

Risk Assessment: Air Rifle Shooting at Sherratts Wood

Target shooting is, as its name implies, the sport of shooting at artificial targets as opposed to live quarry. It is an international sport, featured at the Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games. The game is about marksmanship skill; the ability to repeatedly place shots in as small an area as possible in the centre of the target. Real guns firing real projectiles are used so the activity takes place on appropriately designed ranges and safety is of prime importance. This focus on safety makes target shooting amongst the safest of all sports and shooting develops in its participants a strong safety culture with a self-disciplined approach to the handling of hazardous objects.

HAZARD	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED	IS THE RISK ADEQUATELY CONTROLLED OR IS MORE NEEDED?	RISK LEVEL
Injury from equipment or equipment failure	All	All the equipment should be visually inspected immediately before use. All equipment is subject to inspections both on a monthly and yearly basis.	Low
Injury from improper handling/ improper use of equipment	All	All persons should have adequate instruction and training (minimum NSRA YPS Instructor) in using the equipment for its intended purpose.	Low
Lead poisoning from pellets	All	Verbal warning given in briefing. Signage at range to warn of risk. No eating or Drinking in the range facility. Reminder to wash hands at end of session.	Low/medium
Injury from pellet caused by bounce back	All	Pellets are made of a soft deformable material (lead). Backstop is constructed to minimise risk of bounce back. Eye protection is available and must be worn by everyone at activity whilst in the range	Low/medium
Conduct of participants whilst waiting to use range	All	A responsible adult, who is not the range officer in charge of the activity, is responsible for the supervision of the participants when they are not directly engaged on the activity(in the range).	Low
Minor cuts and abrasions	All	Qualified first aider should be present throughout the activity. First aid kit must be on site during this activity.	Low
Weather conditions	All	Activity leader will assess any weather risk before and during the session and their decision on the abandonment of the session is final.	Low

Compiled by Kevin Hewitt 17/02/2024

Next Review Date Feb 2025