

ANNUAL CLUB RISK ASSESSMENT 2020/21

Name of Person completing this risk assessment	<u>Sam Seddon (President) and Ed Griffin (Safety Officer)</u>
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Transport	Driver & passengers & other road users	Minibus Driver must be union licensed; awareness of likely road conditions necessary. Minimum of 2 drivers per driver per 100 miles before exchange, as per the university restriction. It is the drivers responsibility to be aware of the weight of the vehicle does not exceed the safe level, that all passengers wear their seatbelts.	2	3	6	Driver is both responsible for checking road and vehicle conditions. Passengers must not distract driver. To ensure the weight limits are not exceeded, personal and club equipment must be transported in the van to avoid overloading.	1	3	3
Adverse Weather - Cold	All group members. Hypothermia + symptoms, Frostbite, Pneumonia, Exposure	Appropriate clothing. Group leader judgment on appropriate action. Safety equipment if necessary; first aid training for group leaders	3	3	9	Group leader to check equipment/clothing of group and carry spares of e.g. hat, gloves; trip organizer to clarify necessary equipment in pre-trip email. Walk leaders have undertaken a week-long accredited Mountain Training mountain leader training course, and level 3 outdoor first aid, however they are not a qualified 'mountain leader'.	1	3	3



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Adverse Weather - Heat	All group members Heatstroke, Dehydration	Appropriate clothing. Taking water. Group leader judgment. First aid training for group leaders	2	3	6	Group leader to check equipment/clothing of group; trip organizer to clarify necessary equipment in pre-trip email	1	3	3
Adverse Weather - Wind	All group members. Injury due to being blown over etc. Risk of windchill.	Group leader judgment – route/terrain. Safety equipment if necessary.	4	2	8	Retreat from planned route if wind is excessive. Route outline confirmed with safety officer or senior exec member, and collated.	1	2	2
Adverse Weather - Rain	All group members. Progress impeded. Ground slippery. Cold injures e.g. hypothermia are more likely	Group leader judgment. Appropriate clothing. Safety equipment if necessary. No Jeans. Walking boots with covered ankles required for support on slippery surfaces.	4	2	8	None	4	2	8

Describe the hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	Existing control measures	Risk Rating Likeliness x Severity = RR			Additional control measures	Revised rating Likeliness x Severity = RR		
			L	S	RR		L	S	RR
Participant ignorance	Group Members. More likely to be affected by the other Hazards.	Clear briefings given, and leaders supervision of all participants. Never more than 10, though a more technical walks/scramble would always operate at much lower ratios. The risk assessment will be readdressed for each trip, and confirmed with Safety officer and President. Risk assessment is advertised at the information broadcast for every trip.	2	4	8	If a leader doubts they are able to give full supervision when necessary, they should retreat or call mountain rescue.	2	2	4
Navigational error	Group Members. More likely to be affected by other hazards (terrain and exposure related)	All walk leaders have undertaken advanced navigation training within Mountain Trainings 'Mountain Leader Training' program. OS GPS is advertised among walk leaders, providing instant grid coordinates.	2	4	10	Routes noted at the start of the day and passed to safety officer/senior exec member.	2	3	6

Mountain Leader Training	<p>Mountain Leader training lasts for 6 days and will be run by one of our approved providers in one of the key mountain areas of the UK or Ireland.</p> <p>Mountain Leaders should be competent in the following key areas, all of which will be covered, to a greater or lesser extent, during your six day training course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group management Navigation Access and the environment Hazards (including steep ground and rivers) and emergency procedures Equipment Expedition skills Weather Background knowledge 	<p>A link to the official website: https://www.mountain-training.org/qualifications/walking/mountain-leader which includes a course brochure outlining the syllabus in more detail.</p>	-	-	-		-	-	-
Adverse Weather – Snow/Ice	<p>All group members. Progress impeded. Technical terrain – slip more likely & more dangerous. Cold injuries more likely</p>	<p>Group leader judgment. Appropriate clothing & equipment. Knowledge and application of appropriate techniques. If members haven't undertaken training such as that offered on tour, such pursuits should not be undertaken.</p>	3	4	12	As for 'cold'. Use of crampon and ice axes as advised and demonstrated by a walk leader (if deemed necessary)	2	3	6
Mountainous Terrain	<p>All group members. Falls, Slips, Ankles twisted, rock fall, adverse weather more likely. Exposure related injuries more likely etc.</p>	<p>Group leader judgment on terrain, route & group ability. Appropriate clothing. Knowledge and application of appropriate techniques where appropriate. Route briefings, accommodating a traffic light system reflecting the risk, and fitness required for a particular route on a particular day.</p>	3	3	9	Improved communication on route difficulty. If continuous risk assessment deems terrain too dangerous to negotiate safely, call mountain rescue.	2	3	6

Communication Challenges		<p>The walk leader is responsible for ensuring they have all the numbers of other walk leaders, and people on their walk. All walk leaders will be provided with a list of all people on the trip, their numbers (and medical information).</p> <p>All walk leaders carry a mobile phone with sufficient battery.</p>	3	3	9	<p>Whilst mobile signal is never guaranteed, however contact procedures are covered in training.</p> <p>In the event of loss of signal in an emergency, the group is large enough to split, 2 members will go to find signal.</p> <p>Group leaders always carry group shelters to accommodate such delays</p>	3	3	6
Fog/Mist	All group members. Getting lost or disoriented. Obscured hazards.	Group leader judgment in route choice & navigation.	3	3	9	Where possible, avoid entering regions of difficult navigation, opting for lower routes, even if that means a longer, but safer day	3	3	6

Describe the hazard	Who might be harmed and how?	Existing control measures	Risk Rating Likeliness x Severity = RR			Additional control measures	Revised rating Likeliness x Severity = RR		
			L	S	RR		L	S	RR
Distance	All group members. Fatigue, exhaustion etc	Sufficient food and water. Breaks as appropriate. Group leader judgment on route & group ability. Route briefings.	2	2	4	Except for exceptional circumstances where it may not be possible, keep the group together as one.	2	2	4
Blisters	All group members. Progress impeded.	Appropriate footwear. First aid + training.	3	1	3	None	3	1	3

Water hazards	All group members. Being swept away, drowning. Risk of wind chill/hypothermia.	River crossings are circumvented wherever possible.	2	4	8	If avoiding river crossing is unavoidable only cross in company of trained individuals following correct procedure. (keep your shoes on). Various techniques exist, however any water up to the knee should not be undertaken. Use of poles for stability advised, and avoiding slippery rocks. Don't cross rivers deeper than ankle height.	1	4	4
Technical mountaineering	Group members experienced in technical climbing. Falls, rock fall, becoming crag fast.	Members of appropriate experience and well equipped. Scrambling/climbing ropes used as well as protection. Soloing only where competent. Group size to be kept to a minimum. Grade 1: 1:6, Grade 2: 1:4, Grade 3 1:2 ratios of leader to group.	2	5	10	Group leader knowledge of abseil and other safe escape techniques. If escape not feasible call mountain rescue. All members must be able to belay on Grade 2 terrain and higher.	2	4	8
Falls	All group members. Severe injury	Consider use of safety equipment (rock protection and ropes) if appropriate, ensure first aid is available.	2	3	9	If weather conditions (e.g. wind), significantly increase risk of potentially dangerous fall, only non-exposed routes will be allowed. Fall Plan Walk leader (first aid trained) makes an initial assessment as per the training. If the casualty is severely wounded, then dial 999, request Police then Mountain Rescue and await instruction. See communication difficulty for policy on no signal.	1	3	6



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Undisclosed medical condition	All group members. Adverse reaction to first aid, weather conditions, or activity (e.g. asthma)	Declaration before every trip of relevant medical conditions by participants, and distributed to leaders (confidentiality must be maintained). Such records destroyed after the trip for GDPR compliance.	1	3	3	Written Records, and first aid training to allow leaders to identify conditions	1	2	2
Wild Camping	All group members. Inadequate shelter for terrain /weather leading to exposure.	Group leader to ensure that weather is viable for camping before committing to route requiring it, and that chosen campsite is suitable, sheltered and hazard-free.	2	3	6	<p>Group leader to check party has correct equipment for wild camping. Emergency shelter to be carried by group. Survival bags, emergency rations, torches and whistles to be carried by group members. Escape route to be pre-planned. Trip organiser designated second to be aware of wild camp plans and to contact mountain rescue if conditions should deteriorate or rendezvous is not met.</p> <p>A back up camping location is researched and communicated to non-group members, in the event of camping location not being suitable on arrival (e.g. flooding). The change of camp location will be communicated as per communication plan.</p>	1	2	4

Orienteering Events	Club members attending. Falls, slips, ankle and lower limb injuries. Getting lost during an event.	All attendees must follow event rules. Leg cover is mandatory.	1	2	2	None	1	2	2
Equipment		Gear master checks gear condition, and keeps track of the condition in the gear log	1	3	3	Equipment checked before use as well. Climbing centre manager has been contacted.	1	2	2
First Aiders		All walk leaders are first aid qualified. We can't run a trip without the correct ratios of these leaders (maximum 1:10), so such a ratio must be maintained.	1	2	2				
Emergency protocols for trip cancellations		A trip would be cancelled if there were an inappropriate ratio of first aid/drivers, severely adverse weather. Pandemics.	1	2	2				
Routes		A range of walks are always provided catering to the full spectrum of ability levels. Should a participant not wish to engage in any activity at all, there is always an option to be dropped in a local town for respite for the day.	1	2	2				
Covid-19		We have a club COVID officer who is responsible for taking a register of activities attendees. Trip attendance list will be kept for the 14 days following a trip for the purpose of "Track and Trace". Those with Covid-19 symptoms will not be allowed at any activity. Attendees that develop Covid-19 symptoms or positive test result within 14 days following an activity must contact an exec member. Any COVID related events will be	2	3	6	For the whole term 1 2020/2021, no residential trips will take place. Face masks must be worn inside the transport vehicles and the accommodation. Hand sanitiser will be mandatory to use before any activity.	1	3	3



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		<p>communicated to Warwick SU and Warwick Sport.</p> <p>The most up-to-date university and government guidelines will be followed:</p> <p>https://warwick.ac.uk/coronavirus/</p> <p>Overnight trip attendance will be limited by numbers allowed in accommodation together.</p> <p>Day trips will be limited by transport number restrictions.</p> <p>Transmission risk is low outside.</p>							
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In general:

Group members will always be accompanied by a walk leader or those of comparable experience and expertise. These ‘leaders’ decide on the activities undertaken their group.

Walk leaders are Mountain Leader trained or hold the Mountain Leader Award.

Walk leaders are at least first aid trained in outdoor first aid (16 hours) and carry a first aid kit.

Walk leaders carry necessary group safety equipment: Survival bag, shelter, whistle, first aid kit, GPS, mobile phone, spare clothing and gloves and hats, and a map & compass.

Walk leaders on technical routes **must** carry a rope.

On routes graded 2/II and above, ratio of group members to walk leaders should not exceed 3:1, and should aim for 2:1 wherever possible (and especially on 3/III and higher).

Group members on technical routes graded 2/3 and above **must** carry a helmet and **must** carry a harness.

Group members on technical winter routes **must** carry crampons and ice axe and know how to use them, it is advised that a helmet is carried and used. Participants are encouraged to consider advice from the more experienced members but must ultimately use their own judgment in its application. On the hill, Walk Leaders are the most experienced / trained members of the group, and have the primary responsibility for the



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group. The other group members should respect their

decisions but, ultimately, individual group members are responsible for their own actions.

Risk Assessment matrix

	Severity				
Likelihood	Superficial	Minor	Serious	Major	Extreme
Unlikely	Very low	Very low	Low	Low	Moderate
Possible	Very low	Low	Low	Moderate	High
Likely	Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	Very high
Certain	Moderate	High	Very high	Very high	Very high

Risk Level	
Very low	Acceptable risk - no action required
Low	Tolerable risk - further control measures not required, but status must be monitored
Moderate	Further control measures required to reduce risk as far as is reasonably practical
High	Urgent action required to allow activity to continue
Very high	Risk intolerable - activity must cease until the risk has been reduced

The **Severity** is how serious the outcome would be if was injured from a hazard.

Superficial Injuries include bumps, small cuts, abrasions etc.

Minor Injuries that could result in treatment required off site, and may involve limited time off work less than 7 days

Serious Injuries that require 7 days or more off work



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Extreme Fatality or life changing injuries

Major Injuries include broken limbs, serious head injuries, injuries to eyes that affect sight, asphyxiation etc.

The **Likelihood** is how likely a hazard with injure somebody.

- Unlikely Has not happened previously, not expected to happen
- Possible Could occur sometime, but not expected
- Likely Has not happened previously, but expected to happen at some point
- Very likely Has happened before, expected it will happen again.
- Certain Very likely to happen. Not 'if' but 'when'.