

# Risk Assessment – CAVING








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**Purpose:** The purpose of this risk assessment is to identify the common significant risks to which Rhydd Covert SAS Team (voluntary) and visitors are exposed and to identify appropriate control measures.

**Scope:** The risk assessment is to be used in association with the activities that are carried out at Rhydd Covert Scout Camp

<b>Related Documents:</b>	<p><b>Generic Risk Assessments</b></p> <p>RCSC/Act030 - Supervision of Children/Young Persons on Site                  RCSC_Build004 – Caving Container                  RCSC_FireCC – Fire Risk Assessment</p> <p><b>POR</b></p> <p>Rule 9 – Activities                  Rule 7.2 - Emergency Procedures                  Rule 7.4 – Accident Reporting</p> <p><b>Fact sheets</b></p> <p>FS120000 – Activities - Risk Assessment - Jan 01                  FS120075 - InTouch</p> <p><b>Other</b></p>
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<b>Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b>					
	Suitable Footwear	Suitable Clothing	Helmet	Knee Pads	Head Torch (Supplied by RC Only)

**Data Protection Statement.**

The information and data provided herein applies only to Rhydd Covert Scout Camp (RCSC) for which it was written, it shall not be duplicated, disclosed or disseminated by the recipient in whole or part for any purpose whatsoever without the prior written permission of the Document Author or from RCSC.

It is the duty of all members to observe the following Risk Assessment to provide a code of good practice and conduct with the object of preventing accidents. At all times members must work in a safe manner both to prevent personal injury to themselves and to others.

**Important Note:** It is the duty of all members under Regulation 14 of the “Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999” to inform the ‘employer’, i.e. Deputy Camp Wardens, Camp Warden of any circumstances that may indicate any shortcomings in this assessment

Minimum Leader Competence	Adult Scout/Guide Member	Minimum Assistant Competence	In House assessed
Activity Length Time	1 hour & 30 Mins	Minimum Age of Participants	8 + Years

<b>Reviewed:</b>	April 2025
<b>Next Review Due:</b>	April 2026

# GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT

## CAVING



Task Element	Hazard and harmful effect	Likelihood Info	Initial risk level			Control measures to reduce likelihood	Controlled risk level		
			SEVERITY	LIKELIHOOD	RISK LEVEL		SEVERITY	LIKELIHOOD	RISK LEVEL
Caving on Rhydd Covert Scout Camp – maintenance/checking of equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equipment failure</li> <li>Damaged equipment leading to injury if used</li> </ul>	Young persons and adults (possibly with little or no experience) Which are Members of the Scout or Guide Movement who use the campsite.	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Head Torches, helmets etc will be checked by a competent person on a regular basis as advised by the manufacturer.</li> <li>Helmets showing signs of damage will be taken out of use immediately and destroyed.</li> <li>Competent persons will carry out inspections of equipment and activity site prior to and after use and ensure it is returned to the activity store.</li> <li>Emergency Lighting and Emergency Exit Hatches are in working order before the activity starts</li> <li>All equipment will be stored in an appropriate manner after use.</li> <li>Defects will be reported to the Duty Warden or their deputies immediately and the activity/equipment taken out of use immediately.</li> <li>All equipment will be kept in secure storage.</li> </ul>	4	2	8

<p>Caving at Rhydd Covert Scout Camp</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fall from height</li> <li>• Death</li> <li>• Broken bones</li> <li>• Head injury e.g. due to bumping into something.</li> <li>• Cuts/bruises</li> <li>• Failure of equipment.</li> <li>• Panic Attack</li> <li>• Sprains &amp; Strains</li> </ul>	<p>Young persons and adults (possibly with little or no experience) Including Members of the Scout or Guide Movement, schools, companies and other groups who may be allowed to use the campsite.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Induction handover by member of RC SAS Team to responsible adult for group doing activity</li> <li>• Authorised instructors only to run/supervise activity.</li> <li>• Helmets and suitable footwear to be worn by each person Caving</li> <li>• Full instruction to be given to each person prior to caving</li> <li>• Loose clothing to be removed or tied back, long hair to be tied up and kept under helmet.</li> <li>• Remove any loose items from pockets.</li> <li>• An adult or leader must supervise young people waiting to cave.</li> <li>• Instructor will stop the activity immediately should any of the following occur: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There be an accident/near miss</li> <li>○ Group is too large or unruly to supervise</li> <li>○ No adult supervision provided by the group</li> <li>○ They feel that the activity is not suitable for the age/abilities/ experience of participants.</li> <li>○ Any of the rules/instructions etc are broken whether by children/young persons, adult or leader.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Instructions issued by the instructors must be adhered to at all times.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>8</p>
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**Rhydd Covert**  
SCOUT CAMPSITE