

RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

Task or Activity Assessed Use of swords at competitions, training and displays	Assessed by and in conjunction with Dawn Watkins for the British Tentpegging Association (BTA)	
Department Mounted competitions, training and displays	Date of Assessment 29/03/2018 Reviewed 26.01.19	
Area: Practise area and Competition arenas for all BTA competitions, training sessions and displays	Review Date 29/03/2021	

Hazard Description	Severity	Who And What Might Be Harmed?	Existing Controls	Likeli Hood	Risk Rating	Additional Action Controls Needed	By Whom	By When
Sword	5	Death or serious injury: Riders, competitors, judges, ground crew, members of public	Swords should be stored in scabbards until required, when not in use stored on the weapon rack out of reach of the public, safe for riders to access. Swords need to be handled using correct method and drills. Riders must not attempt to swap weapons or pick up own sword whilst mounted. Swords must not be left unattended Ground crew/amour must be fully trained in sword handling No sword fighting permitted. Miss use or inappropriate use of sword could get you eliminated from the venue and reported to police	1	5	Use of inappropriate use of sword will be caused for a warning and disqualification. Additional training will be required before attending the next event. Correctly fitted riding hats to current British standard. Rider responsible for ensuring hat is fit for purpose. Do not point swords at anyone/horses	Sword owner /user/ground crew/judges	At every event
	4	Puncture wounds and cuts: Riders, competitors, judges, ground crew, members of public, horses	Correct sword handling and BTA drills All new members trained and all members reminded about sword handling in briefing Riders must carry at the carry or slope whilst mounted. Swords can be stored in scabbard on saddle, but riders must not store sword under leg whilst mounted When dropping a sword in an emergency hold out to side of horse and parallel to ground and release, only collect when you have the horse back under control A dropped sword in Indian file – riders to ensure at least one horses distance, manoeuvre horse out of the swords path. For SLR set up sword dummies at least 10 metres away from the audience /arena side	2	8	In correct handling whilst mounted will lead to a warning and possible disqualification until re-training has taken place by qualified Tentpegging instructor Ground crew to quickly retrieve and make safe a dropped sword Practise Indian file with sword only with experienced riders who are competent with the sword and ensure large gaps between rider until competent at sword handling Fence off area beside sword dummy to avoid member of public getting injured. SLP – place sword into bucket or point into ground slowly so it doesn't bounce point up into horse/person	Sword owner /user/ground crew/judges	Every time when using a sword
	5	Injury to another rider or horse when riding pairs/section events that cause the rider to be unseated, rotational fall, death, serious injury	Use correct BTA drills, riders should attend training sessions, Match horses suitability, temperament, speed Pegs set out at least minimum distance as per BTA rules Use horse magnets to encourage horses to run straight Swords must be back at the slop, at end of the run	3	15	Explain to the magnates that they can move once the rider has passed the peg line especially if the rider coming towards them causing stress to their own mount. Allow new horses/inexperienced riders to ride at a slower pace than a gallop to build accuracy and skill of drills – rider must inform judge of reason for slower pace Leg protection on the horse can be used as necessary	Sword owner /user/ground crew/judges/rider	at all times when using sword
	4	Slicing horse's ears	Use correct BTA drills for lemon slicing event, if the horse has a naturally high head carriage or erratic head carriage then re-consider using the mount for this event Rider to attend training sessions	1	4		Rider	Whilst mounted and during events and training

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Sword	1	Bruises, concussion Rider	Use BTA drills to hold and carry sword correctly padding in the sword hilt, blade and shaft should have spring to take shock	3	3	Practise whilst un-mounted to perform drills – attend training sessions	Rider	Before attending first competition
	4	Breaking fingers, wrist, hand whilst engaging sword dummy	Use correct BTA drills. Ensure dummies are stuffed with suitable materials to take concussion of engage, but allow the sword to be released or held securely when released.	2	8	Riders can strap weak wrists, use wrist bands as applicable, Attend training sessions with BTA qualified instructors	Rider	Before attending first competition

RISK RATING		ACTION LEVELS		
LIKELIHOOD	SEVERITY	POINTS	RISK	ACTION
5 - Very likely	5 - Fatality or very serious damage	1-2	TRIVIAL	No action required
4 - Likely	4 - Major injury or environmental damage	3-5	TOLERABLE	Apply reasonably practicable rule
3 - Possible	3 - > 3 days absence, complaint of environmental damage	6-12	MEDIUM	Some action required
2 - Unlikely	2 - < 3 days absence/temporary damage	15-16	HIGH	Positive action required to control and reduce the risk
1 - Very Unlikely	1 - Minor first aid injury/ little environmental effect	20-25	INTOLERABLE	Immediate action - cease the activity or do not start