

BOYS' BRIGADE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB – GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT

WALKING IN WILD COUNTRY - MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND AREAS

HAZARD	WHO MAY BE HARMED	RISK LIKELIHOOD	RISK CONSEQUENCE	CONTROL MEASURE
WEATHER				
General	Group			Meet Organiser and Activity Leader(s) to check weather forecast prior to meet and brief the group.
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 consider carrying 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.
Lightning and/or storms	Group	L	VH	Activity Leader(s) not to do this activity in any serious storm. If caught out during a lightning storm, then the Activity 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.
TERRAIN				
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 groups. Activity Leader(s) have detailed knowledge of the area used and significant hazards (cliffs, water hazards, quarries etc.) Activity Leader(s) to ensure a 'Specific Risk Assessment' is done if hazards identified which are not covered by Generic Risk Assessment. Activity Leader(s) brief group about terrain to be encountered during walk and take into account recent and current weather conditions, advise of likelihood of slips, trips and falls and to ensure participants take precautions during walk.
Falls, Slips and Trips	All	H	M	Activity Leader(s) to ensure before any descent that group are reminded to descend at a steady pace and be aware of risk of slips, trips and falls. Activity Leader(s) to carry out an ongoing assessment during the activity and be prepared to alter plans if required.

(Continued)				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.
Cliffs, Falling Rocks	Group	M	H	Meet Organiser to discuss with Activity Leader(s) when planning route to identify any areas where route will go near top or bottom of cliffs or scree slopes or other rocky areas where there is a risk present of falling or falling rocks. Activity Leader(s) to assess continually during route the risk of these hazards along with prevailing weather conditions and ensure that actions are taken to prevent any risk to participants. Any areas which require use of helmets, ropes and other artificial protection should be avoided all together. Leaders should ideally be familiar with the area or do a 'site specific risk assessment'.
Security On Steep Ground	Group	H	VH	Meet Organiser to ensure when planning walk, they discuss with Activity Leader(s) so that any areas/sections which involve steep ground are kept to a minimum. Activity Leader(s) to ensure that on sections of steep ground encountered, any additional measures required for security and safety of participants are taken – such as use of walker's rope for added security, assisting lesser experienced participants with placing feet and use of handholds. Activity Leader(s) to assess depending on ground condition and prevailing weather if safe to cross area or if route should be altered to ensure group safety. Activity Leader(s) to inform Group in advance preferably at start of walk of any steep sections likely to be encountered so that anyone within group with any concerns or issues can raise them before the area is reached.
Drowning	Group	L	VH	Activity Leader(s) to factor in water hazards when planning route. Activity Leader(s) to check weather forecast and recent weather conditions and assess if water hazards encountered pose any additional risk. Activity Leader(s) to have detailed knowledge of area used and its water hazards. Activity Leader(s) to brief group if water hazards are to be encountered. Activity Leader(s) to ensure when stopping at locations near tarns or lakes group is constantly visible and no-one to go swimming or near water unless planned and subject to a separate risk assessment.
Getting Lost	Group	VL	L	Activity Leader(s) to ensure that group remains together during walk by appointing a back marker. Meet Organiser to ensure a route card has been produced in advance of walk if required and copies issued to group. Participants are not to become separated from group and should remain within group which is made up of Activity Leader(s) and accompanying adults. Activity Leader(s) to have sufficient navigational skills and area knowledge. Group/Leader ratio should be as low as possible. Activity Leader(s) to take head counts and ensure group moves at the pace of the slowest participant and makes ongoing assessments and briefs the group.
Animals	Group	H	M	Activity Leader(s) to be aware of the dangers of infection from animal faeces (Ecoli) and preventative measures. 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. Activity Leader(s) to advise groups if entering areas prone to presence of Adders if likely to be a problem.
Exposure to Moorland Fires	Group	L	VH	Activity Leader(s) to be aware of possibility if route in moorland area. Group to abide by instructions/advice from public body about closure of moorland/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	Leaders of 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 sufferers carry medication. If likely to cause problems Meet Organiser and Activity Leader(s) to brief participants on use of repellents and/or head nets.
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 firing and ensure that adequate measures are taken so that route avoids these areas. These areas are controlled by MOD. Group should be encouraged to touch any ordinance encountered.
EQUIPMENT				
Personal Equipment Required	Group	L	VH	Meet Organiser to ensure that before meet all participants are given a list of required equipment. 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, BB leaders brief participants are briefed on wearing suitable clothing for conditions and environment and to pack some spare items to put on during a walk should weather change. Also worth bringing complete change of clothes 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.
OTHER				
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 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.

				<p>Activity Leader(s) hold qualifications which include training and or details of group management in emergency situations.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to continually assess risks to the group during walk and act accordingly.</p>
Specific Needs of Individuals	Group	M	H	<p>Meet Organiser to ensure that they obtain information from BB leaders with participants prior to the event 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Meet Organiser to ensure activities can be tailored where possible to include individuals with specific needs.</p>
Multi-Day Expeditions	Group	L	VH	<p>For multi-day Expeditions which involve 'Wild' camping – Meet Organiser is responsible for ensuring that those attending have the required equipment.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to ideally possess a good knowledge of the area and suitable location for any overnight camps or carry out research..</p> <p>Meet Organiser & Activity Leader(s) to ensure a route plan/card has been produced, which includes escape routes and water sources..</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to ensure any provision for water purification is available.</p> <p>Activity Leader(s) to assess the weather conditions before and during the walk and ensures if required wild camping is abandoned if deemed unsafe.</p> <p>Participants to ensure they come prepared and are fit for multi-day expeditions.</p> <p>Young People should not do any wild camping within BBMC Meet, unless suitably equipped and accompanied by own Officers/Leaders.</p> <p>BB Policy – Use of meths burning stoves is not allowed and preference is for gas.</p>
Boys' Brigade Regulations and Adherence to Compliance	All	VL	VH	<p>Group to ensure that all requirements of the Boys' Brigade have been carried 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.</p> <p>Activity Leaders should hold BASIC if a TraineeLeader and have suitable logged experience and ADVANCED Brigade certificate to Lead or ML (Summer).</p>

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