

## Risk Assessment

**Activity:** Air Rifle shooting

**Venue:** Dernford Nook

**Date of Assessment:** 01 January 2026

**Review due:** January 2027



HAZARD	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED?	RISK	RISK CONTROLS	RESIDUAL RISK
Misuse of air rifle	All	4	Instruction given and understood by participants before the activity takes place. Activity supervised at all times by a qualified (NSRA) experienced instructor to ensure that the rules are complied with.	1
Impact from pellet	All	5	All participants are provided with protective goggles. The instructor gives clear and simple instructions on the rules of the range. At all times participants are supervised by a NSRA qualified instructor. Instructor checks that everyone has understood the rules before continuing. Access to the range is controlled. There is a solid barrier between the firing stations and access to the range. Access to pellets is controlled by the instructor. Signs warning people of the danger if they enter the area. Physical barriers to prevent people walking in to the danger area.	1
Rifle being stored loaded	All	5	The instructor to check at the end of the sessions that the rifle's barrel is clear. All rifles are stored in the broken position.	1
Safety Equipment	All	5	Mandatory safety equipment (eye protection) to be worn at all times. Option extra equipment (eg ear defenders) offered to all who wish. Hazard vests worn by range officers and instructors	
Legal Compliance	All	4	All attendees are clear of any legal barriers to holding or shooting a gun. Other than used targets, no guns, pellets or other equipment to be taken from the range. Equipment stored safely and legally	1
Unauthorised use	All	5	Activity supervised at all times while at the activity range. All rifles and pellets removed from the range after use.	2

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Loading the rifle (danger of loading whilst pointing at another person)	User	<b>5</b>	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.	<b>2</b>
Equipment failure	User	<b>3</b>	Equipment checked before use: problems reported. Faulty equipment removed from service until repaired by trained personnel.	<b>1</b>
Slips and Trips	All	<b>3</b>	Rifle range checked before use by instructor. Participants told not to run when changing targets or when moving to or from firing line. First Aid Kit onsite.	<b>1</b>
Crushed fingers	User	<b>3</b>	Instructor demonstrates where participants are to put their hands when they are loading the rifle. Instructor to supervise to make sure they are following the instructions. First Aid Kit onsite.	<b>2</b>
Over shots and side shots	All	<b>2</b>	Participants given clear instruction on the direction of shooting. Range perimeter in sound condition. Physical stop behind targets to stop stray pellets.	<b>1</b>
Using lead pellets	All	<b>4</b>	Full safety briefing - Ensure participants wash hands thoroughly after the session	<b>3</b>
Distractions from outside the range	All	<b>4</b>	Ensure the door is closed (and locked if necessary) when session in progress. Make sure ALL know where the key resides.	<b>1</b>
Horseplay	All	<b>5</b>	Activity supervised at all times and leaders instructed that they are to ensure that their group complies with the operating rules and follow instructions given concerning waiting area, spectator line, shooting line. Participants to control their actions	<b>1</b>

<b>Level</b>	<b>Severity Description</b>	<b>Residual Risk Description</b>
1	Very low, i.e. Splinters	Very low, minimal risk, control measures more than adequate.
2	Minor injury, i.e. Cut, Grazing	Low, control measures adequate.
3	Medium, injury would stop casualty continuing with activity	Medium, control measures adequate
4	Serious injury requiring medical attention, i.e. broken bone, deep cut	High, control measures could require further consideration
5	Extremely harmful, very serious injury or fatality	Very high, intolerable, stop activity

