

GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT 2 – BUSHCRAFT



GRA 2 – BUSHCRAFT		
This GRA is applicable to all bushcraft activities and assumes that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor instruction is undertaken by appropriately experienced staff. - All Instructors to hold a current in date First Aid Certificate. - Bushcraft activities are assessed daily in the light of the most recent weather forecast. 	Date Compiled	1 February 2020
	Compiled By	Chris Hughes
	Date of Next Review	01/02/2023
		Is the activity acceptably safe if managed as below (YES/NO): YES
		Signed:

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Benefit Statement	<i>A valuable experience exploring areas such as shelter building, lighting fires, safe tool use, food preparation and cooking. Helps people gain a basic understanding of ancient living. A fire creates a great atmosphere that brings people together and encourages individual reflection.</i>	
Hazard	Risk	Control Measures
Participating in bushcraft activities	Various injuries	Use suitably qualified and experienced staff with an in date valid first aid qualification and first aid kit to be carried by the instructor. All staff to hold the appropriate NGB award or have received inhouse training for the activity. See CHMAS instructor matrix for qualifications required to run activity sessions
Extreme Weather	Hypothermia Dehydration Heat Exhaustion/ Heat Stroke	Weather forecast to be obtained and impact on venue to be considered. If conditions, make activity unsuitable consider alternative venue or activity. Remind participants about sun protection and participants to have suitable & adequate clothing (instructor to check before commencing activity plus access to warm (or cold) drinks.
<i>For every session there will be a dynamic risk assessment on arrival and will be on going throughout the activity session.</i>		

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Hazard	Risk	Control Measures
Injury from using bushcraft tools (knife, saw and axe)	Various injuries (cuts)	Participants to be briefed on safe handling and use of tools and any activities to be supervised (no second chance for unsafe practice by participants). Instructors to be vigilant when demonstrating safe handling of knives (sheath passing) to ensure the knife is securely sheathed. Tools to be stored safely when not in use.
Shelter building	Crush injuries	Clear briefing and guidance on collecting and carrying materials. Safe manual handling. Highlight the risk to face and eyes.
Fire Lighting	Burns	Strictly no fires unless in designated areas and group to be briefed on good practice and supervised. Group advised to treat any items around the fire (sticks, cooking items) as hot unless found otherwise. Participants / group to be supervised according the group needs, maturity and experience.
Kelly kettle	Burns	Ensure stopper is removed from Kelly Kettle when heating water and kettle to be removed from base by the handle at 90 degrees to the kettle.
Outdoor cooking	Becoming unwell (food poisoning)	Participants to be briefed on camp hygiene and hand gel / soap / water to be available to wash hands prior to cooking. Group to be briefed on 'safe cooking techniques. Staff to be encouraged to obtain Basic Food Hygiene Award. Any game used for game preparation sessions to come from a licensable source.
Foraging	All participants	Any wild food to be checked with instructor before consumption. 100% positive identification required! If in doubt DO NOT EAT. Take only from safe areas and only eat a small amount if it is the first time of trying.
Trips & slips	Various injuries	Walk through site in daylight to discuss risks and each person to have a torch for overnight activities.
Getting lost and having an accident	Various injuries / anxiety	Group briefing with boundaries defined, and participants encouraged to be in pairs.