

Axe Throwing Risk Assessment

What are the hazards? What can cause harm?	Who might be harmed	What are you already doing? What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk? By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
Competence of the Instructor leading the session	Participants & Instructor	The instructor leading the session must be competent to lead the activity. Beaudesert will only deploy instructors who have been trained in the activity. If a visiting group is hiring the equipment and /or facilities are use their own instructors; it is the responsibility of the group to ensure the competence, experience and maturity of their instructor.	Trivial <i>if controls are followed</i>
Level of pastoral care (including medical care)	Participants	There will always be a responsible adult member of the visiting group present to support the children/young people. This adult will be responsible for the behaviour of the group. This adult will ensure the instructor leading the session knows about any medical conditions or additional needs the group members may have. Instructors should not start the session until this adult is present. Visiting groups should provide first aid cover as they are responsible for the young people, however, Beaudesert will provide additional first aid cover on sessions run by Beaudesert instructors.	Trivial <i>if controls are followed</i>
Extreme Weather (Heat, Cold, Wind, Lightening, Snow, torrential rain etc)	Participants & Instructor	Instructor to be aware. Appropriate clothing to be worn by all involved. It may be appropriate to stop activities due to some extreme weather or if the group is not appropriate clothed for the environment.	Trivial <i>if controls are followed</i>
Falling Tree Debris	Participants & Instructor	Arboreal management including periodic inspection by the Beaudesert team. The instructor running the session will undertake a quick visual inspection of trees in the area. A dynamic approach to assessing the risk of falling tree debris should be undertaken by the instructor. Evacuation of all areas under tree canopy if wind rises above Beaufort scale 7+ (near 51-62 km/h; 28-33 knots; whole trees in motion; inconvenience when walking against the wind)	Tolerable if controls are followed

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Unfamiliarity of the equipment	Participants & Instructor	The instructor leading the session must be familiar with the equipment they are using. Beaudesert instructors are trained in the use of the equipment on the session. If groups are hiring the equipment they should ensure their instructors know how to use equipment. The Beaudesert team can provide people hiring equipment 'information' about the equipment, but cannot provide 'training' on how to use the equipment.	Trivial <i>if controls are followed</i>
Equipment Failure	Participants & Instructor	Regular Periodic inspection of the equipment by the Beaudesert team. A member of the Beaudesert team will undertake a visual inspection of the equipment before the first session of the day. The instructor leading the session will also undertake a visual check of the equipment before they start their session. Damaged or broken equipment should be reported. If a group is only hiring the facility and no equipment they must ensure the equipment they use is compatible with the facility.	Trivial <i>if controls are followed</i>
Injury due to incorrect footwear and / or clothing	Participants & Instructor	The instructor leading the session, and the responsible adult who is with the visiting group, are responsible ensuring the children/young people are appropriately clothed for the activity and the prevailing weather conditions. Instructors are responsible for themselves.	Trivial <i>if controls are followed</i>
Entrapment of hair, fingers, loose clothing, jewellery, in equipment.	Participants & Instructor	Hair tied/tucked back. Loose clothing removed or made safe. Jewellery removed or made safe when it is not possible removed. Instructor awareness & supervision. Guests briefed on risk & hazards activity equipment.	Trivial <i>if controls are followed</i>
Slip/Trips	Participants & Instructor	Instructor vigilance & making guests aware of hazards in the environment.	Tolerable <i>if controls are followed</i>
Dehydration & Sun Burn	Participants & Instructor	The adult with the visiting group is responsible for ensuring the young people are appropriately protected from the sun, and ensuring group have drinks with them during hot weather. Instructors are responsible for themselves.	Trivial <i>if controls are followed</i>
Wild Life	Participants & Instructor	Beaudesert is a 'beautiful wilderness' and does have Wild Life. Instructors should be mindful that some wild life can cause participants and themselves harm .	Trivial <i>if controls are followed</i>

Risks we think are specific to Axe Throwing

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Being hit by an axe	Participants & Instructor, Non participants.	Trained and signed off in Axe Throwing Beaudesert instructor supervising session; range design and range rules, no axes to be left with participants when collecting axes. There will be a 1:12 ratio used. There will be 1:1 coaching the first time participants throw. No more than 2 people to throwing at once.	Trivial if controls are followed
Axe being let go at the wrong point – including being hit by an axe	Participants & Instructor, Non participants.	Instructor to demonstrate at the beginning of the session of 'how to throw the axes'. Instructor to assist participants that are struggling with the task. Range design including 5M stand off position.	Trivial if controls are followed
Dangerous or ill-informed throwing style	Participants & Instructor	trained and signed off in Axe Throwing instructor who will brief and coach participants	Trivial if controls are followed
Non-participants being hurt or interfering with the session.	Participants & Instructor	Fenced Range design.	Trivial if controls are followed
Injuries when collecting Axes.	Participants & Instructor	trained and signed off in Axe Throwing instructor, coaching participants, and group control	Trivial if controls are followed
Ricochets off targets	Participants & Instructor	Coaching by trained and signed off in Axe Throwing instructor, Range Design, throwing line at set distance (both feet behind the rope on the floor), Target bosses checked regularly along with axes.	Trivial if controls are followed
Behaviour issues leading to accidents	Participants & Instructor	The instructor will be trained and signed off in Axe Throwing we will use a ratio of 1:12. Visiting group's leaders do not need to count in the 1:12 ratio if they are helping supervise their group's behaviour.	Trivial if controls are followed
Manual handling and lifting of bosses	Instructor	Instructor is to do a dynamic risk assessment of lifting and decide if they need an additional person to help with this.	Trivial if controls are followed

Reviews Undertaken:
(note template last updated 19/6/2016)

Richard Irvine and Dan Farnsworth December 2016 Richard Irvine 9/9/2017 & 23/11/2017

Risk Assessment Approved by:

Richard Irvine

Date: 23/11/2017

		Potential severity of harm		
		Slightly Harmful 1	Harmful 2	Extremely Harmful 3
Likelihood of harm occurring	Highly unlikely 1	Trivial 1	Tolerable 2	Moderate 3
	Unlikely 2	Tolerable 2	Moderate 4	Substantial 6
	Likely 3	Moderate 3	Substantial 6	Intolerable 9

Slightly harmful: Superficial injuries; minor cuts and bruises; eye irritation from dust, nuisance and irritation (e.g. headaches); ill-health leading to temporary discomfort.

Harmful: Lacerations; burns; concussion; serious sprains; minor fractures, deafness; dermatitis; asthma; work related upper limb disorders; ill-health leading to permanent minor disability.

Extremely harmful: Amputations; major fractures; poisonings; multiple injuries; fatal injuries, occupational cancer; other severely life shortening diseases; acute fatal diseases