

Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment				
Risk Assessment for the activity of	Paintball			Date09/07/25
Group Name	MENA	Assessor		Karim Lotfy
Supervisor	Mamdouh (president)	Signed off		Karim
Description of event/activity	Playing Paintball. Dates to be decided. Tickets already bought from epic paintball. 24 limited tickets available. Paintball location will be in Lee Ln, Romsey SO16 0AD by Delta force paintball on the 15 th january 2026.			

PART A

(1) Risk identification			(2) Risk assessment				(3) Risk management			
Hazard	Potential Consequences	Who might be harmed (user; those nearby; those in the vicinity; members of the public)	Inherent			Control measures (use the risk hierarchy)	Residual			Further controls (use the risk hierarchy)
			Likelihood	Impact	Score		Likelihood	Impact	Score	
Impact of balls to people	Injury to face if a ball were to impact Minor bruising if impact is elsewhere on the body	All persons present	3	2	6	All activities will take place in a controlled environment with suitable netting in place to ensure that no balls exit the prescribed area with any force. All persons inside the controlled area will be wearing ASTM approved goggle systems, and be suitably briefed before entering the area	1	2	3	Call medical professional If needed. Inform site first aider of injury if its significant. If a member suspects a player is at high risk of injury due to excessive impact of balls in a specific area pull them off the field and stop them from playing to prevent injury.

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High pressure air cylinders	Burst disk venting causing injury due to freezing cold air	Society members and potential members	1	3	3	Cylinders inspected every 5 years by qualified professional and certified safe. Only competent society individuals having had suitable training will be permitted to make changes to air systems.	1	3	3	In the rare case an air cylinder does break report to manufacturer and suspend use of same manufacturer air tanks.
Markers not being made safe in appropriate	Injury to anyone inside the area made live by the presence of a non-safe marker	All persons present	2	3	6	Suitable inspections will be made by those leading the sessions to ensure that all markers are made safe before the removal of goggle systems	1	3	3	Ban anyone who doesn't follow making markers safe. Call a medical professional if an injury does happen. Inform SUSU if a attendee does not follow necessary safety rules.

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Goggle systems being removed	A serious chance of injury exists should goggles be removed, especially to the eyes	Individual not wearing the goggle system.	3	4	12	all persons at each event can be appropriately briefed on the requirement to always wear goggles except when the all clear has been given and all markers have suitable barrel socks on. Give briefings on what to do if your goggles fall off while playing.	1	4	4	Remove anyone who doesn't follow proper safety guidance and removes their mask too early. If eye injury does occur, inform emergency services and paintball site / facility we are at to use any emergency kit they have. Inform SUSU of attendee not following proper health and safety guidance.

Induction talk	Potential for injury later in the event if rules laid down in the safety brief not adhered to.	All persons present	2	2	4	All persons present must first listen to a safety brief given by the marshal. This brief will be given in accordance with the standard game brief given on sites which addresses the following: 1. Goggles must be worn at all times when the playing field is live, and/or direction is given by the event staff. 2. Close range shooting is not acceptable as it can cause injury and should be, where possible, avoided. 3. Markers must not be taken into any safe area at any point in time. 4. All rules for each game will be clearly explained as needed. 5. It may not be possible to separate novices and more experienced members 6. No player will be permitted to take to the field if they are suspected to be under the influence of alcohol.	1	2	2	Make sure anyone who arrives late also takes the induction talk. No one should be allowed on the field or near the markers without the induction talk. If someone does go onto the field without the induction talk, stop the game from playing, stop the field from being live by informing everyone to turn guns off and put barrel socks on then move everyone off the field. Give individual the induction talks.
Filling air systems; Possible injury if incorrectly carried out	Injury from bottle being forced out of fill system	Person filling the air system	2	2	4	No member of the club is permitted to fill air systems without having had a suitable training session. This training covers the details in the UK Paintball Sport Federation Guidelines HPA-1 document.	1	2	2	If the injury is serious enough inform relevant health and safety officers on the field. Inform paintball site of injury at their air tank filling system, as it would likely be due to a faulty air filler. Stop anyone from using air tank involved in injury.

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Very unlikely risk of air system exploding. Would be caused by mixing oil into the compressed air system.	Severe harm to persons nearest the air system and minor injuries to those in the vicinity.	Anybody in a 3M radius and in direct line of a possible projectile air system.	1	4	4	Always use bottles inside test dates and keep in good condition, do not use any oil or lubricants on the air systems. We also use a much lower operating pressure than the air systems are rated to and all members will be inducted with safe handling and care with air systems.	1	4	4	Immediately call emergency services if a air tank would explode. Have health safety attend to all affected immediately. Inform manufacturer of exploding air tank when time is available. Stop using that brand of air tank.

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Persons not involved with the event have a look around the netting to see what is going on without suitable protective equipment	Serious injury possible due to lack of suitable protective safety goggles.	Unauthorised persons who have entered the venue with out suitable protective equipment	2	4	8	Where possible, spare sets of goggles will be available for people who want to enter the venue during our events. Clear signage will indicate the need for these to be worn at all times past the netting. All persons present briefed on the procedure for a person without goggles entering the venue (barrel blocking devices applied and markers on the floor). In the event of any indoor training venue, doors will be closed with suitable signage.	1	4	4	If someone does walk into the field (beyond the netting) without goggles, immediately stop the game. If eye injury does occur contact emergency services.

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Slips, trips and falls	Chance of scrapes, bumps, pulled muscles or potentially broken bones if really unlucky	Members in unsuitable footwear or not paying attention to their surroundings.	2	1	2	Players are advised to wear suitable footwear prior to arriving. Where practicable all slipping/tripping hazards removed or clearly identified. All playing fields are regularly walked to identify and mark any new hazards	2	1	2	If the injury is serious and participant in a lot of pain or discomfort, seek medical attention immediately. Call 999 in an emergency. Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible, ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident reporting guide.
Loose Reballs on the floor	Due to the number of reballs that we use that remain on the floor until a match is over there is a chance a member could slip on them and fall over.	All persons present	2	1	2	Collect as many reballs as possible between matches to reduce trip hazard. Inform members playing of the hazard.	1	1	1	Insist to clean up all reballs due to health and safety before leaving venue. If we are forced out of the venue before being able to clean all reballs for some reason immediately inform SUSU and cube organisers of the potential trip hazard.

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General Fitness & First Aid	No first aider present leading to injuries being exasperated	Individual	2	2	4	All sites have at least one registered first aider present on site at all times. All players must declare any known injury or other ailment that may prevent them participating in the event(s). All first aiders should be made aware of players who may require specialist treatment. All players will sign a disclaimer following the standard pattern for most UK sites. Don't play if there is not a registered first aider present.	1	2	2	Make sure all society members respect first aiders advice. Make it clear to tell them of any potential illness. Make sure to get the field to inform us if the first aider is leaving or otherwise unavailable so we can stop playing in a safe manner.

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Injury due to incorrect handling of heavy items	Most likely issue is caused by incorrect lifting which can cause injury to the back and spine.	Members setting up the event and those moving heavy cylinders	2	2	4	All members who are doing manual handling will have been briefed in the requirements of the health and safety at work requirements	1	2	2	Make sure someone trained on manual handling keeps an eye on how everyone is moving heavy objects to ensure no injuries occur.

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Adverse Weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Injury Illness Slipping Burns	All who attend	4	3	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead organiser to check the weather are suitable for activities on the day Warn those attending to prepare by wearing appropriate clothing and footwear e.g. via social media posts, email invites In the case of hot weather organisers to advice participants to bring/wear appropriate level sunscreen, hydrate 	4	1	4	If adverse weather is too extreme to be controlled, the event should ultimately be cancelled or postponed to a different date

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Fire	Smoke inhalation, burns. Risk of extreme harm	All participants and organisers, any staff and spectators	2	5	10	Those leading the session must ensure they are aware of and fully understand the venue or location's fire procedures. Those leading must make sure that all exit routes are clearly highlighted and report any issues immediately to the venue. Highlight to all the participants the nearest emergency exit routes at the start of a session, and the importance of leaving calmly in case of an emergency. Avoid build-up of debris in the activity area. Consider accessibility requirements.	1	5	5	In case of an emergency, please pull nearest fire alarm (or rapidly inform others and facility staff if in an outdoor arena, where there is no fire alarm) and ensure all participants leave the venue calmly and safely. Once in a safe position to do so, call the emergency services on 999. Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident reporting guide

Version 2.1, 2021

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Overcrowding (at paintball sites and reball sties)	Physical injury	Event organisers and attendees	1	3	3	Do not push and shove. Inform site staff if overcrowding is occurring. Find alternative spaces to move people to. Know venue max capacity and don't have more people coming to the event. This includes spectators, players, and any referees / volunteers.	1	3	3	Seek medical attention if problem arises.	
Equipment damage (markers, masks)	Unnecessary financial strain.	Equipment user, SUSU and society members.	2	3	6	Train all attendees to handle equipment without causing unnecessary damage. Make sure attendees know equipment is valuable.	1	3	3	If a member is ignoring ways to keep equipment intact stop them from playing. If they continue to refuse to use equipment in a way that causes needless wear prevent them from attending future events.	

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Bad behaviour towards site staff, and lack of respect towards site facilities.	Reputational	SUSU and the societies reputation	2	3	6	Make sure members know there also representing SUSU and the society when at fields and events. Make sure to be respectful to all staff and other event attendees. Have committee hold any conversations which may cause conflict with site managers.	1	3	3	Do not allow any disrespectful people to keep attending society events. Apologise for any disrespectful behaviour and make sure to let them know its individual not group.
Community complaints (noise, litter, paint impact on environment)	Reputational	SUSU and the societies reputation	2	3	6	Make sure to clean up all litter after events. Make sure to not 'break' paintballs off – field (or in locations the site doesn't allow). Make sure to not be unnecessarily loud as to disturb other attendees enjoyment.	1	3	3	Always follow site managers advice on noise and paint impact.

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Player injury leading to claim	Financial and reputational consequences.	Society committee, player injured, SUSU's reputation.	2	3	6	As stated before, always brief members on health and safety before playing. Check safety equipment thoroughly yearly and keep an eye on masks while playing. Make sure that players know that paintball is a physical activity and are therefore liable to personal injury (like the ones stated in this RA). Be extremely strict on members who push health and safety guide.	1	3	3	Stop anyone from playing permanently if they don't seem to respect health and safety guidance. Report individual to SUSU.

PART B – Action Plan**Risk Assessment Action Plan**

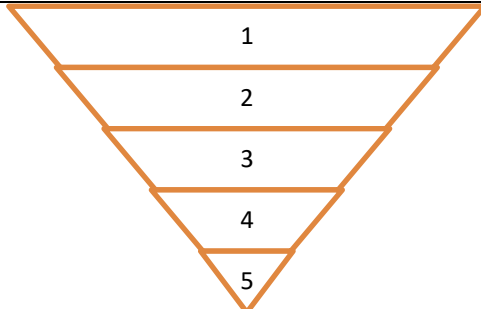
Part no.	Action to be taken, incl. Cost	By whom	Target date	Review date	Outcome at review date
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University of Southampton Health & Safety Risk Assessment

Version: 1.1/2025

1	Inform the members playing paintball of the risks involved. And share the risk assessment	mamdouh	26/01/2026		
2	Make sure a member committee has been present at the health and safety briefing at the start of play by a trained paintball referee	Karim	26/01/2026		
Responsible manager's signature: Print name: mamdouh Date:26/01/2026				Responsible manager's signature: Print name: karim Date: 26/02/2026	

Assessment Guidance

1. Eliminate	Remove the hazard wherever possible which negates the need for further controls	If this is not possible then explain why	
2. Substitute	Replace the hazard with one less hazardous	If not possible then explain why	
3. Physical controls	Examples: enclosure, fume cupboard, glove box	Likely to still require admin controls as well	
4. Admin controls	Examples: training, supervision, signage		
5. Personal protection	Examples: respirators, safety specs, gloves	Last resort as it only protects the individual	

LIKELIHOOD	5	5	10	15	20	25
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	1	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5	
	IMPACT					

Risk process

1. Identify the impact and likelihood using the tables above.
2. Identify the risk rating by multiplying the Impact by the likelihood using the coloured matrix.
3. If the risk is amber or red – identify control measures to reduce the risk to as low as is reasonably practicable.
4. If the residual risk is green, additional controls are not necessary.
5. If the residual risk is amber the activity can continue but you must identify and implement further controls to reduce the risk to as low as reasonably practicable.
6. If the residual risk is red do not continue with the activity until additional controls have been implemented and the risk is reduced.
7. Control measures should follow the risk hierarchy, where appropriate as per the pyramid above.
8. The cost of implementing control measures can be taken into account but should be proportional to the risk i.e. a control to reduce low risk may not need to be carried out if the cost is high but a control to manage high risk means that even at high cost the control would be necessary.

Impact		Health & Safety
1	Trivial - insignificant	Very minor injuries e.g. slight bruising
2	Minor	Injuries or illness e.g. small cut or abrasion which require basic first aid treatment even in self-administered.
3	Moderate	Injuries or illness e.g. strain or sprain requiring first aid or medical support.
4	Major	Injuries or illness e.g. broken bone requiring medical support >24 hours and time off work >4 weeks.
5	Severe - extremely significant	Fatality or multiple serious injuries or illness requiring hospital admission or significant time off work.

Likelihood	
1	Rare e.g. 1 in 100,000 chance or higher
2	Unlikely e.g. 1 in 10,000 chance or higher
3	Possible e.g. 1 in 1,000 chance or higher
4	Likely e.g. 1 in 100 chance or higher
5	Very Likely e.g. 1 in 10 chance or higher

