**Valley Bowmen of Huddersfield**

**RISK ASSESSMENT FOR FIREWORKS DISPLAYS AT THE FIELD**

**NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING RISK ASSESSMENT/UPDATE:** Will Kempf with Paul McGuire

**DATE OF RISK ASSESSMENT/UPDATE:** 23 April 2025

The aim of this risk assessment is to provide general information on the type of hazards adults and junior members (as well as others who may be involved) are exposed to.

The list given is by no means an exhaustive one.

Hazards & mitigations which are not listed but are specific to the event or day should be recorded on the check list sheet which follows.



**Risk assessment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ratios** | One marshal/coach for every 25 people with a minimum of 2.  Ideally 3 coaches for lighting fireworks and 4 others for parent and child control on the night |
| **Qualifications** | Previous experience over the years running events/coaching for the club |
| **Control Measures in force** | * First aid kit to be in pavilion * Coaches to keep parents and children behind the safety line * Gloves on for sparklers * Buckets of water * Drop zone (for spent fireworks) * Weather check especially wind * Test firing * Neighbours informed * Container for fireworks * One firing at a time * No rockets as in previous years (due to horses in field behind the safety zone) |

| **HAZARD** | **Risk before control Measure** | **Who is at risk** | **STEPS TO CONTROL RISK** | **RISK LEVEL if controls implemented** | **REVIEW AND DECISION** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Injury caused by fireworks**  Inadequate space  Spectators use fireworks | High | All | • 50m x 25m space has been allowed for the firing area.  • A dropping zone for spent fireworks of 100m x 50m is in place in a downwind direction (check weather conditions)  • Spectators are to be kept back on the opposite side from the dropping zone at least 25m from the firing zone.  • The area has been checked and is free from obstructions i.e. trees, overhead power cables and well away from buildings.  • Suitable secure area for firework storage inaccessible to public.  • Firing area supervised once fireworks set up.  • Spectators will not be allowed to enter the site with their own fireworks, including sparklers.  • Spent firework cases gathered, site also checked at first light    • Always supervised | Low | Checked on 23/04/2025 |
| **Adverse weather** | High | All | • Test launch of small firework to gauge effect  • Increase separation from fireworks and safety line / barriers  • If safe separation cannot be ensured delay / cancel display | Low | Checked on 23/04/2025 |
| **Fire**  Ignition of premises  Small fires | Medium | All | • Adequate separation from buildings (see above)  • Adequate water, sand buckets etc.  • Position water in appropriate places to allow quick access | Low | Checked on 23/04/2025 |
| **Crowd Control** |  |  | • Leader in place and responsible for crowd control i.e. keep on behind safety line  • Spectators will not be allowed into the display area | Low | Checked on 23/04/2025 |
| **Sparklers** |  |  | • One sparkler per person  • Water bucket available for finished ones  • Suitable gloves advised  • No waving or pointing at people with sparklers  • Kids lined up at all face same way for sparklers | Low | Checked on 23/04/2025 |
| **First aid cover** |  |  | • First aid equipment on site and close to use.  • Designated qualified first aider available.  • Mobile phones available | Low | Checked on 23/04/2025 |
| **Surrounding areas /Neighbours** |  |  | • Neighbours have been informed of the proposed display. |  | Checked on 23/04/2025 |
| **Surface of field / internal areas**  **Slips, Trips and Falls** |  |  | • Ensure arrangements are in place for clearing up and safely disposing of any litter left after the event  • Regular premises inspections.  • Adequate external lighting available – use field and pavilion flood lights | Low | Checked on 23/04/2025 |

**CHECKLIST for fireworks display**

Complete By:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | ✓ |
| **Named Leader** | Running / co-ordinating event insert name here: |  |
| **Marshalls/Coaches** | Sufficient: Names to be recorder here: |  |
|  | Marshalls & Coaches briefed ref. emergencies / duties |  |
|  | Torches available and working |  |
| **First Aid** | Qualified persons. Names present: |  |
|  | Adequate facilities (indoors, water, etc) |  |
|  | Briefed |  |
| **Sparklers** | One each |  |
|  | How controlled to prevent burns/use of gloves |  |
|  | Bucket |  |
| **Lighting** | Adequate in public access areas |  |
|  | Back up in case of failure |  |
| **Fireworks** | Positioning |  |
|  | Drop zone |  |
|  | Wind direction |  |
|  | Lighting |  |
|  | Experience / training of firer(s) |  |
|  | Personal protective equipment for firers |  |
|  | Dealing with misfires |  |
|  | Clearing up afterwards |  |
|  | Storage |  |
|  | Agreed emergency procedure |  |
|  | Control of parking/access for emergency vehicles |  |
| **Risks found during the event** | Write in the risk and agreed mitigations: |  |