

Risk assessment

Name of activity, event, and location	Soft Tomahawks	Date of risk assessment	29/3/2026, 23/3/2025, 25/4/2024	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Melanie Collett/ Kerri Jeffrey
		Date of next review	29/3/2027		

What hazard have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
A hazard Stray Hawks The risk Bruising, eye injury	Young people, adult volunteers, visitors	Hawks always pointed down range towards targets. Correct stance and technique shown and enforced. Range built to stop non-participants straying onto range. Range constructed to contain hawks. Spectators to remain a safe distance behind participants.	Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change what you're doing or even stop the activity.
A hazard Overthrown hawk The risk Bruising, eye injury	Young people, adult volunteers, visitors	Set up the range with backstop material to contain hawks.	
A hazard Hawk collection The risk Bruising, eye injury	Participants	No one to be at the throwing line until all hawks have been thrown. No running on the range at any time Targets to be approached from the side. Hawks to be collected from the target first then the floor. Hawks to be removed from the target from the side making sure no one is in front of the target.	
A hazard Incorrect technique The risk Sprains, strains, bruising	Participants	Clear instructions to be given before use. Instructors to monitor use throughout. Incorrect technique to be corrected by instructors All thrower to remain behind safety line until told to collect.	
A hazard Equipment Failure The risk Injured by equipment	Young people, adult volunteers, visitors	Equipment checked at regular intervals and recorded by the Range Officer. All equipment is serviced regularly. Equipment checked prior to every use. All faulty equipment removed from service until repaired and tested	
A hazard Unauthorised use The risk Injured by equipment.	Young people, adult volunteers, visitors	Equipment is kept in a locked store when not in use. Equipment to be returned to the locked store at the end of each session. Equipment is never to be left unattended.	
A hazard Slips, trips, falls The risk Injured by equipment.	Young people, adult volunteers, visitors	Range should be kept tidy & free from trip hazards. Any spilled liquids or food to be cleaned up immediately. Shoelaces to be always tied correctly. Range to be fully lit at all times. No running on the range.	

You can find more information in the Safety checklist for leaders and at scouts.org.uk/safety

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