


RISK ASSESSMENT

LOCATION/ACTIVITY/ISSUE BEING ASSESSED:	Archery Tag
SERVICE/TEAM:	Countryside Service – Dinton Activity Centre
NAME OF ASSESSOR(s):	Mike Bennett
DATE OF ASSESSMENT:	05/12/2025
DATE FOR REVIEW:	December 2026
APPROVED BY:	Signature: _____ Date: 01/03/2026  Name: Gemma Wilford

SUMMARY (* delete as appropriate)	
Risk level without additional controls:	HIGH / MEDIUM / LOW
Additional control measures required:	YES / NO
Risk level with additional controls:	HIGH / MEDIUM / LOW

Hazard	Risk Who could be harmed & how?	Control Measures
Arrows	Arrow contact with face/body	<p>Hitting an opponent with an arrow is the idea of the game – players will be aware of this before participating. The arrows are blunt, with foam ends. Participants to wear face mask at all times when playing. Masks are checked before and after use. Instructor always present. The playing area is defined.</p> <p>There is a “no go zone” between the teams that cannot be entered, meaning that opponents cannot get too close to one another. Players instructed to only aim at the opposing team.</p>

Arrows	<p>Risk to public</p> <p>Misuse of equipment</p>	<p>players not taking part remain masked or are removed to a 'safe zone' away from the playing area where they are safely outside the range of arrows.</p> <p>Range signposted when in use & monitored by instructor. Play stopped with whistle blast if public trespass on range.</p> <p>Arrows removed from range when not in use. Players supervised when on range. Safety briefing covers appropriate use of equipment inc. demo.</p>
Bows	<p>Equipment Failure</p> <p>Misuse</p> <p>Incorrect equipment causing injury to participant</p> <p>Strings contacting arms String entangled in hair/clothing</p>	<p>Equipment sourced through reputable company. Pre use checks. Bi-annual inspections of equipment logged on papertrail. Equipment that does not pass inspection to be removed from use. Players are briefed not to use an arrow that is damaged.</p> <p>Bows and arrows to be kept locked up until needed for use. Instructor to watch for arrows being lost outside the pitch during play and efforts to be taken to locate them. Equipment to be counted in and out each day.</p> <p>Suitable equipment (bows) to be offered to the players. Players to be offered the opportunity to do some warmup activities.</p> <p>Arm guards are provided and must be worn while playing, a brief will explain how to shoot a bow safely and what to expect. Long sleeved clothing worn. No loose clothing Long hair tied back Closed toed footwear worn.</p>
Range	Tresspass by public or animals	<p>The game will be played on the existing archery range. The area is a defined space. Signage will be displayed on the fence to discourage park users entering the field of play whilst the game is operating. Instructor to use whistle to stop play immediately if anyone enters the play area not wearing a mask.</p>

	Slips, Trips, Falls Player Collisions	<p>The bows are not strong enough to shoot arrows out of the field, and the arrows are weighted at the front by the rubber stopper which means they cannot travel far.</p> <p>The location is a flat, grassed field. Instructors will visually check the pitch for and remove any foreign objects during set-up. Players will be made aware of the risk if the grass is wet.</p> <p>Briefing will include a warning of the possibility of a collision between players.</p>
Participant Behaviour	Horseplay	Correct behaviour and rules to be covered in safety brief. Instructor to stop play with whistle and correct behaviour if needed. Non-playing participants to wait in safe zone.
Masks	Dirty Masks – Limited visibility	Facemasks will be treated with supplier’s recommended cleansing and disinfecting product after each session. Players will be told to keep the same mask for the duration of the session.
Adverse Weather	Exposure hyperthermia & dehydration High wind conditions – lost arrows or off course arrows	<p>Instructors to check all participants are dressed appropriately for the weather. Instructors to monitor participants for signs of dehydration. On hot days, longer rest breaks to be offered.</p> <p>Activity to be stopped in case of high winds, lightning storms</p>
Unexpected Events		The game can be stopped with the instructors’ whistle, which will be briefed.

REVIEWS AND REVISIONS

Review date	Name of Assessor	Amendments to assessment	Approved by Manager	Date of next review
December 2024	Mike Bennett	Assessment Created	Mike Bennett	December 2025