

## RISK ASSESSMENT – CAMPFIRES

A supervising adult with the group should be responsible for First Aid.

The Emergency Muster Point is by the Car Park.



**Please report all Accidents or Near Misses in an Accident Book, which are located in the Solid Shelter or in phone cupboard in Foyer of House.  
A First-Aid kit can also be found in the Solid Shelter.**

Hazard	Who/ what might be harmed	Control measures	Person(s) responsible for control measures
Unfavourable weather	<b>Anyone</b>	Reschedule, cancel session or move inside (without the fire) if you believe the weather to be unsafe, i.e. lightning, high wind or heavy rain	<b>Instructor (in consultation with Group Leader)</b>
Low hanging branches	<b>Participants</b>	Regular maintenance work by contractor to reduce the risk from falling deadwood and low branches	<b>Estate Manager and contractors</b>
Falling branches			
Nettles and brambles		Regular maintenance work to control stinging/prickly vegetation in immediate area. Know the boundaries	
Disturbing bee or wasp nests	<b>Anyone</b>	Regular inspections for wildlife and pest activity followed up by signage and with the appropriate treatment by suitably qualified personnel	<b>Campfire leader</b>
Hot embers causing further fire		Clear and tidy fire base before you start by spreading cold ash beyond the perimeters of the campfire seating. Leave the embers from your fire in situ on the base when finished	
Air borne hot ash and embers		Do not agitate the fire to provoke flying embers	
Out of control fire		A full fire bucket must be on hand and fires must only be lit and contained on the provided bases. Fires should be of a reasonable size and flames never allowed to be any more than 1 metre high. Fires should never be left unattended.	
Slips, trips and falls	<b>Participants</b>	Area between fire base and benches and the main path to be kept clear of wood and other trip hazards at all times. At end of campfire please put all unused wood on wood pile.	
Smoke inhalation and heat being generated by fire		Be conscious of the wind direction and seat or move people accordingly	

Hazard	Who/ what might be harmed	Control measures	Person(s) responsible for control measures
Flammable liquids	Participants	These should never be used to start the fire	Campfire leader
Action songs		Do not choose songs that require people to stand up and move around that may get too lively or out of hand	
Hypothermia		Ensure participants are kept moving in cold weather	
Bad weather		Campfires should not be held during high wind or if there is lightning around	
Strains		No wood that can't be lifted easily in one hand should be used on fire	Campfire leader and supervising adults
Injury to eyes or head		No wood should be carried above shoulder height	
Injury due to lack of supervision		Close supervision by responsible adults in correct ratios at all times	Supervising adults
Stabbing injuries or splinters to soles of feet or hands		Do not climb on wood pile which may contain rusty nails and screws. Take care when handling wood, especially pallet wood.	
Injury to feet		All participants to wear closed-toed shoes – no sandals	
Cuts from flints		Supervision and warning that these should not be played with	
Burns from clothing or camp blankets catching fire		No participant should be walking around in the area between the fire base and front benches once the fire is lit	
The dark		If it is likely to be dark at the end of the campfire at least the supervising adults should have torches with them to ensure everybody can see where they are going on leaving	
Saws and Axes	Anyone	These should only be used by adults or children under close supervision. This equipment should be stored safely and never left unattended	

#### Additional controls if using the fire for cooking

Burns and scalds from hot water or fat	Participants	Ensure any grid used is set on bricks, and that any utensil used is propped securely, and that it is stable	Campfire leader and supervising adults
Grids and brick becoming trip hazards		Ensure only grids and bricks in use are around the fire area. Please return any grids to under the barbeque and bricks to the tree beside the main campfire where the woodpile is	
Flames		Most foods only require embers or very small flames to produce sufficient heat.	
Long hair		Long hair should be tied back	
Crowding of fire		Ensure everyone stays off the fire base and the group take turns to cook	
Hygiene		Ensure hand sanitizer is used by everyone before handling any food	
Food poisoning		Ensure all food is properly cooked through	
Toasting sticks		Ensure these are long enough and not waved around in the air	
Burns from cooked food		Will be hot and may burn mouth so may need to cool slightly	
Jarman Centre benching melting and catching fire	Jarman Centre benches and picnic tables	Do not allow any hot disposable barbeques, pots or fire grids to be placed on any Jarman Centre benches or picnic tables	