

Adventure Sunderland

Activity Risk Assessment



Fencing

**Location: Adventure Sunderland & Scout hall
(or off site after a site specific risk assessment)**

	Potential harm	To Whom	Control Measures
Misuse of equipment	Personal injury	Staff, participants	Staff to hold coaching award or be trained and 'signed off' in-house. Staff to control use of equipment and brief on correct use.
Swords (foils)	Penetrating or slashing injury	Staff, participants	All persons in the fencing arena to be issued with and wear mask and jacket when engaged in the activity. Instructors to ensure correct technique when using foils. Only exception to be a designated 'safe area' or when a member of staff e.g. allows a break from activity.
Slip, trip and falls	Personal injury	Staff, participants and public	Staff to ensure unused equipment and other items are left out of the working area. Staff to coach participants on the correct footwork for the activity.
Equipment failure	Personal injury	Staff, participants	All equipment checked prior to use and taken out of service if not safe. All equipment to meet British Fencing standards. Staff to insure equipment used is correctly sized for participant.
Dangerous conduct	Personal injury	Staff, participants and public	Staff to set clear rules during general safety instruction, before session begins. Clear briefing by staff of safety rules at the start of the session. Staff to be actively supervising at all times when fencing is in progress. Staff to control and supervise equipment when not in use. Staff to terminate session if participants cannot follow instructions.

Adventure Sunderland

Activity Risk Assessment



Use of foil without mask	Personal injury	Staff and participants	Instructor MUST ensure group wear masks at all times when foils are in hands
Uncontrolled dueling	Personal injury, death	Staff, participants and public	Instructor to monitor and maintain complete control and supervision over the session and participants.
Exit / Entrance routes into room	Personal injury, death	Staff, participants and public	Signage to be placed on all doors exiting from room and doors locked.
III fitting equipment	Personal injury, death	Staff, participants	Instructor to ensure correct fit at beginning of session paying particular attention to mask. Continue to check throughout session
Overheating	Personal injury, death	Staff and participants	Where necessary, instructor must ensure group have regular breaks for water
Unattended foils	Personal injury, death	Staff, participants	Ensure foils are stored securely when not in use

Risk assessments are to be reviewed on an annual basis unless an incident occurs, which then dictates immediate review of the risk assessment.

This Review completed by: Mike Clapham

Signed: *Mike Clapham*

Date: 06/01/2026

This version checked by: Mike Clapham

Signed: *Mike Clapham*

Date: 07/01/2026

To be completed by Centre Manager:

I consider this risk assessment to be suitable to control the risks to the health and safety of both employees undertaking the tasks involved and any other person who may be affected by the activities.

Name: Mike Clapham

Signed: *Mike Clapham*

Date of next review: 06/01/2027