

Activity Risk Assessment		Tomahawk Throwing	
Date of Initial Assessment	11 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	Date of Initial Management Committee Approval	12 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Latest assessment review	24 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Review approved and issued by Management Committee	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2026
Signature	TF	Signature	PEC

Hazards	Existing Control Measures	Who is at Risk?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled
Slips, Trips, Falls from Uneven Surface	Range area to be cleared of any branches. Walkways and paths to be clearly defined and marked. Participants warned to look out for exposed tree-roots and tree-stumps as part of the safety briefing given at the start of each session. Instructor supervising the session to conduct a visual inspection of the range area and clear any branches or obstructions which may have fallen. Contact the site services team if assistance is required for clearing the range.	Everyone	
Injury from falling targets, when retrieving tomahawks.	Annual checks and maintenance of the target stands, as per the planned maintenance schedule. Leaders supervising the session to check that the targets are secure, at the start of each session, prior to use.	Participants and Instructors	
Cuts and Injuries from sharp edges on tools, while retrieving tomahawks	Angels and Tomahawks to have dulled edges and be purpose made for throwing. Participants warned about this potential risk, including residual burrs, as part of the safety briefing given at the start of each session. If any burrs are found, they are to be immediately filed down or the tool is to be removed from use until it has been.	Participants and Instructors	
Being hit by a tool (release behind thrower, over thrown, misdirection or rebound)	Targets are to be mounted on a suitable back wall with a clear space behind. Area behind the targets to be clearly marked and fenced/roped off while the range is in use so that there is no change of anyone walking behind the targets during a session. All participants to be given a full safety briefing and instruction on the correct technique for the activity, which is to include both throwing and retrieving tools. All participants shall wear strong covered shoes/boots no canvas trainers or wellies boots and clothing (nothing flappy or dangly). Groups to be advised of this. Participants are to stand a minimum of 3m from the target while throwing. The "Throwing-Line" is to be clearly marked. Participants waiting for their turn must remain in the clearly marked waiting area until they are called by one of the instructors/Range Officer. Spectators are to remain outside of the activity area, which is to be clearly marked and fenced/roped off at all times while in use. Instructors are to be positioned to the side of the participants while throwing.	Everyone	

	<p>Range officer to check around the participants on the throwing line, and is to check that all other personnel are clear before giving the throw command.</p> <p>Range Officer to confirm that all tools have been thrown prior to giving the command to retrieve tools from the target, using the “Jazz Hands” principles. Tools are only to be retrieved from the target when the Range Officer gives the command to do so.</p> <p>Tools in the target to be retrieved before those on the ground, unless the Range Officer deems the ones sticking out of the group to be a greater hazard than those in the target to the participants retrieving tools.</p> <p>If “Bear “Trap” presents itself, these are to be retrieved by a competent, trained person only.</p>		
Strains or aggravation of old/pre-existing injuries from repetitive movement	<p>Safety briefing at the start of the session to all participants to include a warning that the activity is not suitable for those with pre-existing injuries. Participants to be advised that they should stop if they feel they’re getting to tired or feel any discomfort.</p> <p>Appropriate tools to be chosen by the leaders supervising the session, based on age, strength and ability of the group.</p>	Participants and Instructors	
Injuries due to participants becoming distracted	<p>All groups to be supervised and managed by appropriate leaders.</p> <p>At least one leader must be trained and assessed as competent, in line with association rules for the activity.</p> <p>The safety briefing at the start of each session to include expectations as to how participants are to behave while undertaking the activity.</p> <p>Training course for leaders include aspects of group management for the activity.</p>	Everyone	
Injury following misuse or unauthorized access to the tools/activity	<p>Tools to be stored securely in a locked container when not in use.</p> <p>Tools to be counted out and back in at each session</p> <p>Only trained, authorized instructors to be given access to the climbing store where the tools are located.</p>	Everyone	
Injuries due to lapse in judgement or concentration from instructor fatigue	<p>When operating for prolonged periods, ensure that there are enough staff to rotate responsibilities.</p> <p>Schedule for regular breaks and refreshments according to the weather conditions and nature of the groups participating.</p>	Everyone	
Injuries due to untrained instructors	<p>All instructors to be trained either by KATTA or by a nominated training under the permission of the Oaks Scout Campsite.</p> <p>Any assistance instructors will have appropriate experience and be under the supervision of a trained instructor.</p>	Everyone	

A Safety briefing should be conducted before the start of the session by the leader in charge. All instructions are provided in the given activity guidance pack.