

Managing Outdoor Risks Course

Managing Outdoor Risks – Meeting your minimum requirements

The perception of many outdoor activities is that they are inherently risky and can often lead to approaches that miss the positive benefit of the activity. Getting clear advice on how to meet the minimum standards for Health and Safety legislation for the outdoors can be hard to understand when most courses are written to manage hazards in an indoor (office or factory) workspace.

This course interprets the Health and Safety Executives document “Managing for health and safety (HSG65)” which is one of HSE’s most popular guides for leaders, owners and line managers. It will particularly help those who need to put in place or oversee their organisation’s health and safety arrangements.

In Guidance L77 "Guidance from the Licensing Authority on the Adventure Activities Licensing Regulations 2004" it states

"...the authority must be satisfied that the provider has:

- (a) identified the hazards created by the activity;
- (b) decided who might be harmed, and how;
- (c) evaluated the risk and decided whether existing measures (safety precautions) are adequate or whether more should be done;
- (d) implemented the measures;
- (e) have arrangements in place for appropriate review and revision of the assessment."

The aim of the course is to enable delegates understand the legal requirements to manage the risks for outdoor activities and meet this minimum standard. This will enable them to apply this knowledge practically, and to understand their own limitations in creating or managing a safety management system.

Who is it for?

This course is for anyone who is involved in managing outdoor risks – event director, activity provider or small business/self-employed instructor.

Objectives

At the end of the 2-day course the student will be able to demonstrate:

- Understand the term ‘duty holder’ and understand the different obligations of Landowner/manager, Provider and Participant. This includes employee and volunteers.
- What difference does Access Land, Public Rights of Way and Scottish Land Reform Act make to managing risks.
- Knowledge of the legal H&S obligations that apply outdoor activities.
- Understanding of the competency requirements for risk assessment and activity provision.

Contd....

Managing Outdoor Risks Course

- Knowledge of the terms related to risk assessments, including hazard, risk, likelihood and severity and the main stages of conducting a risk assessment for outdoor activities
- Understanding of the limitations of a quantitative risk assessment in an outdoor environment.
- Practical understanding of the difference between a generic risk assessment, specific risk assessment and dynamic risk assessment in an outdoor environment and select the appropriate method.
- Awareness of common mistakes and problems with completing risk assessments.
- Understanding of how risk assessments fit into the overall activity/event process.
- Awareness of the importance of record keeping and the retention requirements for documents.
- Identifications of common outdoor hazards, and the associated risks.
- What a suitable and sufficient first aid risk assessment needs to consider.
- Common controls used in the outdoor including NGB qualifications.

Assessment

Delegates will complete a practical and written assessment during the course.

Outcomes

Delegates will be competent to identify the key requirements in running a safety management system for outdoor activities. This will include being able to create and complete a “suitable and sufficient” risk assessment and manage the records that will be ‘discoverable’ in the instance of a civil claim.

Delegates who successfully pass the assessment will be awarded with a certificate of completion.

Car Parking, Tea, Coffee and a light lunch is provided on both days.