

Risk assessment for launching water rockets.



Company:

Location:

Assessor:

Assessment review date:

Usually within one year, or earlier if conditions change.

P.P.E:

Glasses - A must for all teams launching water rockets.
Ear Defenders - Must be used if you are within 10m of a pressurised water rocket.

Signed:

Date:

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	Control measures	Further actions necessary?	Action by?	Action done	Initial
Water transfer (Low risk)	Staff and students may be injured if they slip on wet grass or mud.	- Make aware of areas that may be wet and slippery. - Only transfer water to the water rocket near the launcher.	- Give assistance if necessary.	All staff, supervisors to monitor.		
Using the floor pump (Low risk)	Staff or students may get injured if fingers get caught on the downward stroke while pumping.	- Check all pumps before use. Highlight danger to operator.	- None.	All staff, supervisors to monitor.		
Loading the water rocket on the launcher. (Low risk)	Staff or students may get injured if fingers get caught on the edge of the launcher while loading rocket.	- Make aware of finger trapment danger.	- Give assistance if necessary.	All staff, supervisors to monitor.		

Additional information

Staff and students to be aware of the main dangers while using water rockets with a safety brief at the beginning of the event.

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What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	Control measures	Further actions necessary?	Action by?	Action done	Initial
Using the metal launch pin. (Low risk)	Students may get injured if fingers or hands are hit hard with the metal launch pin.	- Make aware of metal launch pin and should be treated carefully when using it to lock the water rocket to the launcher.	- None	All staff, supervisors to monitor.		
Air line and launch cord on the ground. (Low risk)	Students may get injured if they trip over the air line or launch cord.	- Make aware of hazard. - Make line bright colours so they are easier to see.	- None	All staff, supervisors to monitor.		
A pressurised water rocket. (Large risk)	Staff or students may get injured if they are within ten meters of the water rocket when pressurising as it could rupture.	- Check all water rockets before use for any damage to the pressurised (engine) area, such as deep scratches.	- Make sure the teams are back to a safe distance when pressurising the water rocket on the launcher.	All staff, supervisors.		
A failed water rocket launch. (Large risk)	Staff or students may get injured if they are within ten meters of the water rocket when pressurised as it could rupture.	- Check all water rockets before use for any damage to the pressurised (engine) area, such as deep scratches. - Check all water rocket launchers before use for any damage.	- Get the team back to a safe distance and depressurise the water rocket on the launcher.	Only staff or supervisors.		
Water rocket in the air. (Medium risk)	Staff or students may get injured if they are hit by a water rocket while it is moving through the air.	- Check all water rockets are launched away from people.. - Check the weather conditions do not effect the water rockets while in the air to put students or staff in danger.	- Make sure the team members remain safe behind the water rocket the launcher.	All staff, supervisors to monitor.		

Additional information

Make sure the team members remain safe behind the water rocket the launcher.
All team members must be happy to launch after checking the area for dangers such as people in the range of the rockets.

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Collecting Water rockets. (Medium risk)	Staff or students may get injured if they are hit by a water rocket while it is moving through the air.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check all water rockets have been launched from all the teams. - Get the attention of all involved in the event and the when it is safe blow a whistle or use a air horn to let them know it is safe to collect rockets. - The whistle or air horn will also mean all teams to look around for danger. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make sure the team members remain safe behind the water rocket the launcher untill the whistle or air horn is sounded. 	All staff, supervisors to monitor.		

Additional information