

# Risk Assessment in Conjunction with Health and Safety for Grassroots Sports Clubs

What are the Hazards?	Who might be Harmed?	How might they be Harmed?	Measures in place to control the risk and protect persons	Further actions required to minimise the risks	Risk Factor
<b>Goalposts</b>					
Permanent Goalposts	Players, Officials, Members of the Public.	Goalposts may collapse, paint splinters caused by rust, members of the public climbing on them and falling. Fixing nets with metal cup hooks.	Follow FA and BSI guidelines when purchasing goals and do not use goal with metal cup hooks.	Referee should clear the posts safe prior to play.	Medium/ High Risk
Temporary Goal Posts	Players, Officials, Members of the Public.	Goalposts have a stronger possibility of collapse. Fixing nets with metal cup hooks.	Follow FA and BSI guidelines when purchasing goals and do not use goal with metal cup hooks.	When they are not in use, put away and store. Referee should clear the posts safe prior to play.	Medium/ High Risk
<b>Weather</b>					
Extreme weather conditions	Players, Officials, Members of the Public.	Extreme weather conditions can cause a huge variety of risks, such as flooding, frost, snow.	Make sure the ground is safe to play and is inspected by the groundsmen prior to games and training.	Referee and club officials should call off the fixture or training session, if extreme weather is expected.	Low/ Medium Risk
<b>State of the pitch</b>					
Uneven ground	Players, Officials.	Tripping, slipping or falling.	The pitch should be checked by the referee prior to any training or games.	The pitch and surrounding area should be checked before each event by the organisers/club officials.	Medium/ High Risk
Presence of pot holes/objects	Players, Officials.	Tripping, slipping or falling. Object may cause lacerations to players limbs.	The pitch should be checked by the referee prior to any training or games.	The pitch and surrounding area should be checked before each event by the organisers/club officials.	Medium/ High Risk
Surrounding area	Players, Officials, Members of the Public.	Tripping, slipping or falling over objects used by the club.	The surrounding area should be checked for objects that may cause bodily injury, e.g. glass bottles.	The pitch and surrounding area should be checked before each event by the organisers/club officials.	Medium/ High Risk
<b>Balls</b>					
Too Hard/Damaged Leather	Players, Officials, Members of the Public.	Struck with the ball at force.	The balls should be checked by Referee/Match Official prior to games and training.	Make sure all balls are pumped to correct pressure, as per the manufacturers guidelines. When leather peels they should be destroyed.	Low Risk
<b>Footwear</b>					
Sharp studs	Players.	Laceration to other players.	The referee should check prior to all matches that sharp studs are not worn.	Club officials should check to make sure that studs their players are wearing appropriate footwear for the surface. Players should regularly check their studs.	Low Risk
<b>Jewellery</b>					
Loose or Sharp Jewellery	Players.	Strangulation caused by loose jewellery. Lacerations to other players.	Club officials should make sure all jewellery has been removed or taped down before any match or training session can proceed.	Referee should check to make sure all jewellery is removed or taped down.	Low Risk
<b>Conduct of Players</b>					
Dangerous Play	Players, Officials, Members of the Public.	High aggression on the pitch can cause bodily injury to others.	The club must play to the FA rules/guidelines. The referee should caution or send off an overly aggressive player.	The club should train their player to tackle correctly and within the FA rules/guidelines.	Very High Risk
Physical Violence	Players, Officials, Members of the Public.	Violence on the pitch could spread to the public.	If it is believed violence could occur then the offending players should be cautioned or sent off.	The club should remove any player from the field if behaving in a violent or dangerous manor. Legal action can be taken against a club for not controlling their player.	Very High Risk
<b>Injuries from Normal Play</b>					
Accidental Bodily Injury	Players, Officials, Members of the Public.	Injuries to players is a regular occurrence and should be taken very seriously. Injuries to members of the public on the sidelines are less common however still a fairly regular occurrence.	Players should warm up and cool down correctly. If a serious injury should happen a first aid worker should be first at the scene.	If you are in any doubt about the severity of an injury and you believe it could be life threatening, contact the emergency services on 999.	Very High Risk
<b>Dehydration and Exhaustion</b>					
Bodily Injury	Players.	Players can risk serious long term health problems if not dealt with in time.	Club officials must provide bottles of water at all times.	Players should be advised to bring additional water to training and matches.	High Risk
<b>Public Proximity to Pitch</b>					
Players colliding with public	Players, Officials, Members of the Public.	Players may collide with members of the club or public whilst running at speed.	Members of the public must be a minimum of 2 meters from the sidelines, further back than 3 meters is often recommended at most clubs.	The linesman can insist that members of the public are to move back to a distance of his/her choosing, with full support of the club.	High Risk
<b>Structures and Dug Outs</b>					
Players/Public Injury	Players, Officials, Members of the Public.	Players may fall or crash into structures.	All dug outs are to be a minimum of 2 meters from the edge of the pitch. Structures are not to be fixed within 2 meters of the sideline.	Warn all players prior to participating that the dug out/structure is near the pitch side.	High Risk
<b>Blood Spillage</b>					
Blood Loss	Players.	Lacerations may cause excessive blood loss.	First aid kit should be available to all players.	First aid training to deal with such an incident.	Medium Risk