## **Beaudesert Outdoor Activity Centre**

## Bivouacs & Shelter Building Risk Assessment

What are the hazards? What can cause harm?	Who might be harmed	What are you already doing? What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk? By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
		See 'Generic Activity Risk Assessment'	
Injury During Activity	Group & Instructor	Group leaders to show group how to complete tasks and use equipment safely and any potential risks highlighted. No lifting above shoulder height. Instructor to check shelter for stability before participants enter structure. No running or throwing.	<b>Trivial</b> if controls are followed
Carrying branches - physical injuries	Group & Instructor	Group leaders to demonstrate safest dragging and lifting techniques to group before start of build.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Shelters - head injuries	Group & Instructor	Conduct regular checks on shelter stability throughout the activity.  Set a clear protocol for what to do if a shelter appears unstable. (February 2025)  Prior to dismantling, group leaders to clearly state shelters are to be taken down carefully, one piece at a time and dragging poles from the bottom not pulling towards the person from the top. Participants must not enter shelter whilst being dismantled	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Eye injuries from branches	Group & Instructor	Group to be briefed on the risk of low branches and moving logs.	Trivial if controls are followed
Injuries to hands – particularly when harvesting bracken for shelters	Group & instructor	Group briefed how to remove stems without slicing hands. Gloves should be considered for some groups (February 2025)	<b>Trivial</b> if controls are followed

Reviews Undertaken: Richard Irvine 9/9/2017 Richard Irvine 5/8/2018 Richard Irvine 3/12/2019 Nigel Ruse 1/5/21; Michael Barrett 2022 & 2023 Richard Irvine March 2024 and February 2025

Risk Assessment Approved by: Richard Irvine

Date: February 2025

	Potential severity of harm		
	Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely Harmful
	1	2	3
Highly unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
1	4	2	3

**Slightly harmful:** Superficial injuries; minor cuts and bruises; eye irritation from dust, nuisance and irritation (e.g. headaches); ill-health leading to temporary discomfort. **Harmful:** Lacerations; burns; concussion; serious sprains; minor fractures, deafness; dermatitis; asthma; work related upper limb disorders; ill-health leading to

permanent minor disability.

**Extremely harmful:** Amputations; major fractures; poisonings; multiple injuries; fatal injuries, occupational cancer; other severely life shortening diseases; acute fatal diseases