2nd Goring and Streatley Scout Group Risk Assessment

Assessor and Position:

Date Assessed:

## Fire Building Risk Assessment

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| **Significant Hazards and Associated Risks** | **Those who might be harmed** | **Control Measures**  |
| **Rough wood –** risk of splinters or blisters from handling. | All present | * Leaders/PLs/PSs should tell everyone to take care when cutting or snapping wood.
* Everyone should wear strong gloves (such as gardening gloves) if they can.
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| **Sharp items (saws, axes, and knives)** – risk of injuries from mistakes or misuse. | All present | * Leaders should give members information and training before they use sharp items (this is part of scout training).
* Leaders/PLs/PSs should supervise younger members (tenderfoots) and continue to assess their competence. There should be at least one leader or competent patrol leader for each group/patrol.
* Leaders/PLs/PSs should make sure items are masked (have their blade covered) and stored safely between uses.
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| **Axe and saw** – risk of injury to non-participants or observers. | All present | * Patrols should create a safe cutting area.
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| **Heat sources** – risk of burns from mistakes or misuse. | All present  | * Leaders or older PLs or PSs should supervise younger members (tenderfoots) when they’re using hot items (such as ovens, stoves, candles, and fires). There should be at least one adult or competent PL/PS with each group/patrol
* Everyone should use heat sources in a defined area to restrict access.
* Leaders/PLs/PSs should brief members on the safe use of the heart sources before they use them.
* Leaders/PLs/PSs should brief members on possible dangers of firelighting.
* Leaders/PLs/PSs should explain the rules for firelighting including: no picking up burning wood, no throwing objects onto the fire, and hold wood by one end and lower it onto the fire with your fingers near the ground.
* No one should wear loose clothing around fires – watch out for open coats.
* Leaders/PLs/PSs should make sure there is a first aid kit available
* Patrols/Groups should make sure that cold water is available nearby – there should be at least a bucket, running water is best if possible.
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| **Fire –**risk ofuncontrolledspread of fire. | All present | * Leaders/PLs/PSs should make sure fire fighting equipment is available i.e. extinguishers, fire buckets, spades, or beaters.
* Everyone should think about location of their fire. It shouldn’t be near tents or directly under low trees that could be damaged. They should also consider wind direction.
* Everyone should build his/her fire off the ground on a stable platform, or make a suitable trench ensuring that the grass is removed in the form of a ‘turf’ so that it can be replaced afterwards
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| **Behaviour** – risk of overexcitement, especially at the start and end of the meeting. | All present | * Everyone should follow the law and promise that sets out clear expectations of behaviour.
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| **Pollutants from wood** – risk of ill health to participants. | All present | * Everyone should only use natural wood for cooking.
* Leaders/PLs/PSs should check the wood from wood pile before the meeting and decide whether it’s suitable.
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