

RISK ASSESSMENT

LOCATION/ACTIVITY/ISSUE BEING ASSESSED:	Disc Golf Hire and Structured Activity at Dinton Activity Centre	
SERVICE/TEAM:	Countryside Service	
NAME OF ASSESSOR(s):	Mike Bennett	
DATE OF ASSESSMENT:	01 December 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 *

What are the significant hazards?	What could go wrong? Who could be harmed and how?	What is being done to control the risks?	Amendment notes
Verbal/ assault from general public in Country Park	<p>Injury or distress</p> <p>Instructors, participants and public are at risk of harm</p>	<p>Staff to brief participants about respecting other users of the park.</p> <p>Participants aware of public access for recreational activities.</p>	
Entering activity areas Archery, Zip wire and Bushcraft	<p>Archery – Hit by arrows in flight causing injury. Walking into an arrow imbedded in the ground causing injury.</p> <p>Zip wire area – Risk of injury from being struck by person on the Zip wire or struck by trailing rope</p> <p>Bushcraft area – Tripping over Guy-lines or fires – Injury and burns.</p>	<p>Participants briefed of “Out of Bounds” areas. Archery area Fenced off and clearly sign-posted. Zip wire area staffed when in operation. Bushcraft area will be evident when it is in use.</p> <p>Brief participants to follow guidance of the instructor on that session.</p> <p>During large events and private land hire, Lea Heath will be closed off. This</p>	

	Disc golf and other activity Participants are at risk of harm	includes access to the disc golf course. The PROW will remain open.	
Falling in the water	Drowning Waterborne diseases	Participants to be briefed on the dangers of water and to be given overview of where water is (Embrook to the west and small pond to the south & North) & provided with map of the course. Participants must wash their hands before consuming food and drink. If participants swallowed water advice given to see a GP if symptoms of waterborne diseases occur.	
Overhead Powerlines	Electrocution and death if tampered with Instructor, participants and public are at risk of harm	Power line poles are sign posted with hazard warnings. Participants briefed not to try to retrieve discs lodged on powerlines and to report their location.	
Contact with animal faeces.	Illness Instructor, participants and public are at risk of harm	Participants advised of the hazards of Animal Faeces on Lea Heath and to wash hands after play. Two waste bins provided. Customers advised to keep dogs under control and asked to pick up dog waste and use the bins provided. Contact with faeces could be made if your disc lands in poo. Berkshire Disc Golf club maintain the baskets and cut the long grass around the baskets where you are likely to miss on putting.	
Contact with wildlife and other animals	Bites, stings, ticks and Injury Dogs Participants, staff and public are at risk of harm	Participants advised of the dangers of provoking wildlife and asked to stay away. In particular, take caution in areas of long grass due to snakes.	

		<p>Participants advised to be respectful around dogs.</p> <p>Staff to be advised of any participant allergic to bees or wasps and relevant medication carried with participant and staff.</p> <p>If participant or staff has a tick, they should be advised to seek medical assistance to have it removed and go to GP if any symptoms of Lyme disease occur.</p>	
Tree falls, low branches and vegetation.	<p>Head injuries, crush injuries, other injuries</p> <p>Participants, staff and public are at risk of harm</p> <p>Eye injury from low branches</p> <p>Scratches, thorns and splinters if retrieving discs from denser vegetation.</p>	<p>Participants advised to keep away from and report any dangerous looking trees.</p> <p>All trees on Lea Heath are checked quarterly by the Ranger team.</p> <p>Participants advised not to play in high winds due to risk of falling tree branches and flying discs out of control.</p> <p>Participants advised not to run near trees due to risk of running into low branches.</p>	
Getting lost on site.	<p>Distress</p> <p>Participants, staff and public are at risk of harm</p>	<p>Participants to be provided with map or equipment and basic explanation of how to use it. Advised that the Heath is enclosed by fence and the Embrook.</p> <p>The course tees and baskets are numbered, and by each basket there is a waymark pointing out the direction of the next tee to help people navigate the course.</p> <p>A map is displayed in the activity centre reception for people to observe and take a photo of, using their smart phone.</p>	

		<p>Map has emergency contact number on it so participants can call for help. Advised that participants have access to a functioning mobile phone.</p>	
Flying Discs	<p>Injury from being struck by a disc</p> <p>Participants, staff and public are at risk of harm</p>	<p>We only hire our Putters and Mid-Range Discs as opposed to Fairway Drivers which fly a long distance and fast. This is to minimise risks of discs flying out of control, in random directions and striking people or animals.</p> <p>Players take responsibility to ‘spot’ at all times when playing – this means at least one person is always watching the area of play and will call a halt to play if any other persons or animals stray into this area. Play does not resume until the person/animal is out of range of a thrown disc.</p> <p>Players are briefed on ‘rules’ of disc golf: When possible, stand behind the person throwing.</p> <p>Ensure that you can move out of the way of a disc.</p> <p>Be ready to shout a warning (“heads” or “up”) if a disc unexpectedly flies towards a person or animal.</p> <p>Be aware of who is throwing and where they are.</p> <p>If a person is situated in a usual line of play and is not moving (e.g., having a picnic); then players ensure that someone takes responsibility to stand in front of that person(s) to offer protection.</p>	

		If such a throw is deemed too risky, then the players will amend their route to the next hole.	
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REVIEWS AND REVISIONS					
Review date	Name of Assessor	Is assessment still valid?	If not, list adjustments with details of who will action and by when	Approved by Manager	Date of next review
3/2/2020	Nicky Dennis	Yes	Notes added <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand washing before consuming food or drink. • Bee stings and ticks. • Low branches, eye injuries and not running • During large events and private land hire, Lea Heath will be closed off. This includes access to the disc golf course. The PROW will remain open. • Berkshire Disc Golf club maintain the baskets and cut the long grass around the baskets and tees • We only hire our Putters and Mid-Range Discs as opposed to Fairway Drivers which fly a long distance and fast. This is to minimise risks of discs flying out of control, in random directions and striking people or animals. • The course tees and baskets are numbered, and by each basket there is a waymark pointing out the direction of the next tee to help people navigate the course. • A map is displayed in the activity centre reception for people to observe and take a photo of, using their smart phone. 	Tanya Lee	April 2021
19/01/21	Jack Walling	Yes	N/A	Jack Walling	Jan 2022
Feb 2023	Isabel R.S.	Yes	N/A	Richard Ashwell	March 2024
Dec 2024	Mike Bennett	Yes	No Changes	Richard Ashwell	March 2025
Dec 2024	Mike Bennett	Yes	No Changes	Mike Bennett	Dec 2025