

Leeds University Union

Risk Assessment

Name of group	Hiking club		Date of assessment	13 th September 2009		
Hazards	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you doing already?	What further action is necessary?			
			Action required?	By whom?	When?	Done
<i>Lightning</i>	Group members. Electricution by direct hit and from falling rocks caused by lightning	weather forecast check when considering route/group objective. If lightening or thunder is forecast group will avoid ridges. If caught on ridges and/or exposed ground, leader to guide group to safety or shelter.	Weather check	Group leader	Before each trip	
<i>Drowning</i>	Group members. Death/injury by drowning. Hypothermia after being submersed in water.	Group members wishing to swim in open water will consult group leader before doing so, group leader will maintain close supervision of any outdoor swimming activities and must be first aid trained. Group leader will avoid in water river crossings where possible by seeking alternative routes, and will identify any required river crossings during planning or route/group objective. River crossings to be conducted carefully and under close supervision of group leader.	Leaders to be made aware of the guidelines in MLT Handbook for crossing rivers.	All group leaders	27/09/09	
<i>Exposure/ Hypothermia</i>	Group members. Hypothermia.	Group leader to check current weather forecast when considering route/group objective and to advise group members on correct kit and suitable clothing to take on route. Group leader will carry shelter/bivi bag and/or flask of hot drink during any activities conducted during inclement weather. Unsuitably prepared group members will be prevented from joining the trip and advised what is suitable for next time.	Talk at the intro meets to new members about suitable clothing and kit.	Gear sec	30/9/09 and 1/10/09	

<i>Falls from height</i>	Group members. Injury/Death from falling.	Group members will be made aware of the dangers of walking/ scrambling/ climbing at height, and will be informed about specific needs for wearing a safety helmet as per LUUHC Safety Policy. Group leader will carry a safety rope/climbing rope on scrambles/rock climbs/winter mountaineering and rock/ice protection as deemed necessary to suit route/objective.	Group to be made aware of specific dangers of route when signing up.	-	-	
<i>Slips, Trips and Tumbles</i>	Group members. Injury from slips, trips and tumbles while on walks and scrambles.	Group members will be informed about the importance of suitable supportive footwear, and will be informed before and/or on route by group leader of any route specific hazards. Group members that are unsuitably prepared will be prevented from joining the trip. Leader will encourage group members to assist/support each other when ascending/descending difficult terrain. Group leaders to be first aid trained.	Talk at the intro meets to new members about suitable footwear .	Gear sec and group leader.	30/9/09 and 1/10/09	
<i>Rock and/or Ice fall</i>	Group members. Injury from rock falls and ice fall from above.	Group members will be made aware of the dangers of rock/ice fall in the mountains. Group leader will seek to avoid, where possible, scrambling/climbing below other parties on the hill. Helmets will be worn by group members when scrambling in gullies or on faces, and will be worn at all times when rock/winter climbing. Group members will be advised to wear helmets at other times where a danger of rock and/or ice fall is identified or suspected by group leader.	None	-	-	
<i>Avalanche</i>	Group members. Death/injury from avalanche.	Group leader will consult the latest avalanche and current/previous weather forecasts when planning route/objective of group under winter conditions. Group leader will perform avalanche risk checking measures on snow pack as deemed necessary when on route. Group members will be made aware of the dangers/risks of avalanches and measures to minimise danger through careful route planning and checking snow pack for avalanche risk.	Weather check	Group leader	Before each winter trip and at the winter safety briefing.	
<i>Cornice Collapse/ serac Fall</i>	Group members. Death/injury.	Group leader will consider cornice collapse/serac fall danger when planning group route/objective and avoid danger areas where possible. Group members will be made aware of the	None	-	-	

		risks of cornice collapse/serac fall.				
<i>Sunburn & Heatstroke</i>	Group members. Sunburn and heat stroke.	Group members advised of the benefits of using sun-cream and sun hats during rare periods of sunny weather.	None	-	-	
<i>Dehydration/Tiredness</i>	Group members. Dehydration and tiredness.	Group members advised to carry sufficient water/food during route, and made aware of the benefits of drinking and eating regularly when on route.	Group Leader to remind members to take sufficient food/water for route.	-	-	
<i>Trench Foot</i>	Group members. Trench foot.	Group members will be advised to change their socks and dry their feet after single day walks or during any multiday walks.	None	-	-	
<i>Road Traffic Accidents</i>	Group members during travelling in vehicles.	All drivers to be registered with the Leeds University Union, vehicle first aid kit to be carried in lead vehicle.	None	-	-	
<i>Vehicle/Pedestrian Accident</i>	Group members.	Group members will be made aware of the dangers of walking along country roads. Group Leader is to ensure that members walk in a safe manor, I.E. single file.	None	-	-	
<i>Drinking too much</i>	Group members.	Responsible drinking actively encouraged during all club trips/socials. Club members will not be allowed to consume alcohol during club walks (the odd pint with a pub lunch is excluded).	None	-	-	
<i>Horseplay</i>	Group members	Club members made aware of the dangers of horseplay on club trips and socials.	Committee members to stop any horseplay that starts.	-	-	
<i>Via Ferrata</i>	Group members	Club members will be capable scramblers and will use a specific designed via ferrata lanyard with KISA (Kinetic Impact Shock Absorbing) system, in conjunction with a climbing harness and safety helmet. Group leader will carry a safety rope and rock protection as deemed necessary for the route.	None	-	-	

<i>Rock Climbing</i>	Group members	Only current AML (Advanced Mountain Leaders) will lead groups on graded summer rock climbs. Group members will be made aware of the dangers of climbing and all group members will be required to use the equipment specified in the LUUHC Safety Policy. All group members must have knowledge of belaying and using appropriate equipment and techniques.	None	-	-	
<i>Winter Walking/ Mountaineering /climbing</i>	Group members	Only current WML (Winter Mountain Leaders) and AML will lead group on winter walking/mountaineering/climbing terrain above valley level. Group members made aware of the dangers of winter walking/mountaineering/climbing. Group members will be required to use the equipment as specified in the LUUHC Safety Policy.	Group to be shown a presentation at the winter trip safety briefing	Committee	January	
<i>Equipment handling</i>	Group members. Injury from improper handling crampons and axes.	Group members advised on how to safely store and handle axes and crampons in order not to cause injury or damage other equipment and provided with crampon bags when carrying club crampons.	None	-	-	
<i>Incidents in Accommodation</i>	Club members on trips. Fire, accidents and medical emergencies.	Committee are responsible for ensuring any facilities used on club trips are suitable, safe and insured. Members must be made aware of all fire exits and procedures for emergencies including medical emergencies.	Inspection of facilities.	A committee member.	Upon arrival of facilities.	