Organiser to ensure activities can be tailored where possible to include individuals with specific needs.
				Group to ensure that all requirements of the Boys' Brigade have been carried

Boys' Brigade Regulations and Adherence to Compliance	All	VL	VH	out and complied with as per the current rules and regulations which relate to the activities. Risk Assessments should be produced by those attending the meet, parent/guardians should be informed of the activities and consent forms completed, HQ should be notified if part of a meet involving an overnight stay. Meet Organiser to ensure that those attending meets are members of the BB so will be covered by Brigade Insurance for participating in the activity. Group to ensure before event any concerns or queries referred to HQ who will make final determination and advise accordingly. Hold BASIC or STANDARD E&OL Cert.
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