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| **Name of Activity** | Air Rifles | **Date of Risk Assessment** | 20.5.24 | **Name of who undertook this Risk Assessment** | Graham Thorpe  John Gibson |
| **Date of Next Review** | May 2026 |

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| **Hazard Identified? / Risks from It?** | **Who is at Risk?** | **How are the risks already controlled?**  **What extra controls are needed?** | **What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?** |
| ***Hazard*** *– something that may cause harm or damage.*  ***Risk*** *– the chance of it happening.* | *Young people*  *Leaders*  *Visitors?* | ***Controls*** *– Ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk from it. For example - you might use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way the activity is carried out.* | *Keep* ***checking*** *throughout the activity in case you need to change it…or even stop it! This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.* |
| **Misuse of rifles**  -Risk of misfire  -Risk of trapment of fingers & part of hand in breach  -Risk of eye trauma / blindness  -Risk of impact injury | Participants / Instructor in Range | **Participants are only allowed to handle the rifles when they are being supervised by an NSRA (National Small Bore Rifle Assn) qualified instructor**  All participants to be given safety briefing prior to the commencement of the activity in the waiting / viewing room, where the rules explained to them at the beginning of the session  A trained instructor must be in range at all times whilst shooting is taking place and they are to remain vigilant at  Anyone misusing the rifle or not paying attention to the safety rules is stopped from taking part in the activity  Participants are not left alone with rifles under any circumstances  Safety glasses provided must be used by the participant and persons in the vicinity. |  |
| **Participant / Group behaviour**  -Risk of general injury | Participants | The instructor explains the rules and what is expected of participants  The group / party leader and instructors are responsible for making sure that the group are following the rules |  |
| **Rifle being stored loaded**  -Risk of eye trauma / blindness  -Risk of impact injury | Participants / Instructor in Range | The instructor checks at the end of the session that the rifle barrels are clear  If the instructor finds the rifle is loaded, they must take it to the range and discharge it in an appropriate manner |  |
| **Loading the rifle (danger of loading whilst pointing at another person)**  -Risk of eye trauma / blindness  -Risk of impact injury | Participant | Instructor to give clear demonstration and instructions on the safe way in which to load the rifle  Instructor to supervise whilst participants are loading their rifles  Participants told not to put their finger near the trigger when loading the rifle  Number of people at the firing points controlled by the instructor |  |
| **Participants unfamiliar with cocking and loading rifle**  -Risk of trapment of fingers & part of hand in breach | Participant | Instructor demonstrates where participants are to place their hands when they are loading the rifle  Instructor to supervise to make sure that participants are following the instructions |  |
| **Air rifles discharged other than down the range or when people not behind the firing line.**  -Risk of eye trauma / blindness  -Risk of impact injury | Participants / Instructor in Range | Instructor to give clear demonstration and instructions on the safe way in which to load the rifle.  All participants to be given safety briefing prior to the commencement of the activity in the waiting / viewing room, where the rules explained to them at the beginning of the session  Anyone found to be discharging their rifle in a manner not in keeping with the instruction given will be removed from the activity |  |
| **Impact from pellet (or particles of pellet during firing)**  -Risk of eye trauma / blindness  -Risk of impact injury | Participants / Instructor in Range | All participants are to be provided with protective glasses for use during shooting activity.  For participants who wear glasses, personal safety glasses or over glasses are required for individuals to use the range.  The instructor gives clear and simple instructions on the rules of the range.  At all times, a Maximum of Two Leaders / supervisory adults, one of which shall be the permit holder / qualified instructor are required in the range itself and an additional Leader / supervisory adult in the waiting area.  At all times participants are supervised by a qualified instructor The instructor checks that everyone has understood the rules before commencing the activity  Access to the range is controlled by the instructor, with the waiting area door closed during shooting.  Access to pellets is controlled by the instructor  Non participants to remain in the waiting area with only 4 participants at any time allowed to ensure the range room.  When the participants change the targets over, the instructor will first check that the rifles are clear and no pellets are loaded When changing the targets, the instructor stays with the rifles on the shooting line  Participants are not allowed to be at the shooting stations when there are people down the range  Rifles must be pointing in a safe direction at all times  No one is to turn around when they are holding a rifle Participants in the waiting area are asked to remain quiet and not distract the people shooting  Rifles must be left in the broken position when people are down range |  |
| **Over shoots and side shots**  -Risk of eye trauma / blindness  -Risk of impact injury | Participants / Instructor in Range | Participants given clear instruction on the direction of shooting. Hanging catch nets fixed in place to prevent pellets from going out of the range boundaries  Physical stops behind targets to stop stray pellets  No access to the sides or the rear of the range  Safety glasses provided must be used by the participant and persons in the vicinity. |  |
| **Uncontrolled spectators in range**  -Risk of eye trauma / blindness  -Risk of impact injury | Participants | No spectators are to be allowed on the range during shooting. Viewing from the waiting area is permitted. |  |
| **Equipment failure – Injured by equipment.**  -Risk of misfire  -Risk of eye trauma / blindness  -Risk of impact injury | Participants / Instructor in Range | Equipment checked at prior to each use and recorded by a competent person, and recorded on the Air Rifle Inspect sheet which is situated in the Gun Cabinet  All equipment is serviced annually. checked prior to every use, removing from use any rifle deemed unsafe.  All damage reported to a member of Boyd Site Team using the Air Refle Damage Reporting Form, which is situated in the Gun Cabinet.  Clean rifles on a regular basis and lightly oil working parts for storage. |  |
| **Equipment failure – Injury through uncontrolled equipment**  -Risk of misfire  -Risk of eye trauma / blindness  -Risk of impact injury | Participants / Instructor in Range | Only Boyd Air Rife Equipment can be used on the range.  No personal air rifles or air pistols are permitted to be sued on the range. |  |
| **Unauthorised use – Injured by equipment**  -Risk of misfire  -Risk of trapment of fingers & part of hand in breach  -Risk of eye trauma / blindness  -Risk of impact injury | Unauthorised Participants | Equipment is kept in a locked store when not in use.  Equipment to be returned to the Gun Cabinet at the end of each session.  Rifles and pellets never to be left unattended. |  |
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| ***Review****:*  *12.4.22 – Original Release*  *14.6.22 – Reviewed to emphasise need to wear safety glasses provided*  *17.9.22 – Reviewed and amend following incident 12.5.22*  *20.5.24 – Reviewed with no changes required* | | | |