

## Activity Risk Assessment

### PART 1 – General information

<b>Location</b>	<i>[Where you will be dancing, e.g. Bath City Centre]</i>	<b>Event &amp; Date</b>	<i>[Name of event, date(s) and times]</i>
<b>Activity</b>	Morris dancing displays – outside and/or in large indoor spaces		
<b>Description of activity</b>	<i>[Brief description, e.g. XXX teams of morris dancers dancing at XXX locations. Watched by members of the public. Dancers and musicians walk between dance spots.]</i>		
<b>Area(s)</b>	<i>[Brief list, either exact location or by type, e.g. shopping malls, car park of pub, etc. Also roads and pavements between dance spots. ]</i>		
<b>People involved</b>	Participants – teams of various styles: North West, Cotswold, Border, Molly, sword, clog stepping Spectators – members of the public.	<b>Equipment used</b>	Morris sticks Rappers and/or longwords Musical instruments Dancing boards
<b>Assessor(s)</b>	<i>[Your name]</i>	<b>Date</b>	<i>[Date of assessment]</i>

### PART 2 – Hazard identification & risk assessment

The significant hazards are listed on the following pages. For each one, the risk level has been identified using the system detailed below.

<b>Likelihood (L)</b>	1 = Low	2 = Medium	3 = High
<b>Severity (S)</b>	1 = Slight	2 = Serious	3 = Major
<b>Risk level (RL)</b>	Likelihood X Severity		

For each hazard, it has been decided whether the risk level is acceptable. If it is not, an explanation is included in comments box. The actions required to reduce the risk are listed in PART 4 on the last page.

**Key to Risk Levels (RL): 1 = Very low 2 = Low 3 & 4 = Medium 6 = High 9 = Very high**

## Activity Risk Assessment

### PART 2 – Hazard identification & risk assessment

Hazard	People at risk	Existing controls	Risk level (RL)			OK?	Comments
			L	S	RL		
Dancing – risk of sprains, strains and other dancing related injuries	Dancers	Dancers practice regularly and are usually fit enough to minimise the risk of injuries. They warm up as necessary before performing. Areas used for dancing are reasonably flat and free from hazards. At least one team at event will carry a first aid kit.	1	2	2	Yes	
Slips, trips and falls	Dancers, musicians spectators	All areas are regularly used by pedestrians. Dancers choose areas that are level and free from hazards. There may be some tripping hazards (e.g. slightly uneven surfaces), but dancers will avoid these. Any obstructions or slipping hazards will be removed before dancing. Some clog steppers use their own boards, which are free from slipping or tripping hazards. Suitable footwear worn by dancers and musicians. All equipment, belongings, etc. are stored out of way of performers and spectators.	1	2	2	Yes	
Morris sticks – risk of hitting dancers	Dancers	Dances practice regularly and know how to handle morris sticks. The aim is to hit each other's sticks, not each other.	1	2	2	Yes	
Morris sticks – risk of sticks hitting other people	Musicians, spectators	Dancers only use strong sticks. Sticks checked informally before use and any sticks showing signs of cracking or breaking will not be used. If a stick breaks, it is most likely to fall near to the dancers, not the audience.	1	2	2	Yes	

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Hazard	People at risk	Existing controls	Risk level (RL)			OK?	Comments
			L	S	RL		
Swords – breakages	Sword dancers, spectators	Swords are all well-made, using good quality materials, and are suitable for dancing. Regularly inspected by dancers.	1	2	2	Yes	
Swords – letting go, hitting dancers, etc.	Sword dancers	Dancers have to be proficient and used to handling swords in order to perform. Successful dance relies on dancers keeping hold of swords.	1	2	2	Yes	
Overcrowding	Spectators	Only areas big enough for both dancers and spectators are used. Layout of event chosen to suit space available and to enable as many people to see as possible, minimising risk of overcrowding. Large crowds are usually self-limiting in size, as anyone at the back will be unable to see the performance.	1	2	2	Yes	
Restricted access (e.g. pinch points)	Spectators	Performance layouts take spectators into account, reducing risk of concentrating too many people into small areas/access routes. If any problems arise, spare dancers and other people with teams will manage crowds and flow of people.	1	2	2	Yes	
Moving morris related equipment	Dancers and musicians	All equipment carried in suitable bags, holdalls, etc. Weight of loads are minimised to make sure sticks etc. are easily carried on morris tours. If necessary (e.g. boards), items are carried by more than one person.	1	2	2	Yes	

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Hazard	People at risk	Existing controls	Risk level (RL)			OK?	Comments
			L	S	RL		
Bad weather – rain, ice, snow, thunderstorm, etc.	Dancers, musicians, spectators	Performers will only dance if weather is good enough and if surface is safe for dancing. Public will not stay to watch in bad weather.	1	2	2	Yes	
High temperatures / sunshine	Dancers and musicians	Dancers will drink enough water to avoid dehydration. Drinks easily available nearby. If weather is too hot, dancers will limit their performance and find shelter. All performers protect themselves from sun with clothes, sun cream, etc.	1	2	2	Yes	
Vehicle hitting pedestrian or dancer	Dancers, musicians, spectators	Dancers usually perform in areas where there are no vehicles or only limited vehicle access. If the performance is on a road, it will either be shut to traffic or spare dancers and other people will monitor traffic during dances and prevent any vehicles entering performance areas or getting too close to people watching.	1	3	3	Yes	
Covid and other respiratory infections	Dancers, musicians, spectators	Team members are encouraged to get vaccinated. Wherever possible, performances are held outdoors. If indoors, as much fresh air as possible is introduced into the venue to help reduce airborne particles. All dancers and musicians practise good hygiene, i.e. washing hands regularly, and covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing. Anyone with symptoms or a positive Covid test result will not attend the performance. If Covid rates are high, all participants will test before attending.	1	2	2	Yes	

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Hazard	People at risk	Existing controls	Risk level (RL)			OK?	Comments
			L	S	RL		
Deep water	Dancers, musicians, spectators	Dance spots may be near rivers, sea, lakes etc. If so, they will perform far enough away from the water to make sure no-one can fall in, including spectators. If necessary, spare dancers or other people will monitor crowds and keep them away from the water.	1	3	3	Yes	
Alcohol	Dancers, musicians	Usual restriction on pub landlords not to sell alcohol to anyone who has drunk too much. It is difficult to dance or play after drinking excessive amounts of alcohol, so performers limit their intake.	1	2	2	Yes	
Members of the public joining in dance	Dancers, spectators	Dancers work together to deal with members of the public, to either make sure they are safe if they try to join in a dance and/or to keep them out of dances.	1	2	2	Yes	
Aggression or violence	Dancers, musicians, spectators	If any members of the public become aggressive, all performers will do what they can to calm the situation. If problem continues, performers will stop and, if necessary, call the police.	1	3	3	Yes	
Theft	Dancers, musicians	One location identified for storing all belongings not needed for dancing (e.g. bags, coats). Spare dancer(s) or other people with teams guard belongings during performances.	1	2	2	Yes	
Lack of facilities for people with disabilities	Dancers, musicians	Any special requirements by any performers who have any disabilities (e.g. impaired mobility, vision or hearing) will be identified before the event and provided as necessary. This may include making sure that all locations are accessible.	1	2	2	Yes	

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Hazard	People at risk	Existing controls	Risk level (RL)			OK?	Comments
			L	S	RL		
Effects of costume	Dancers, musicians, spectators	Teams consider the possible effects of their costume on spectators and other people in the area. If there is a significant risk that people may react adversely (e.g. by abusing the performers), then suitable action is taken to reduce the risk (e.g. altering their face paint).	1	2	2	Yes	

**Activity Risk Assessment**

**PART 3 – Overall assessment of risk**

<b>Overall risk level with existing controls</b>	Low
<b>Overall risk level after any actions completed</b>	Low
<b>Date assessment due to be reviewed</b>	Before next event
<b>Complete PART 4 recording all actions required</b>	
<b>Assessor(s) signatures</b>	<i>[Sign here or just type name]</i>

**PART 4 – Actions required to control hazards**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Morris dancing displays – outside and/or in large indoor spaces</b>				
<b>Hazard</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority H/M/L</b>	<b>Who will do it?</b>	<b>When?</b>	<b>Date done</b>

**Key to priorities: H = High M = Medium L = Low**