

QUEEN ROSE HIKING TRAILS

RISK ASSESSMENT

SEVERITY	
Consequence	Probability
Very High - Fatality/Multiple Hospitalization Multiple life-threatening injuries with the same cause which requires immediate treatment as in-patients in a hospitalization	Almost Certain Is expected to occur in most circumstances
High - Extensive Injuries / Hospitalization Serious life-threatening injury which requires immediate treatment as an in-patient in a hospital.	Likely Will probably occur in most circumstances
Moderate - Medical Treatment An injury which requires medical treatment.	Possible May occur at some time
Minor - First Aid Treatment A non-life-threatening injury which was adequately treated by a qualified first-aider.	Unlikely Could occur from time to time
Negligible - No Treatment A non-life-threatening injury that does not require treatment.	Rare May occur in exceptional circumstances

MATRIX		Probability				
		Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost Certain
Consequence	Very High	High (12)	Very High (17)	Extreme (21)	Extreme (24)	Extreme (25)
	High	Moderate (10)	High (15)	Very High (19)	Extreme (22)	Extreme (23)
	Moderate	Moderate (6)	Moderate (9)	High (14)	Very High (18)	Very High (20)
	Minor	Minor (3)	Moderate (5)	Moderate (8)	High (13)	High (16)
	Negligible	Minor (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (4)	Moderate (7)	Moderate (11)

RISK RATING	
21 - 25	Extreme
17 - 20	Very High
12 - 16	High
4 - 11	Moderate
1 - 3	Minor

The Risk Assessments below provides an overview of how risks are assessed on outdoor activities. However, there are many situations arising which cannot be included in the Risk Assessments; and it is not possible to produce a complete list of every combination of activity and location.

When on any activity, an QRHT Staff Member may decide that certain factors dictate against continuing the course of action or activity – a change in the weather or condition of the group for example. In these circumstances the QRHT Staff Member will need to change the plan of action and may decide to change route, location etc. The QRHT Staff Member then undertakes a 'dynamic risk assessment' – i.e. assesses the relative hazards and merits of the new plan of action. The QRHT Staff Member is able to do this within the remit of their experience. This would most commonly, but not uniquely, occur in an activity such as walking.

Where an activity is described in the Risk Assessments as taking place in one area, this may be transferable to another area if it is within the remit of the experience of the QRHT Staff Member. For example, Raft Building is described for the Devils Knuckles Dam as this is the most common area used. However, our Operating Procedures permit this activity wherever the QRHT Staff Member deems it appropriate. The best guide to the suitability of an activity is the experience of the QRHT Staff Member leading the activity; in all cases the QRHT Staff Member decides.

It should also be understood that in these Risk Assessments we consider the worst-case scenarios for all hazards and risks.

Many schools now are asking us to send them a copy of our Risk Assessments. This creates some administrative burden as we deal with many schools, and a lot of paper is involved. Schools usually ask for this as they've been told they need to. It should be understood that our Risk Assessments should in no way mitigate the schools Risk Assessments. The 'Risk Assessment' that schools are required to do is not a detailed assessment of each activity, as teachers are not generally experts in these outdoor activities. The school's 'Risk Assessment' should simply state that the risk of outdoor activities has been controlled by the measure of appointing an outdoor provider, the activities themselves are covered by our own Risk Assessments.

We are of course willing to provide this information, but it might be worth considering the following:

People are apparently of the opinion that by seeing our Risk Assessments a school is accepting a part of the legal responsibility for them, and thereby becomes partly liable in law should anything covered by them go wrong. This is probably connected with the principle that the school becomes cognizant of the risks involved, and if you are asking to see the assessments it is assumed that you have read and understand and accept everything in them; and with the best will in the world people from one industry will not usually be able fully to understand the intricacies of another.

Activities

Abseiling

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Fall from top of crag whilst not secured	Bodily injury		H		Moderate	Rare	6
2	Fall due to belayer inattention	Bodily injury		H		Moderate	Rare	6
3	Fall due to lowering incorrectly	Bodily injury		H		Moderate	Rare	6
4	Fall due to equipment failure	Bodily injury		H		Moderate	Rare	6
5	Struck by a falling object	Bodily injury		H		Moderate	Rare	6
6	Moving, walking around top of the crag, falling, slipping or tripping	Bodily injury		H		Moderate	Possible	14
7	Walking generally anywhere in quarry area, Slip or trip on polished rocks	Bodily injury		H		Negligible	Possible	4
8	Anchor failure	Bodily injury		H		High	Rare	10
9	Equipment failure including ropes	Bodily injury		H		High	Rare	10
10	Abseiler lets go of their control rope	Bodily injury		H		High	Possible	19
11	Abseiler's descender becomes jammed	Abseiler becomes nervous		H		Negligible	Rare	1
12	Abseiler descends too quickly, burns hand, lets go	Rope burn		H		Negligible	Rare	1
13	Swing or pendulum injury	Contusions and abrasion		H		Negligible	Possible	4
14	Hair caught in belay device	Hair pulled out		H		Negligible	Rare	1

Rafting

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Drowning due to immersion in water	Death		H		Very High	Rare	12
2	Injury due to being struck by a paddle	Laceration and contusion		H		Minor	Possible	8
3	Injury from objects on dam bottom	Laceration		H		Minor	Possible	8
4	Trapped under capsized raft	Death		H		Very High	Possible	21

Mountain biking

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Injury due to falling off bike	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Likely	13
2	Injury due to being struck by a low branch or another obstacle	Head or neck injury		H		Very High	Unlikely	17
3	Injury due to collision with other bikes	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Possible	8

Hiking

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Adverse weather conditions	Lightning strikes		H		Very High	Rare	12
2	Slips, trips and falls	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Likely	13
3	Fatigue	Collapsing		H		Negligible	Unlikely	2
4	Thirst, hunger	Dehydration		H		Minor	Rare	3
5	Problems on steep descents	Falls resulting in Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Unlikely	5
6	Effects of heat and cold	Hypothermia and hyperthermia		H		High	Unlikely	15
7	Sunburn	Discomfort		H		Minor	Unlikely	5
8	Blisters	Pain		H		Minor	Unlikely	5
9	Logging machines & vehicles	Being run over		H		Very High	Rare	12
10	Tick bites	Lyme's disease		H		Moderate	Almost certain	20
11	Drinking polluted water	Stomach upsets		H		Moderate	Rare	6
12	Medical problem with existing condition	Death		H		Very High	Almost certain	25

Obstacle course

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Major injury due to failure of equipment	Head and neck injuries		H		Very High	Rare	12
2	Minor injury due to failure of equipment	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Rare	3
3	Major injury due to failure of procedures	Head and neck injuries		H		Very High	Rare	12
4	Minor injury due to failure of procedures	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Rare	3
5	Injury due to falling off an obstacle	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Possible	8
6	Injury due to heavy landing	Fractures		H		High	Possible	19

Archery

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Misdirection when shooting arrows	Missing the target	S			Negligible	Unlikely	2
2	Arrow ricochet	Archer being hit by an arrow		H		Moderate	Unlikely	9
3	Arrow ricochet	Non-archer being hit by an arrow		H		Moderate	Unlikely	9
4	Minor injury from bow string or arrow	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Unlikely	5

Knife throwing

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Misdirection when throwing knives	Missing the target	S			Negligible	Unlikely	2
2	Knife ricochet	Knife thrower being hit by a knife		H		Moderate	Unlikely	9
3	Knife ricochet	Non-knife thrower being hit by a knife		H		Moderate	Unlikely	9
4	Minor injury from knife	Lacerations		H		Negligible	Rare	1

Night hiking

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Injury due to failure of procedures	Loosing hikers	S			Negligible	Possible	4
2	Slips, trips or falls	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Possible	8
3	Effects of cold	Hypothermia		H		Moderate	Unlikely	9
4	Fatigue of hikers	Exhaustion		H		Moderate	Rare	6
5	Adverse weather conditions	Lightning strikes		H		Very High	Rare	12
6	Tick bites	Lyme's disease		H		Moderate	Almost certain	20
7	Drinking polluted water	Stomach upsets		H		Moderate	Rare	6
8	Medical problem with existing condition	Death		H		Very High	Almost certain	25
9	Torches switched on and off	Photosensitive epilepsy		H		Moderate	Almost certain	20

Campsite games

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Slips, trips or falls	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Possible	8
2	Running on uneven ground	Ankle and other injuries		H		Minor	Possible	8
3	Injury due to falling carrying equipment, jumping over obstacles etc.	Ankle and other injuries		H		Minor	Possible	8
4	Sparks or contact with bonfire flames	Minor burns		H		Minor	Possible	8

Use of indoor facilities

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Slips, trips or falls	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Possible	8
2	Stacked Chairs/tables toppling or falling	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Possible	8
3	Fire hazard	Burns and smoke inhalation		H		Very High	Possible	21
4	Personal Injury	Fractures, Lacerations and abrasions		H		High	Possible	19
5	Falls from top bunk beds	Fractures, Lacerations and abrasions		H		High	Possible	19
6	Lack of supervision	Child abuse	S			Negligible	Possible	4

Outdoor camping

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Effects of heat and cold	Hypothermia and hyperthermia		H		High	Unlikely	15
2	Sunburn	Discomfort		H		Minor	Unlikely	5
3	Running into/falling over guy lines, tent pegs	Lacerations and abrasions		H		Minor	Likely	13
4	Damp Ground conditions	Slips	S			Negligible	Unlikely	2
5	Hygiene – Showering & Toilets	Disease spread		H		Moderate	Likely	18
6	Spread of fire	Forrest fire			E	Very High	Unlikely	17
7	Proximity of roads	Pedestrian vehicle accident		H		Very High	Possible	21
8	Lack of supervision	Child abuse	S			Negligible	Possible	4
9	Vagrants	Security of campers	S			Very High	Unlikely	17
10	Lack of Emergency Plan	Injury of campers	S			Negligible	Likely	7
11	Proximity of wooded areas	Missing/lost campers	S			Negligible	Unlikely	2
12	Tent collapse	Bodily injury		H		Negligible	Rare	1
13	Hitting in pegs	Bodily injury		H		Minor	Likely	13
14	Tent equipment e.g. Pinching skin between pole joints, poking in eye with tent poles and being hit by a tent pole	Bodily injury	S			Negligible	Possible	4
15	Lifting tent bags	Strained muscle		H		Minor	Possible	8

General cleaning

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Cleaning products	Contact with cleaning products	S			Negligible	Possible	4
2	Incorrect storage of cleaning products.	Environmental contamination			E	Negligible	Rare	1

Environmental

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Wild life	Bitten or stung by wild life		H		Very High	Likely	24
2	Invasive flora	Disease transmission		H		High	Possible	19

Meal serving / Food hygiene

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Hot liquid or food	Bodily injury		H		High	Possible	19
2	Wet floors in food prep areas	Slips, trips and falls.	S			Minor	Likely	13
3	Unhygienic food prep areas	Food poisoning		H		High	Almost Certain	23

Swimming

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Injury due to slips, trips or falls	Bodily injury		H		Moderate	Possible	14
2	Swimmers not wearing life jackets	Drowning		H		Very High	Unlikely	17
3	Diving into rivers and / or dams	Spinal injury		H		Very High	Likely	24

Slip slide

NO.	HAZARD	RISK	S	H	E	Consequence	Probability	Risk Rating
1	Unsuitable terrain	Bodily Injury		H		Moderate	Likely	18
2	Slide surface cross contamination	Infections from foot/skin conditions spreading to participants		H		Moderate	Possible	14
3	Unintended Slips, Trips and Falls	Bodily Injury		H		Moderate	Unlikely	9
4	Friction burns from Tarpaulin	Bodily Injury		H		Minor	Possible	8
5	Lack of supervision	Colliding with each other whilst on the slide		H		Minor	Likely	13
6	Inhalation of water	Choking		H		Minor	Possible	8
7	Allergic to soap used	Skin irritation		H		Negligible	Rare	1