



## RISK ASSESSMENT FOR A WORKING TRIAL

**Effective Planning is concerned with prevention through identifying, eliminating and controlling hazards and risks.**

A risk assessment is a careful examination of what could cause harm to people on the trial ground. The risk assessment enables organisers to determine whether there are sufficient precautions in place, or if more needs to be done to prevent harm being realised.

The five step approach:

1. Look for the hazards
2. Decide who may be harmed and how
3. Evaluate the risks
4. Record the finds
5. Review the assessment

ROUND

Likelihood/Probability

- 1 Highly Unlikely = has never occurred
- 2 Unlikely = has only occurred once or twice in 10 years
- 3 Possible = has occurred
- 4 Likely = common occurrence

Severity

- 1 Minor Harm = Cuts, abrasions and minor skin or eye irritations, etc.
- 2 Slightly Harmful = any injury that requires First Aid
- 3
- 4 Major Harm = Permanent disablement

Remember you have a "Duty of Care" to all who attend your trial.

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 Date... Society... Location...

Activity	Hazards	Who might be harmed	Risk level before controls High / Medium / Low	Controls	Risk Level with Controls in place	Comments and checks carried out
<b>Tracking Field</b> <b>Change to Nosework</b>	Access is difficult; stiles/ditches/barbed wire etc.	Track Layers Judges Stewards Competitors Dogs		Best possible route on to tracking land identified and utilised.		
	Ground uneven /wet /muddy causing slip hazards.	Track Layers Judges Stewards Competitors Dogs		All participants expected to wear appropriate clothing for the conditions, including sturdy footwear with good treads.		
	Weather creating visibility difficulties /ice /snow	Track Layers Judges Stewards Competitors Dogs		Only during extreme weather events would trial be cancelled. All participants to respect conditions		
	Footpath allowing members of public access during competition. Encounters with competing dogs	Members of Public		Signage to advise of footpath closure / diversion / caution due to competition to be posted. Helpers posted at access points.		

Lone Workers with issues

Tracklayers Escorts

Base and Trials Manager to hold mobile phone numbers and vice versa. Checks that lone workers are ok during the day and have returned at the expected time.

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<b>Equipment</b>	Equipment in poor condition, creating problems in use / handling.	Dogs Handlers Helpers		Equipment regularly checked and replaced/repared if damaged or in need of maintenance. All equipment to be fit for purpose.		
	Heavy lifting of equipment	Dogs Handlers Helpers		Use of lifting equipment where appropriate/available. Multiple persons to move heavy equipment. Persons expected to be responsible for their own welfare and not lift anything beyond their capability.		
<b>Base Car Parking</b>	Vehicle Accident & Large Vehicles	Helpers Competitors Members of Public Dogs		<b>Clear signage and instructions.</b> <b>Clear marked pathways between vehicles to facilitates used by competitors.</b>		
	Vehicle Accident & Large Vehicles	Helpers Competitors Members of Public		Area should be appropriate for cars to be parked without causing obstruction / danger to pedestrians / dogs. Access for emergency vehicles to be maintained.		

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<b>Base</b>	Injury / sickness during trial requiring medical assistance	All		Trial Manager / Base Steward to keep a record of trained First Aiders on site and their location. First aid kit accesible. Phone numbers for base steward / manager to be given to all helpers out in the field. Accurate location information for each area of the trial in case emergency services called. Helpers to give base steward their contact number.		
<b>Base Kitchen</b>	Burns / Scalds / Food Poisoning / Electrocutation	Helpers Competitors		One kitchen helper with <b>appropriate</b> 'Food Hygiene' certification. This person to oversee all food prep. Equipment to be used within manufacturer's instructions. Access to kitchen helpers only.		
<b>Escorting</b>	Vehicle accident	Escort Competitors		Escort to be sure of route, how many in convoy and where to park at destination.  Clear instructions for competitors needing to be sent on to their track/control field.		<b>Consider use of Google Earth to print out clear accurate maps showing location of Nosework and Control/Agility areas.</b>

**RISK ASSESSMENT FOR A WORKING TRIAL (PATROL DOG STAKE SPECIFIC) REPLACE WITH SEPARATE PATROL ROUND**

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

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Activity	Hazards	Who might be harmed	Risk level before controls High / Medium / Low	Controls	Risk Level with Controls in place	Comments
<b>Quartering the Ground</b>	Injury related to contact with dogs (i.e dog biting unprotected parts of body)	Protected Steward		Location and position of protected stewards to be considered in regards to access, egress and presence in that position and risk of injury.		
<b>Test of Courage</b>	Injury related to contact with dogs (i.e dog biting unprotected parts of body)	Protected Steward Judges		Enhanced bite protection Experienced Protected Stewards		
	Injury from falling, tripping etc.	Protected Steward Judges Competitors		Examine the area prior to test to ensure no unnecessary hazards		
<b>Search and Escort</b>	Injury related to contact with dogs	Protected Steward Judges		Appropriate bite protection for protected steward for the test set		
	Dogs biting Protected Steward on unprotected parts of body	Protected Steward		Protected Stewards to be fully briefed on the test		
	Injury from falling, tripping etc.	Protected Steward Judges Competitors		Check area for hazards i.e holes/dips etc. Appropriate footwear to be worn		
<b>Recall from Protected Steward</b>	Injury related to contact with dogs	Protected Steward Judges		Appropriate bite protection for protected steward for the test set Props to be necessary for the test and should not obscure protective equipment.		

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	Dogs biting Protected Steward on unprotected parts of body	Protected Steward		Protected Stewards to be aware of the progress of the dog and prepared to take the dog on the protective equipment if necessary.		
	Injury from falling, tripping etc.	Protected Steward Judges Competitors		Check area for hazards i.e holes/dips etc. Appropriate footwear to be worn		
<b>Pursuit and Detention of Protected Stewards</b>	Injury related to contact with dogs	Protected Steward Judges		Appropriate bite protection for protected steward for the test set Props to be necessary for the test and should not obscure protective equipment.		
	Dogs biting Protected Steward on unprotected parts of body	Protected Steward		Protected Stewards to be fully briefed on the test		
	Injury from falling, tripping etc.	Protected Steward Judges Competitors		Check area for hazards i.e holes/dips etc. Appropriate footwear to be worn		
<b>Lockouts/ No Competitor Brief</b>	Injury related to contact with dogs	Protected Steward Judges		Protected Stewards to be trained and briefed to expect different responses, including the sending of a dog to bite, to scenarios presented to competitors.		

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	Dogs biting Protected Steward on unprotected parts of body	Protected Steward		Protected Stewards to be trained and briefed to expect different responses, including the sending of a dog to bite, to scenarios presented to competitors.		
	Injury from falling, tripping etc.	Protected Steward Judges Competitors		Check area for hazards i.e holes/dips etc. Appropriate footwear to be worn		
<b>Patrol Round overall</b>	Injury from falling, tripping etc.	Protected Steward Judges Competitors		Check area for hazards i.e holes/dips etc. Appropriate footwear to be worn		
	Injury related to contact with dogs (i.e dog biting unprotected parts of body)	Judges Non protected stewards		Experienced judges and non protected stewards to be appointed. Judge and unprotected stewards remain at safe distance from dogs undertaking test		
	Injuries to spectators and members of public related to contact with dogs	Spectators Members of Public		Test area will be clearly defined. Test will not be conducted in public places. Spectators to remain in designated areas. Points of access to test area to be monitored warning notices posted. Test to be stopped immediately if non participants enter test area.		