

Activity Risk Assessment

Firelighting

Date RA Reviewed

17/09/2025

Reviewed by

Elaine Chamberlain

Next Review Due

Prior to next event



IDENTIFIED RISK	PERSON AT RISK	RISK CONTROL / REDUCING MEASURES	Managed Risk (Likelihood (1= Low, 5 = High)	Severity (1 = Low, 5 = High)	Risk
Activity					
Burns to the body	Participant and those in area	Size of fire to be kept to a minimum for the activity. Removed of hot items from the fire is discouraged (Exception, cooked food). Wearing of gloves when managing hot items is advised. Clean water / fire buckets to be located near the fire.	2	2	4
Clothing / other materials igniting	Participant and those in area	Evaluate suitability of clothing, Remove or tuck in loose clothing and neckers. Clean water / fire buckets to be located near the fire.	1	3	3
Injury to feet / limbs / fingers during handling and wood preparation	Participant	Use of tools such as Axes and Saws should only be used with prior-authorisation, risks are covered in their own assessment. Participants to be made aware of risks, such as Nails and Splinter. Wearing of gloves when handling wood is advised.	1	2	2
Burning of Pallet Wood / Treated wood	Participant and those in area	Only natural or Heat Treated (Code - HT) wood should be burned. Pallet wood which has been Chemically Treated (Code - MB) should not be handled, or burnt. Painted wood should not be burnt	1	1	1
Inhalation of smoke	Participant and those in area	Position yourself Upwind of the fire if possible. If blowing the ember / fire to help it along, consider using a blowing straw. Using dry wood will reduce the amount of smoke.	1	1	1
Activity area, Equipment, Environmental, Common and General risks					
Cut and splinters to hand, arm, leg, other body parts	Participant and those in area	Brief the participants of the risks which may lead to Cuts and Splinters Consider the use of gloves Strong footwear is recommended	1	2	2
Trips, Slips, Falls	Participant and those in area	Keep area clear and equipment stored tidy. Check the activity area prior to use, remove or identify risks such as tree roots, guy lines etc... No running allowed during the activity.	1	1	1
Manual handling injury from carrying equipment	Participant	Adopt a 2 person carry method for large / heavy items Supervision from leadership team. Consider wearing gloves	1	2	2
Weather Conditions (Sun, Heat, Cold)	Participant and those in area	Ensure suitable clothing is worn for the activity and time of year. Ensure hot / cold drinks are available when required	1	1	1
Maximum acceptable risk level			Anything above 9 should be reviewed to reduce the risk further.		
Highlight of key risk reducing measures:-					
* Briefing at the start of each session to raise the awareness of the risks and how to behave around the fire, This includes:- Smoke / flame / heat risks, No Running, Gloves are available to use.					
* Leadership supervision level based on group size and experience (1:8 Cubs)					