

Blair Atholl Risk Assessment 2026

Name of activity, event, and location	Activity: Archery Event: Blair Atholl 2026 Location: Blair Atholl	Date of risk assessment	29/03/2026	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Alan Wallace
		Date of next review	29/03/2027		

What could go wrong? What hazard have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	What are you going to do about it? How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed? How will they be communicated to young people and adults and remain inclusive to all needs?	Review & revise What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
<p>A hazard is something that may cause harm or damage. The risk is the harm that may occur from the hazard.</p>	For example: young people, adult volunteers, visitors	<p>Controls are ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk. For example, you may use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way you do the activity.</p>	Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change what you're doing or even stop the activity. This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.
<p>For example: Hazard: fire Risk: smoke inhalation or burns</p>	Leaders, visitors, Young Leaders, Scouts	Smoke: use dry wood, check wind direction, stand people out of smoke direction. Burns: stay a safe distance from fire, place extra wood on carefully, teach Scouts good practice around fires, have a burns first aid kit easily available.	
Slips, Trips and falls	All Users	Instructors trained in first aid. Area regularly maintained to restrict undergrowth and remove trip hazards. Communicate to all participants to be aware of trip hazards when moving around.	
General inspection and brief	Instructors and participants	Areas used for the Archery session are checked prior to commencement to make sure they are suitable Any potential hazards are pointed out to groups and unnecessary hazards are removed from the area as appropriate Good instructor awareness and briefing No running on the range Participants instructed to hold equipment correctly. Bow only to be pointed downrange. Rules of the range explained i.e. Shooting line and waiting line. There will be a zero tolerance on the range scouts will be asked to sit out if they don't comply	
In the event of an injury	Instructors and participants	Instructors must have first aid and have contact to first aid tent in the event of an injury	
Pulling of arrows	Participants	Instructors to give clear briefings appropriate to the needs of the group and to inform all individuals of the consequences of purposefully ignoring these. Bows and Arrows separated when not in use. Demonstrations given for all aspects of the session Good instructor monitoring	

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

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Inappropriate shooting	Participants	Instructors to give clear briefings appropriate to the needs of the group and to inform all individuals of the consequences of purposefully ignoring these. Bows and Arrows separated when not in use Demonstrations given for all aspects of the session Good instructor monitoring	
Arrows rebounding	Instructors and participants	Minimum shooting distance marked out, about 10-15m All group members instructed to stay behind the waiting line if not shooting Closed toed footwear to be worn	
Public walking on to range	Public and nonparticipants	Warning signs behind the ranges Limited entry points to range, roped off Instructor vigilance "Stop " command briefed. On "Stop" immediately take tension off bow. When called will be asked to remove all arrows from Bows and returned to arrow tube (stop is used to combat the language barriers)	
Equipment Failure	Instructors and participants	Bows to be checked to make sure that the strings are in good order. Arrow rests are not broken and need replaced. Arrows to be checked for fletchings missing and nocks broken	
arrow removing	participants	Participants to be shown how to remove arrows from Targets correctly or instructors remove Group to be explained to walk to target and approach from side	
Extreme weather	Instructors and participants	Shelter for extreme heat or rain Refreshments for hydration to be brought Suitable clothing i.e. waterproofs, jacket	
Injury from through aggravation of old/existing Injury or impairment	participants	Information must be provided to prevent injury while shooting	
Bow string getting entangled in long hair	participants	Long hair must be properly tied back	
Bow string making contact with Jewellery	participants	All Jewellery must be removed before participating	
Injury from falling Boss	Instructors and participants	Targets must be properly secure and checked before session. Correct technique must be demonstrated and monitors by instructors	
Bow string striking forearm while shooting	participants	Arm braces will be provided and correction advised	

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Non-Participants	Instructors and participants	Must be advised to stay outside the range and not to enter Barrier around the range	
Over shooting -arrows miss target	Public and nonparticipants	Backing net will be used to prevent arrows from being shot too far beyond target	
Over drawing	participants	Arrows to be checked for over drawing	
Correct foot wear	All users	Correct footwear must be on to stop arrows cutting through footwear this included no sandals, crocs, wellies	
Inclusion	All users	Everyone will be included this includes scouts with disabilities Extra Support will be provided for example if they are on wheelchair bound then there will be a leader by their side and shown how to draw a bow while on a chair Both physical support and verbal support	

Don't forget, as part of your programme planning, you should have contingency activities in reserve just in case you can't do what was planned or you need to stop half way through. Make sure this is shared with those involved, so everyone knows how to respond. You should have risk assessed contingency activities prior to them taking place and communicated key information to those involved as with all activities.

