

RISK ASSESSMENT

Guidance & Checklist for Torbay Rambling Club Walks

Walk Leader		Date of recce	
Name of walk		Planned date of walk	
Mileage	Grade	Date form completed	

IMPORTANT NOTES from the Safety Officer (CB):

Thank you for leading this walk. Please complete this risk assessment form (required by our Insurer) and note that you should carry out a recce for your walk beforehand. Take the relevant precautions when necessary. Modify the walk if the hazard is too great.

Applicable hazards known from previous familiarity from the walk or found on the recce.

Nº	Applicable Hazard?	Yes/No	Steps to take to control risk <i>on this walk</i>	Tick
1	General	Yes	Advise walkers that although it is generally a low risk activity, they are responsible for their own safety when walking with the Club, and facing any of these applicable hazards on this walk.	✓
2a	People - inexperience	Maybe	Ask at start if anyone has not walked with us before	✓
			If there are 'trial' members or visitors participating offer guidance as necessary.	
	"New dogs"		Advise new walkers with dogs of the Club's rules regarding control and max 2m lead at all times	
2b	People – losing anyone	Maybe	Count the number of participants on the walk	✓
			Assign a competent back marker and middle marker for a large group	
			Do not allow the group to split too much.	
			Keep other walkers in sight.	
			Remind walkers to advise leader or back marker if they are having a 'comfort stop' or leaving the walk.	
2c	People – fitness	Maybe	After the pre-walk talk ask if anyone has doubts about continuing	
3	Traffic ROAD		Warn walkers in pre-walk talk	
	Are they country lanes?		Keep to single file on roads, keep group together	
			Cross at safer places	
			Yellow vests at front and back	
4	Traffic – DUAL USE PATHS		Warn walkers in pre-walk talk	
	Cycle path?		Advise vigilance necessary at all times	
	Bridleway?		Advise to give horses plenty of room There may be cyclists too.	

IMPORTANT

Continued overleaf/

If, on the walk, any accident, injury or potential loss to third parties occurs the Walk Leader should supply details, as soon as possible, to the Secretary or Safety Officer of Torbay Rambling Club.	After the walk, the completed risk assessment should be stored, by you (the Walk Leader) and also sent to safety@torbayramblingclub.org.uk as required by our insurance.
---	--

Nº	Applicable Hazard?	Yes/No	Steps to take to control risk <i>on this walk</i>	Tick
5	Livestock interaction		Warn walkers in pre-walk talk and as necessary on route	
			Ask if anyone is particularly nervous of animals, in which case someone should walk between them and the cows.	
			Walk calmly with group together through the field	
	Cows with calves		Advise dog owners to take special care if attacked release dog from their max 2m lead.	
6	Leave gates and property as you find them or follow instructions on signs.		Communicate need regarding the gate to the back marker down the line with the shout "gate open – or gate closed". (Farmers close gates to keep animals in or leave them open to give access to food and water.)	
7	Path surfaces, slippery, rocky		Warn walkers in pre-walk talk and as necessary on route. If significant hazard, include in the Walk Notes on the Walks Programme.	
	Inclines and descents			
	Stiles if difficult			
	Terrain difficult			
8	Weather	Maybe	Check forecast and make changes if necessary	
	Whilst weather cannot be forecast 4 months ahead, the implications of bad weather on some walks, such as on Dartmoor can be prepared for.		Warn walkers in pre-walk talk if warranted	
			Be aware of places to shelter	
9	Other hazards		Relevant precautions	
+ NOTES: including comments after the Club walk, such as problems encountered				

Thank you for completing this form and for keeping yourself and the club safe

IMPORTANT

If, on the walk, any accident, injury or potential loss to third parties occurs the Walk Leader should supply details, as soon as possible, to the Secretary or Safety Officer of Torbay Rambling Club.

After the walk, the completed risk assessment should be stored, by you (the Walk Leader) and also sent to safety@torbayramblingclub.org.uk as required by our insurance.