

Activity Area:	Soft Tomahawks
Minimum Staffing Level	1 Instructor per range
Staff/Pupil Ratio	1:12
Staff Qualifications	In house
Maximum Number of Participants	20
Role of Accompanying Adult:	Supervisor

Risk Matrix	Likelihood			
	Very Likely	Likely	Unlikely	Highly Unlikely
Consequences	High	High	High	Medium
Fatality	-16-	-15-	-14-	-13-
Major Injuries	High	High	Medium	Medium
	-12-	-11-	-10-	-9-
Minor Injuries	High	Medium	Medium	Low
	-8-	-7-	-6-	-5-
Negligible Injuries	Medium	Medium	Low	Low
	-4-	-3-	-2-	-1-

Hazard	Persons at risk	Prior Risk	Controls Measures	New Risk Factor
Slips, Trips and Falls	Instructors Participants Observers	High 8	Bangs and Scrapes could be minimised by disciplined instruction being always maintained. Participants have been shown how to carry tomahawks safely back to the throwing area. First Aid kit available always.	Low 5
Persons hit with tomahawk	Instructors Participants Observers	High 12	Instructions given in safety brief to wait before moving forward to collect tomahawks. User to be removed from session if not following rules. First Aid kit available always.	Medium 9
Hair, clothing, or jewellery caught in Tomahawk	Instructors Participants	Medium 4	Instructor is to brief all participants to tuck away loose clothing and long hair prior to participation. Instructor is to brief participants to remove prominent jewellery prior to participation.	Low 2
Re-bound of tomahawk	Instructors Participants Observers	High 12	Safe distance maintained from throwing line to targets. Instructions given on the correct throwing method. User to be removed from session if not following rules.	Medium 9
Misuse of equipment	Instructors Participants	High 8	When not in use the tomahawk equipment is to be removed and secured away. Equipment is only used under trained supervision. User to be removed from session if not following rules.	Medium 6
Faulty equipment	Instructors Participants	High 8	Equipment is checked on a regular basis and recorded and replaced where necessary. Instructor is to visually check the equipment for obvious faults at the start of every session.	Low 5
Weather	All	Medium 4	Instructor to monitor weather & suspend or cancel session when conditions cause safety to be affected. Instructor to check that all participants have suitable clothing prior to commencing the activity. Instructors must always wear appropriate clothing to run the activity safely. Appropriate clothing, time out of sun, fluid breaks.	Low 1
Hit by falling target	Instructors Participants	High 12	Boards fixed to ground, preventing them falling over. Tomahawks to be withdrawn from target by placing hand on target, to anchor target, and pulling out tomahawk.	Medium 8
Unauthorised access	All	Medium 4	Instructor to brief participants on arrival reference not going onto any activity without a member of staff. All equipment to be taken away at end of the day, targets to be secured at end of day.	Low 1

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Activity Guidance – Soft Tomahawk Throwing

This document explains how to run a self-led Soft Tomahawk Throwing session at Walesby Forest Activity Centre.
It is important to read and understand all the information before starting your session



Supervision and Leadership

Please note that Activities in a Box are self-led session, as the Leader in charge you are responsible for the supervision of your group, including ensuring the safety of all participants. You should complete a risk assessment for your activity.



Guidelines

- Walesby Forest Activity Centre may stop the session at any time if it is deemed unsafe or equipment is being misused.
- Ensure the equipment is suitable for your needs, and you understand how to operate it correctly.
- Participants should be supervised in line with your risk assessments.
- Please use the equipment in an appropriate area.
- Suggested group size for this activity is 12 or per your risk assessments.
- For further assistance please contact a member of our team.

How to Run a Soft Tomahawk Session

- Set up the soft tomahawk targets by unclipping the bottom, opening them out, and clipping the crossbars to the supports.
- Set the targets a suitable distance from your throwing line – usually 3-5m depending on the age of the group. Ensure the targets have a suitable backdrop (e.g. the side of a mess tent) or are in front of an open field.
- Ensure all participants throwing the soft tomahawks are stood roughly in line with each other.

How to Throw Soft Tomahawks

- Stand square on, with feet shoulder width apart facing the target.
- Holding a tomahawk with a firm grip, hold you arm straight out in front of you, pointing at the target.
- Keeping your shoulder still, bend the arm back at the elbow to bring the soft tomahawk alongside your head.
- Lightly throw the tomahawk – once you have thrown it your arm should be held out straight in front of you

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Troubleshooting

- If you find your arm is pointing at the ground and the soft tomahawk is going too low, let go earlier.
- If you find the tomahawk is hitting the target with the head pointing up, down, or back at you, take a small step forward or back, ensuring you are still roughly in line with everyone else taking part.

Equipment included in the kit

- 3x Red Soft Tomahawks
- 3x Blue Soft Tomahawks
- 2x Soft Tomahawk Targets

Help and Assistance

- If you have any questions about these guidelines, please contact reception or call the duty mobile phone before commencing the activity.
- Please take care and enjoy the adventure

Walesby
Forest Est. 1938

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