

Sample Risk Assessment for our Tug of War

This is a SAMPLE risk assessment: we recommend that you use it to help you carry out your own risk assessment, which will include any other risks that are specific to your event, the location where you are holding it, or your users.

Transporting the tug of war					
What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	Likelihood 1 = not likely 2 = likely 3 = very likely	Level of harm 1 = minor injury 2 = moderate injury 3 = serious injury	Action that will be taken to prevent this hazard	Responsible person who will make sure that action is taken
Tug of War rope is very heavy to lift and manoeuvre	Those who are transporting the tug of war rope could injure their backs	2	1	At least two people will collect, lift or move the Tug of War rope in its wheelie bin wherever possible The rope is much heavier when wet. Everything possible will be done to keep the rope dry. If it starts to rain the rope should be put in a dry area as soon as possible.	
General					
A responsible person(s) will be appointed before the event. They will read the Tug of War Association Basic Skills manual before the event, and oversee the safe conduct of the game.					
The responsible person(s) for this event will be 1. 2.					

The Tug of War game

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	Likelihood 1 = not likely 2 = likely 3 = very likely	Level of harm 1 = minor injury 2 = moderate injury 3 = serious injury	Action that will be taken to prevent this hazard	Responsible person who will make sure that action is taken
Debris on the ground	Participants could receive cuts or abrasions, or get bacteria or other harmful substances on their clothing or skin	2	2	The game should take place on level ground that is not uneven or sloping. Before the game the entire area should be checked and cleared. In particular, any stones, glass or animal excretia should be removed.	
Wet ground	Participants could slip and injure themselves	2	2	Before the game the ground will be checked to ensure it is dry. Participants will all wear sturdy footwear. Any activities involving water will take place away from the tug of war area. If it starts to rain, or the playing area gets wet for any other reason, the game will be stopped immediately.	
Physical impact of taking part in the game	Participants could receive muscular/skeletal injuries (Back Pain, Joint Injuries, Strain Injuries)	2	2	Participants will warm up before the game. It is recommended that this will include a short jog/run, plus stretching exercises for the legs, back, arms, shoulders. The rules will be clearly explained before the start, including the referee's signals.	

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Rough texture of rope	Participants could receive rope burns and abrasions	3	1	<p>Participants will be offered gloves to wear.</p> <p>A visual check of the rope will be carried out before the game to check it doesn't have any debris on it that could cause injury.</p> <p>First aiders will be available for all minor injuries.</p>	
One team stops pulling during the game, or one team pulls much harder than the other	Participants could fall over together and be crushed by one another	2	2	<p>The age and ability of the teams should be evenly balanced, to ensure that one team cannot overwhelm the other to the extent that it could cause injury.</p> <p>Before commencing the teams should be told that they should not stop pulling until told to do so by the referee.</p>	
Rope breaking during game	Participants could fall over together and be crushed by one another	1	2	A visual check of the rope will be carried out before the game to check it is in good order, with no cuts, tears or weakened sections.	
Participants collide with or fall onto spectators	Spectators could be crushed, participants could be crushed, participants could be injured in the fall	1	1	The game area should be clearly marked out, and spectators should be kept outside this area.	

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Temporary line spray - irritant	Anybody who ingests or inhales the spray, or gets a lot of it on their skin, could become unwell.	1	1	The spray should be used in a well ventilated area. It should be stored securely when not in use, well away from children.	
Temporary line spray - flammable	The spray could catch fire, causing a fire that could injure anyone in the area	1	3	The spray must not be used near a naked flame. Smoking should be forbidden when the lines are being sprayed onto the ground. The spray will be stored in a safe place when it isn't being used.	