



Leighton Fun Runners: Risk Assessment for road or trail runs.

Intended Audience: All club runners to be aware

Potential Hazard: Uneven Ground

Action Required:

Remind runners to wear appropriate footwear, where uneven ground is expected, for example trails. Stick to well known routes and public footpaths. Runners at front of group to warn following runners of very rutted, uneven ground by shouting.

Potential Hazard: Stiles

Action Required:

Care to be taken when climbing stiles particularly in wet weather where they may be slippery. Badly maintained/broken stiles to be avoided if possible or climbed with care.

Potential Hazard: Risk of Falling/Slipping on steep or slippery surface

Action Required:

Remind runners to run carefully and responsibly keeping a sensible distance between themselves and the runner ahead of them. Walk if conditions are particularly difficult.

Potential Hazard: Getting Lost

Action Required:

Group Leader to be familiar with area and have run route at least once before.

Potential Hazard: Losing a runner

Action Required:

Running groups to stick together, appointed leaders to encourage mustering where front runners run back to collect stragglers. Remind runners to select a group consistent with their ability. Approximate pace of group to be made clear by leader before run commences.

Potential Hazard: Animals

Action Required:

Observe animals before entering field - if any aggressive behaviour observed choose alternative route without hesitation.

Potential Hazard: Dogs

Action Required:

Take care when running near dogs particularly when they are off leads and owners are not present. Slow to a walk if necessary. Avoid turning your back on the dog. Seek assistance from dog owner if appropriate.

Potential Hazard: Overgrown vegetation/Brambles/ Nettles

Action Required:

Warn runners if route is expected to be particularly over-grown, give them an opportunity to opt out. If route is impassable take an alternative.

Potential Hazard: Very Hot Weather

Action Required:

Advise runners to wear kit appropriate to conditions. Take water particularly on longer runs. Avoid running at midday, run early morning or evening. If conditions are extreme run to be postponed/cancelled at discretion of Group Leader. Remind runners to use high factor sun cream.

Potential Hazard: Cold Weather

Action Required:

Members encouraged to warm up thoroughly in cold weather and wear clothing appropriate to the conditions. Care should be taken to avoid patches of ice. Runs will be cancelled by Group Leaders if conditions are considered dangerous.

Potential Hazard: Asthma

Action Required:

Advise runners to let Group leader know if they suffer from asthma. Asthmatics must always carry inhalers. Asthmatics should not run if they are suffering badly or if they fear an asthma attack is imminent. The decision whether to run or not is left to the discretion of the individual but they must accept that they run at their own risk.

Potential Hazard: Other Medical Conditions

Action Required:

To be advised to Group leader. Any appropriate medication to be carried on the run. The decision whether or not to run is left to the discretion of the individual but they run at their own risk.

Potential Hazard: Running in the Dark

Action Required:

Off road runs to be undertaken in the dark only under strict supervision of experienced run leaders, in small groups. Head torches, mobile phones are mandatory. Leader will plan to get group back before light fades. No phone, no head torch = no run.

Potential Hazard: Running in the dark

Action Required:

Runner encouraged to wear light or reflective clothing. Wherever possible stay on routes with street lighting, and encourage care when crossing roads.

Potential Hazard: Traffic

Action Required:

Wear reflective clothing - be seen. Stay on pavement as far as possible. If forced to run on the road stay to the right (facing traffic). When crossing road use pedestrian crossing if possible. Everybody to check for traffic, don't just follow the crowd. Leader/Lead runners to shout warning to following group if traffic approaches unexpectedly.

Potential Hazard: Accidents caused by bumping or jostling

Action Required:

Runners to run carefully and responsibly keeping a sensible distance between themselves and the runner ahead of them.

Potential Hazard: Unexpected Obstacles on pavement

Action Required:

Leader/Lead runners to advise following group of any unexpected hazards which he/she may come across e.g. roadworks, cyclists, bollards, street furniture, broken slabs, wheel chairs, overhanging foliage, dog mess, road signs, holes and kerbs by shouting a clear warning.