



# Torbay District Scout Campsite

Easterfield Lane, Torquay, TQ1 4SW

W3W Location: [caged.kings.ramp](https://www.caged.kings.ramp)



## Risk Assessment

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|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Activity:</b> Grass Sledging                 | <b>Prepared by:</b> Doug Eltham    | <b>Role:</b> Trustee                 | <b>Date:</b> 02/06/2026 |
| <b>Location:</b> Torbay District Scout Campsite | <b>Reviewed by:</b> Nicki Spalding | <b>Role:</b> District Lead Volunteer | <b>Date:</b> 03/06/2026 |
| <b>Review due by:</b> 31/5/2027                 |                                    |                                      |                         |

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**This risk assessment is to be used to support visiting groups prepare their own risk assessments. Responsibility for ensuring a suitable, current, and activity-specific risk assessment rests with the organising group and activity leaders.**

| Hazard and Risk                                                                  | Who might be harmed | Control Measures Already in Place                                                                    | Additional Actions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Residual Risk Rating | Amendments at Review |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Manual handling of sledges causing trapped fingers, strain or impact injuries    | All participants    | -                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sledges carried one at a time by adults or Explorers and shared between two Beavers, Cubs or Scouts.</li><li>Sledges pulled when on grass and carried using the lip.</li><li>Leader to supervise lifting, carrying and storage techniques.</li></ul> | Med                  |                      |
| Slips, trips or falls on uneven or wet ground causing minor to moderate injuries | All participants    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Periodic inspection and maintenance of camp grounds.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Participants advised to be aware of ground conditions prior to activity.</li><li>Full safety briefing provided.</li><li>Ongoing vigilance during activity.</li></ul>                                                                                 | Low                  |                      |

**This risk assessment in no way negates the need for continual dynamic risk assessment**

**Risk Assessment TDS016 – Grass Sledging**  
[www.torbayscouts.org.uk](https://www.torbayscouts.org.uk)

| Hazard and Risk                                                                                | Who might be harmed | Control Measures Already in Place | Additional Actions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Residual Risk Rating | Amendments at Review |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Collision with hedge at bottom or side of slope causing cuts, bruising or impact injuries      | All participants    | -                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear briefing on stopping zone and safe exit route.</li> <li>• Riders instructed to stop centrally and steer away from hedge, moving to left-hand side after run.</li> <li>• Leader supervision to ensure compliance.</li> </ul>                      | Low                  |                      |
| Collision between moving sledges causing impact injuries or falls                              | All participants    | -                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activity Leader to release riders in sequence ensuring adequate distance between runs.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                      | Low                  |                      |
| Collision with stationary or returning participants causing injury to riders and pedestrians   | All participants    | -                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear separation of run lane and return route enforced.</li> <li>• Riders instructed to move to far left immediately after finishing and return uphill via designated side.</li> <li>• Leader to monitor flow of participants continuously.</li> </ul> | Low                  |                      |
| Sudden braking or skidding causing sledge to overturn resulting in head, neck or limb injuries | All participants    | -                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instruction on correct braking and riding technique given before activity.</li> <li>• Reinforced during supervision.</li> <li>• Participants monitored and corrected where required.</li> </ul>                                                        | Med                  |                      |
| Entanglement of clothing, hair or fingers in moving parts causing injury                       | All participants    | -                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full safety briefing prior to activity.</li> <li>• Loose clothing tucked in and long hair tied back.</li> <li>• Limbs kept inside sledge during use.</li> <li>• Leader supervision maintained throughout session.</li> </ul>                           | Low                  |                      |

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| Hazard and Risk                                                                             | Who might be harmed | Control Measures Already in Place                                                                     | Additional Actions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Residual Risk Rating | Amendments at Review                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Use of defective or damaged sledges causing loss of control or injury                       | All participants    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equipment inspected and serviced periodically.</li> </ul>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faulty sledges removed from use immediately and reported to warden. Sledges are numbered.</li> <li>See operational note 2.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                         | Low                  |                                     |
| Participant exceeding equipment limits causing failure or loss of control leading to injury | All participants    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sledges designed for maximum rider weight of 100kg.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity Leader to check participant suitability and enforce weight limits.</li> <li>See operational note 1.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Low                  |                                     |
| Minor injuries such as cuts, bruises or abrasions during activity                           | All participants    | -                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First aid kit to be made available.</li> <li>Leader supervision maintained.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Low                  |                                     |
| Serious injury requiring emergency response such as collision or fall injuries              | All participants    | -                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity stopped.</li> <li>Purple Card procedures followed.</li> <li>First aid administered.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Med                  |                                     |
| Operational Note 1:                                                                         |                     |                                                                                                       | The 100Kg weight limit does not stop 2 participants riding together if the smaller one needs assistance e.g. a beaver and a scout with total combined weight of <100Kg                                                                                                                                                                                               |                      | Operational note added for clarity. |
| Operational Note 2:                                                                         |                     |                                                                                                       | The leader in charge of the activity must inspect the brake blocks for wear after every run. The blocks wear down fairly fast and are held in place with a metal surround which will damage the webbing track if contact is made. Failure to maintain a sufficient level of rubber block will result in brake failure and damage to the track which will be charged. |                      | Operational note added for clarity. |

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