

Footloose Risk Assessment:

Location		Activity				
Generic Risk assessment for walking 3rd Party risk		Walking				
Issue	05/06/2018					
No.	Hazard	Possible effects / harm	Risk rating High, Medium, Low	Detail existing controls	Detail further action required to reduce risk	Revised Risk rating (HML)
	Something with a potential cost to Footloose. Potential problems listed should be those present before controls are in place.		Indicate the rating prior to controls being in place.	Provides details of control measures already in place. If measures are detailed in other documents, state where.	Note the further action required, responsible person and target date	Indicate the rating after controls are in place
1	Open gates	Stock may escape if walls, hedges or fences are damaged, or if gates are left open	MEDIUM	Club members take care to ensure that animals do not escape when they are using gates for access to land. Gates are left as they are found, or where there are instructions on a gate they are followed.	All members are provided with a copy of the risk assessment each year by e-mail, and new members and guests are given a copy.	LOW
2	Damaged hedges, fences or walls		MEDIUM	Club members access the land via the gates and stiles provided for the purpose, to avoid damage to walls, fences or hedges		LOW
3	Damage to crops, or grassland	Members who wander over fields away from paths may cause un-necessary damage to crops etc	LOW	Members are encouraged to stick to pathways unless wider access is available such as on Open Access Land.		LOW

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4	Members' dogs	Stock or wildlife may be injured or frightened by walkers or by dogs. Ground nesting birds are particularly at hazard.	MEDIUM	Dogs brought by club members on walks are controlled by the member. Dogs are retained on a short lead where there are notices to this effect or where livestock are found along the route. Dogs should be kept on a short lead on access land between 1st March and 31st July.		LOW
5		Other walkers and their dogs may be injured if the dogs taken by club members are not properly controlled.	MEDIUM	Club members' dogs are kept under proper control by their owner on the walk. A walk leader may refuse to take a dog which may cause a hazard on the walk. Where another walker's dog is injured by a dog in the care of a club member, the member will exchange details with the other party(s) involved in the incident a record will be made by the walk leader.	All members are provided with a copy of the risk assessment each year by e-mail, and new members and guests are given a copy.	LOW
6	Rubbish left by members	Wildlife and livestock can be injured by rubbish if it is left behind by walkers.	MEDIUM	Club members remove any bottles, paper or plastic which they bring with them on walks, and take them home for disposal.		LOW
7	Dog mess	It is unpleasant for other walkers and can be a source of infection to animals.	MEDIUM	Club members with dogs bag dog refuse and bin it as appropriate.		LOW

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8	Damage to machinery	Machinery may be damaged if it is interfered with by walkers.	LOW	Club members do not use, move or otherwise interfere with machinery encountered during walks.		LOW
9		Machinery may be damaged taking action to avoid injuring walkers	MEDIUM	Club members take care to avoid machinery which is in use or may cause a hazard by ensuring that the operators are aware of their presence, and leaving		LOW
10	Injury to farm workers	Farm workers may be injured if distracted while working by walkers, or when taking action to avoid walkers on farmland or on roads or tracks.	MEDIUM	Club members make space for machinery or farm vehicles to pass them while in the countryside. A member who first sees a vehicle approaching warns the others in the party. Members keep out of the way when farm animals are being gathered or moved, and follow directions from the farmer.	All members are provided with a copy of the risk assessment each year by e-mail, and new members and guests are given a copy.	LOW
11	Delay and inconvenience to any work on the land	Obstruction may cause delays or inconvenience to farm or forestry vehicles, or prevent emergency access.	MEDIUM	Club members do not park in places where an obstruction may be caused, and park with due consideration for the rights of other people who may wish to use a car park or other space selected for parking. Members are encouraged to share cars to reduce this risk.		LOW

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12	Injury to horse riders or the passengers or drivers of vehicles encountered on the roads or tracks	Walkers can cause accidents by failing to pay attention to other path, track or road users.	MEDIUM	Club members walk on roads facing the oncoming traffic, and in single file. Where necessary they stop to let vehicles pass them. Walkers take care to avoid cars and cyclists and the first person noticing cyclists or cars approaching will let the rest of the party know. Members also take care when horses are passing by standing still while the horse passes.		LOW
13	Pollution or disruption of water supplies	Walkers may contaminate water supplies by leaving rubbish, or by washing, defecating or urinating in potential water supplies.	LOW	Club members take their litter home with them for disposal. Where urinating or defecating they do so well away from water courses.	All members are provided with a copy of the risk assessment each year by e-mail, and new members and guests are given a copy.	LOW
14	Hazards to the emergency services during call outs necessitated by the activities of walkers	Each time the services are called out there are potential hazards for them when they are rescuing walkers in difficulty.	LOW	Club members are well aware of the hazards of walking on the fells, and take adequate preparations to reduce the risks they run while walking. Walk leaders may refuse to lead someone who is not adequately prepared for the conditions, or who they feel may not be fit for the proposed walk.		LOW