

Risk Assessment and Controls

Introduction

This risk assessment has been prepared for AV Retriever Working Tests organised by Coventry & District Gundog Society (CDGS).

Risk Rating

Risk rating is calculated from likelihood of injury and the likely severity of an injury after the application of the defined risk control measures. Ratings are calculated as follows:

Likelihood of Injury (L) Factor Definition

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1 | Very Unlikely |
| 2 | Unlikely |
| 3 | May happen |
| 4 | Very likely |
| 5 | Certain |

Severity of Injury (S) Factor Definition

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Minor injury (equivalent to no lost time from work) |
| 2 | Minor injury (equivalent to up to 3 days lost time from work) |
| 3 | Injury (equivalent to more than 3 days lost time from work) |
| 4 | Major Injury |
| 5 | Fatality |

Risk Rating

Risk ratings are calculated by multiplying the likelihood of injury factor (L) and the severity of injury factor (S).

Risk Rating Factor	Risk Rating
1 - 4	Low Priority
5 - 9	Medium Priority
10 - 15	High Priority
16 – 25	Urgent Priority

Persons at Risk

The following abbreviations are used to define persons at risk in the risk assessment tables.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Members of CDGS including committee members and Society members who compete in tests. |
| 2 | Helpers (such as dummy throwers, test stewards, catering helpers, those helping setting up and packing up Society equipment) who may or may not be members of CDGS. |
| 3 | Guests of the Society such as competitors in tests, test judges, landowners, spectators. |
| 4 | Members of the general public. |
| 5 | Dogs |

No.	Hazards Identified	Persons at Risk	Risk Control Measures	Further Actions to Reduce or Eliminate Risk	L x S (after controls)	Risk Rating
1	Slippery/muddy/uneven ground, ditches, holes, trip hazards and concealed items such as rocks, tree roots, fallen branches, brambles, barbed wire. Cut hazards such as barbed wire and glass.	1, 2, 3, 5	Persons at risk of slipping/tripping/falling should wear appropriate footwear and clothing. Persons at risk may like to use a walking stick and maintain hand hold when negotiating stiles. Routes which include climbing fences or negotiating streams and ditches are to be avoided where possible. Make all persons aware of specific hazards	WT Sec to walk over ground before the day commences to try and eradicate trip hazards and post notices of hazards at sites of concern. Safety Notice on running card warning of risks and informing what control measures are required.	2 x 2	4 (low)
2	Hazardous behaviour by dogs such as running into people/tripping people over. Dogs attacking and injuring other people/dogs. People slipping on dog fouling.	1, 2, 3, 5	Dogs should be kept under control by their handlers. Dogs to be kept on lead unless under instruction of a judge/steward. Designated area for exercising/fouling; owners should remove all traces of fouling. Handlers and dogs to keep a good distance from other handlers/dogs and monitor their own dogs behaviour at all times.	Signs for Exercise Area. Provision of dog poo bags if necessary. Dogs will be removed from the ground if deemed necessary.	2 x 2	4 (low)
3	People and dogs injuring themselves/drowning when working on or near water.	1, 2, 3, 5	Supervised access to water only. Check water entry points for safety and do not use	Specific hazards identified in Safety Notice. Do not use water if deemed unsuitable.	2 x 5	10 (high priority)

	Blue/green algae and other infectious diseases.		water if blue/green algae present. Persons at risk should not get too close to water edge, particularly if the area is slippery (also see item No. 1). Dogs to be vaccinated for water borne diseases at owners discretion			
4	Exposure to loud noises from training pistol. Blunt force trauma from misuse of training pistol.	1, 2, 3, 5	Hearing protection to be worn by those persons in proximity to the source of noise. Only experienced persons to use training pistol and fired away from all persons and dogs.	Training pistol use demonstration if necessary.	2 x 2	4 (low)
5.	Moving vehicles on arrival to ground and on adjacent roads. People and dogs injured on vehicle impact/dogs running onto roads and caused traffic incident.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Cars to be parked and remain in designated areas. Locate tests as far from roads as possible and make all persons aware of hazards. All cars should be driven at reduced speeds and only in allocated areas when on the ground.	Specific hazards identified in Safety Notice. Marshall area if necessary.	2 x 5	10 (high priority)
6.	Parked cars containing possessions and/or dogs at risk of theft. Dogs left unattended and suffering from heat exhaustion.	1, 2, 3, 5	Cars to be kept locked at all times, and dogs not left unattended in high heat.	Specific hazards identified in Safety Notice. Intervene if necessary (break glass to access dog), notice on running card that no liability will be taken for damage caused. Supervision parking area at intervals.	2 x 5	10 (high priority)

7.	Persons/dogs in transport being injured whilst on the ground	1, 2, 3, 5	All persons to use their own transport for minimal use on the ground. Walking on foot preferable.		2 x 5	10 (high priority)
8.	Manual handling when lifting heavy items (for example bags of dummies, tables, chairs, tents, water containers).	1, 2, 3	Assess the weight to be lifted, minimise the distance to be carried and choose suitable and safe terrain. Get help to share lifting of heavy items. Split the load to minimise the weight to be lifted. Use appropriate lifting techniques.		1 x 2	2 (low)
9.	Livestock & Wildlife (cows, sheep, horses, swans etc) attacking/kicking/stamping persons/dogs	1, 2, 3, 5	Locate tests away from livestock and ask landowner to remove livestock from fields for day of tests. Keep dogs on lead when not under supervision of the judges/stewards. Locate water tests away from swan activity/monitor their movements and stop the test if necessary		2 x 5	10 (high priority)
10.	Chemicals sprayed on ground causing skin/eye irritation/chemicals ingested by persons/dogs	1, 2, 3, 5	Contact landowner to ascertain if ground is to be sprayed.	Cancel event if the ground has been sprayed.	2 x 2	4 (low)
11.	Persons/dogs getting injured.	1, 2, 3, 5	Human and Dog First Aid Kit available at main gazebo.	Stewards to have 2 way radios and/or mobile phones	2 x 3	6 (medium)

			Details of nearest vet and hospital on running card.	and emergency numbers and map reference of venue.		
12.	Inadequate food hygiene and/or allergies (during lunch provided by the Society)	1, 2, 3, 5	Helpers preparing lunch should use good hygiene practice when preparing food. Dogs should not be allowed near food preparation areas. Ensure that food is kept cool on hot days and stored for limited amount of time. Contact judges/helpers/landowner ahead of the day to request dietary requirements. Provide food in packages with ingredients listed or provide list of ingredients.		2 x 2	4 (low)

Responsibilities

Working Tests – Briefing by Working Test Secretary

Approval

This risk assessment was approved 13/04/2023

Review

This risk assessment shall be reviewed annually by the Committee.