



Downsman Risk Assessment

This risk assessment covers the Downsman Hike at Amber Status. It can be applied as an ongoing assessment for Amber. As readiness level moves to Yellow a new assessment should be completed.

Hazardous Activity and Hazards Identified	Detail of impact	What has changed since last review	Risk Level	Mitigation	Residual Risk
MEDICAL					
Scout showing signs of C19 before or during activity.	Symptoms of temperature and cough could indicate the Scout is ill with C19.	Nothing	Medium	Leaders to complete their own COVID RA to preclude them from participation.	Medium
Distancing	<p>Busy locations Social Distancing compromised</p> <p>Public, participants, parents and leaders may not come in close contact without risking C19 spreading.</p> <p>Teams may not come into close contact with other teams, especially at pinch points such as gates, styles, narrow paths and checkpoints without risking C19 spreading</p> <p>The regular Downsman Hike is a long endurance event with high likelihood of multiple teams being in close proximity throughout the hike, thus presenting a risk of C19 spreading</p> <p>Planned rest stop may have another team at the same</p>	<p>13/09/20 Additional mitigations included to better maintain 25m separation of teams</p>	Medium	<p>Downsman Committee to contact South Downs National Park to advise of our event and to request information regarding any other public events that are booked on the same date.</p> <p>Leaders to produce their own RA.</p> <p>Downsman Rules to mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start locations will be restricted to one team only. If a Scout Group or unit or Guide Unit wishes to enter more than one team, they will need separate start locations. It is acceptable for teams to walk the same route as long as they have significantly separate start locations and do not come within 25 meters of each other. (For example, a Group or Unit may choose to walk the South Downs Way, starting at the Jack and Jill and Ditchling Beacon). Reserving a start location will be on a first-come, first-served basis and will be requested when completing your team entry form. Remember, start locations can be anywhere within the South Downs National Park. It is recommended that teams consider quiet locations and routes. Leaders must submit their intended route ahead of the hike. Downsman reserves the right to request an alternative route if it is likely that an area may become too congested with teams. The maximum time for different sections are as follows: Beavers 1hr, Cubs 3hrs, Scouts 4hrs, Explorers 5hrs, Adult Teams (Network/Leaders) 6hrs. <i>These reduced times will limit distances walked and therefore</i> 	Low

	<p>location, thus presenting a risk of C19 spreading</p> <p>Public approaching teams to enquire what they are up to, thus presenting a risk of C19 spreading</p>			<p><i>reduce the chances of collisions with other teams. It has also been limited to daylight hours only, thus removing the challenges of maintaining distancing during darkness</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teams are welcome to hike for a shorter duration if they prefer.• Teams should remain 25 meters apart from other teams at all times, except when a faster team is overtaking a slower team on a narrow path. This should be done as quickly and efficiently as possible, where possibly the slower team should stop and step to the side in the biggest passing space available. Teams should pass back-to-back. The 25 meter separation between teams includes pinch points such as styles and gates etc.• If your planned rest spot already has a group there then you will have to accept you may have to move further on and create a 25 meter distance between them. <p>All participants, including leaders and support staff must visibly wear their scarf/necker in such a way that it is obvious to the public that the team is attending a Scouting event.</p>	
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<p>Event Safety and Administering first aid to participants injured during activity</p>	<p>Scouting activities are always planned to be safe but there is always an element of risk where first aid would need to be administered Downsman rules state:</p> <p>Downsman Committee will not have tracking, recovery or first aid staff available for the event and therefore will not be able to assist teams.</p>	<p>13/09/20 Purple card procedure added to event rules</p> <p>19/09/20 Rule added Leader responsible for minor incident & injury</p> <p>19/09/20 Rule added to record that teams have completed event.</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Downsman Rules to mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders in charge of teams are responsible for monitoring the progress of teams, either by having a Leader walk with the team or, if the team and leaders have sufficient experience, via remote supervision. • Teams should use their usual safety protocols. • Leaders must ensure that safety equipment is carried by the team to include all items on the Downsman kit list. There will not be kit checks by Downsman staff. • All members of the team must be familiar with and confident to use all the emergency items that are stipulated on the kit list and carried by the team. • The kit list should be augmented with PPE and AntiBac as needed to support the team's risk assessment. • Each team should have a risk assessment approved by the relevant body to permit a return to face to face Scouting. • Each team should have a risk assessment to support this event. For Scouts, Cubs and Beavers this risk assessment should be approved by the GSL. for Explorers, Network and Adult Leaders, this needs to be approved by your line manager. This risk assessment does need to be submitted to the Downsman committee. • If there is a significant injury or emergency, then Leaders in charge must follow Purple Card procedure. • Leader in charge of teams are responsible for dealing with minor incidents and injury of their team. • Downsman Committee will monitor the finish of teams by receiving their tacking data and additionally a message from the Leader in Charge of team that the team is safely leaving the event. Failure to do this will results in the Downsman Committee calling the In-touch contact for the team. There is no requirement to check-in. Teams should use their usual safety protocols. 	<p>Medium</p>
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REGULATION					
New format for the event	Untested rules and regulations could put participants at risk	Nothing	Medium	We have followed the principles and the president set by the JOTT. (Jamboree on the Trail) www.jott.org.uk , where leaders in charge take responsibility for their own team and hike route.	Low
Maintain appropriate ratios and control of numbers of scouts at a location.	In Amber readiness smaller groups of need to be established and maintained for the duration of the event.	Nothing	Medium	Downsman Rules to mandate: Team and bubble <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams can only be formed from members of their own Section. On this occasion, we cannot accept joint teams formed with other Sections. The number of participants in a team is to be set by Section Leaders but this must be consistent and comply with the Scouting COVID Code and Scout Association POR adult to young person ratios. It is strongly recommended to keep your team numbers to a manageable size. What this means is within the discretion of the Section Leader. Teams may arrange for support staff to provide resources (e.g. water) and support along the route. Support staff should be dedicated to a SINGLE team. Participants, Leaders in charge and support staff for a <u>TEAM</u> form a single 'bubble' for the purposes of COVID rules. Care should be taken to ensure that additional adults are not introduced into the bubble. In particular, during pick up and drop off, take measures to ensure that parents remain socially distant. Start locations will be restricted to one team only. If a Scout Group or Unit or Guide Unit wishes to enter more than one team, they will need separate start locations. It is acceptable for teams to walk the same route as long as they have significantly separate start locations and do not come within 25 meters of each other. (For example, a Group or Unit may choose to walk the South Downs Way, starting at the Jack and Jill and Ditchling Beacon). 	Low
Lockdown is reversed	Should C19 spike in an area the government or Scout Association may re-impose lock down requirements and planned activities would not be possible.	Nothing	Low	If lockdown is re-established, review alternative options for a virtual event or cancel the event completely.	Low
Support track and trace	In the event that any Scout becomes infected, the 'track and trace' program will need to know who has been in contact with that individual.	Nothing	Medium	Downsman Rules to mandate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is the team's responsibility to support track and trace requirements and maintain a list of individuals and contact details within the team (including Leaders and support personnel). This information should be protected in line with government guidance. 	Low

Hike					
Navigation	Participants lose way on hike due to navigation error.	Nothing	High	<p>Event to take place within the boundary of the South Downs National Park, which has excellent provision of rights of way signage and is comparatively easier to navigate than other locations.</p> <p>Event to be restricted to daylight hours only, which is far less challenging than navigating after dark.</p> <p>Event to have a time limit of short duration, which will help to reduce navigational errors from tiredness.</p> <p>Teams to have map reading knowledge.</p> <p>Downsman Rules to mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders in charge are responsible for monitoring the progress of teams, either by having a Leader walk with the team or, if the team and leaders have sufficient experience, via remote supervision. 	Low
Dangers on route, blockages or other	On long hikes it's unpredictable what the participants may find, it's possible the participants would find themselves in dangerous situations. Most likely example would be animals in fields or impassable obstacles.	Nothing	Medium	<p>Downsman Rules to mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each team should have a risk assessment to support this event. For Scouts, Cubs and Beavers this risk assessment should be approved by the GSL. For Explorers, Network and Adult Leaders, this needs approval by your line manager. This risk assessment does need to be submitted to the Downsman committee. <p>Any dangers en-route are to be mitigated by the Leaders own RA.</p>	Low
Hypothermia	<p>In the event of poor weather participants may suffer from hypothermia if they get too cold.</p> <p>Particularly if the group have to pause, possibly in the light of an injury.</p>	Nothing	Medium	<p>Downsman Committee to monitor weather conditions. The event will be cancelled if a severe storm is forecast. If the weather turns bad during the event, then Downsman Committee will advise all Home Contacts to contact their teams with an instruction to immediately go home.</p> <p>Downsman Rules to mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders must ensure that safety equipment is carried by the team to include all items on the Downsman kit list. All members of the team must be familiar with and confident to use all the emergency items that are stipulated on the kit list and carried by the team. 	Low

				The above includes (not limited to) the wearing of appropriate clothing, the carrying (or wearing) of wet weather clothing & thermals, spare dry clothing, the carrying of a bivi bag.	
Slips, trips and falls Poor underfoot conditions such as slippery chalk, flint stones, rocks, mud and uneven paths	Participants falling over and injuring themselves and then being unable to continue.	Nothing	Medium	Downsman Rules to mandate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders must ensure that safety equipment is carried by the team to include all items on the Downsman kit list. The above includes the wearing of suitable hiking boots, to provide better grip and ankle support.	Low
Presence of water, drowning.	Participants fall into water, and cause injury (cold) or drowning.	Nothing	Medium	Downsman Rules to mandate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each team should have a risk assessment to support this event. For Scouts, Cubs and Beavers this risk assessment should be approved by the GSL. For Explorers, Network or Adult Leaders this risk assessment should be approved by your line manager. Leaders should include to their own mitigations if their route takes them within close proximity to water.	Low
Presence of traffic, Collision/ accident.	Participants may elect to walk along roads where they will come into contact with traffic.	Nothing	Medium	Teams to have knowledge of highway code. Downsman Rules to mandate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main roads, such as fast dual carriageways, must be crossed via safe bridges or underpasses and not on tarmac. In addition, Leaders must supervise crossings of all busy roads and rail. Routes should be planned to avoid unsafe crossings. Walking along main roads without pavement or safe footpath within the verge is prohibited. Leaders in charge must ensure that safety equipment is carried by the team to include all items on the Downsman kit list. <i>This includes an instruction to wear high viz vests.</i> 	Low
Dehydration	Hiking is very physical and requires regular drinking to prevent dehydration	Nothing	Medium	Downsman Rules to mandate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders in charge must ensure that safety equipment is carried by the team to include all items on the Downsman kit list. <i>The kit list includes the carrying of water.</i> Teams may arrange for support staff to provide resources (e.g. water) and support along the route. Support staff should be dedicated to a SINGLE team. 	Low

Safety of teams	Risk of teams being left on the South Downs	19/9/2020	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Downsman Committee will monitor the finish of teams by receiving their tacking data and additionally a message from the Leader in Charge of team, that the team is safely leaving the event. Failure to do this will results in the Downsman Committee calling the In- touch contact for the team. 	Low
Lines of responsibility					
Poor lines of communication	Incidents not managed correctly, therefore teams at risk from not getting the correct response by possible mismanagement of incident.	19/9/2020 Risk identified and mitigated	Medium	<p>Downsman has produced an organisational chart detailing everybody's roles and responsibilities for the day of the event. Key roles are identified and appointed for the safe running of the event: They are, Leader in Charge of Event (Downsman committee chairperson appointed to role), Downsman Committee Members (all appointed to role), Purple Card Contact (County Commissioner appointed to role), In-touch contact (to be appointed by Section Leader) and Leader in Charge of teams (to be appointed by Section Leader).</p> <p>Copy of org chart to be sent to leaders in charge of teams.</p> <p>Downsman Rules to mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leader in Charge of teams are responsible for monitoring the progress of teams, either by having a Leader walk with the team or, if the team and leaders have sufficient experience, via remote supervision. Leader in Charge of teams must follow Purple Card procedure, if there is a significant injury or emergency. Leader in charge of teams are responsible for dealing with minor injury incidents of their team. 	
lack of diversity and inclusion	Risk is discrimination	19/9/2020	Low	Downsman is open and assessable to all members of the Scouting Association.	Low

Written by

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Last Validated

19/09/20

Next Validation

13/09/2021