

# Beaudesert Outdoor Activity Centre

## Campfire 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?
		<b>See 'Generic Site Risk Assessment'</b>	
Burns	Group & Instructor	A 5m Safe Zone around the fire. Instructors to supervise the area. Water for burns to be available. 20 minutes minimum (February 2025) Cling Film available in the Major Incident First Kit Activity Hut.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Structure collapsing	Group & Instructor	Build a stable and secure campfire structure using appropriate materials. Regularly check the structure for stability throughout the activity. (February 2025) A 5m Safe Zone around the fire.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Slips, trips and falls with equipment	Group & Instructor	Only members of site staff to carry heavy wood and heavy equipment. Only instructors to be close to the fire. Instructor to be aware of the consequences of a slip into the fire and carefully walk close to the fire if required.	<b>Tolerable</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Poor lighting increasing the risk of Slips, trips and falls	Group & Instructor	Whilst the group leaders of participants are responsible for the young people and ensuring they have torches, instructors should also have appropriate torches with them. For Beaudesert organised campfires portable floodlights to be used when dark.	<b>Tolerable</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Instructor working and 'performing' near the fire.	Group and Instructor	Instructor to wear appropriate clothing and shoes to protect against burns and other injuries. Long trouser, long sleeves and closed foot wear is the minimum requirement for instructors working near the fire. (February 2025)	<b>Tolerable</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Illumination	Group and Instructor	Ensure the campfire area is well-lit, especially during evening activities. In addition to torches, for larger events portable floodlights can be very effective in preventing slips, trips, and falls. The instructor and a manager should review requirements for additional lighting before the event. (February 2025)	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>

Reviews Undertaken: Reviewed by Hallam O'Shea – 06/06/2017 Richard Irvine 9/9/2017 & 5/8/2018 & 3/12/2019 Nigel Ruse May 2021; 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:** 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

- **Illumination:**

- Ensure the campfire area is well-lit, especially during evening activities. Portable floodlights can be very effective in preventing slips, trips, and falls.