

Desire Football Academy (DFA) Risk Assessments

Basic Terms for a Risk Assessment:

Hazard – Anything that has the potential to cause harm, such as machinery, a hot drink, or a hole in the floor.

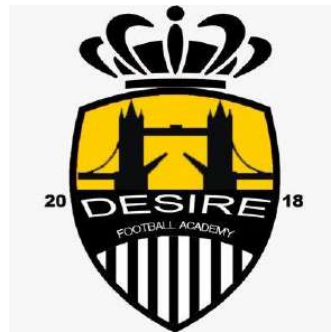
Hazardous Event – Occurs when someone or something interacts with a hazard, resulting in harm. Examples include cutting a finger on a machine, spilling a hot drink on yourself, or tripping in a hole and twisting your ankle.

Likelihood – The measure of the chance that a hazardous event will occur. For example, a hole outside a busy shop is more likely to cause a trip than one in a rarely used backyard.

Consequence – The outcome of a hazardous event. For instance, tripping into a hole could result in a sprained or fractured ankle.

Control Measure – Actions taken to prevent risks from becoming reality.

Risk Formula: Risk = Likelihood x Consequence



Hazard	People at Risk	Risk Factor	Control Measure
Objects, rubbish, equipment, and belongings on the playing field that players might trip over, causing injury.	Players, Coaches	Medium	Ensure equipment is kept off the pitch in a reachable area. Players' belongings should be kept together off the pitch.
Players wandering off the pitch.	Players	Medium	Instruct players to remain on the pitch until parents or guardians arrive. Coaches should call parents if needed and count group members after each drill.
Conflict between players, including fights breaking out.	Players, Coaches	Medium	Coaches should monitor heated conversations and mediate immediately to de-escalate tensions. If a fight occurs, coaches must separate individuals until calm is restored.
A rip in the net separating pitches that may cause tripping or interference with other play.	Kids, Public	Medium	Mark a safe distance (2 meters) from the net with cones. Do not allow players to retrieve balls from the other side of the net.
Opened gates providing opportunities for players to leave, dogs to enter, or players to run into them.	Players, Coaches	High	Ensure all gates are securely closed at all times.
Parents taking photos or videos of children with other children in the background, potentially violating privacy.	Players, Parents	High	Announce on the WhatsApp group and at training sessions that taking photos or videos of other children without consent is prohibited. Also, ask Coaches to reinforce this policy if they do see anyone taking photos or videos. We have a poster that is hung up by the entrance during training sessions.
Risk of players running into 11-a-side goals.	Players	Medium	Use cones to mark a safe distance from the goal area.

Extreme weather conditions such as heat, rain, or lightning can cause dehydration, slips, or danger from storms.	Players, Coaches	High	Monitor weather forecasts and suspend training during extreme weather and unplayable conditions. Ensure hydration breaks and proper attire for weather conditions. Send reminders in WhatsApp group chats to parents.
Uneven or damaged playing surfaces that can cause trips or falls.	Players	High	Inspect the field before sessions and mark or avoid unsafe areas. Report and arrange for surface repairs as needed.
Injuries due to inadequate warm-up or cool-down exercises.	Players	Medium	Ensure proper warm-up and cool-down routines are conducted before and after each session. Supervise technique to prevent strain or injury.
Allergic reactions or medical conditions occur during training without immediate aid.	Players	High	Maintain up-to-date medical records and have a first aid kit on-site. Ensure coaches are trained in first aid and aware of players' specific medical needs.
Slippery surfaces around the pitch due to water or mud, increase the risk of slips and falls.	Players, Coaches	High	Regularly inspect and clear water or mud from pathways. Use slip-resistant mats where appropriate.
Players colliding with goalposts or other fixed structures.	Players	Medium	Pad goalposts and any fixed structures within playing areas to reduce the impact of collisions.
Injuries from improper or damaged equipment such as balls or cones.	Players	Medium	Check equipment before each session to ensure it is in good condition. Remove and replace any damaged items immediately.
Sun exposure leads to heatstroke or sunburn.	Players, Coaches	High	Encourage the use of sunscreen and hats. Provide shaded areas and ensure regular hydration breaks during hot weather.
Inadequate lighting during evening or early morning sessions, leading to reduced visibility and increased risk of injury.	Players, Coaches	Medium	Use sufficient portable lighting or schedule sessions during daylight hours. Ensure all areas are well-lit.

Players wearing inappropriate footwear, increase the risk of slips or foot injuries.	Players	Medium	Ensure players wear suitable footwear for the playing surface. Regularly check compliance before sessions.
Overcrowded training sessions leading to collisions or difficulty in supervision.	Players, Coaches	High	Limit group sizes based on coach-to-player ratios. Assign coaches to smaller groups for better management.
Sharp objects or debris on the field can cause cuts or punctures.	Players, Coaches	High	Conduct a thorough field inspection before each session and remove any hazardous items.
Lack of clear emergency evacuation procedures in case of fire or other incidents.	Players, Coaches, Parents	High	Establish and communicate emergency procedures. Conduct periodic drills to ensure readiness and awareness of procedures.
Fatigue due to long or intensive sessions leading to injury or reduced performance.	Players	Medium	Schedule adequate breaks and rotate players to prevent overexertion. Monitor player energy levels and adjust session intensity accordingly.
Equipment left unattended posing a tripping or collision hazard.	Players, Coaches	Medium	Store all unused equipment in designated areas away from active play zones.
Coaches or players distracted by mobile phone usage during training, reducing attention and increasing risks.	Players, Coaches	Medium	Enforce a no-phone rule during sessions unless required for emergencies.
Injury risks from incorrect tackling techniques.	Players	High	Provide proper instruction and continuous supervision on safe tackling techniques. Implement regular skills practice for safety reinforcement.
Contaminated water supplies causing illness.	Players	High	Ensure clean and safe drinking water is available. Use sealed water containers and encourage players to bring personal water bottles.
Lack of adequate restroom facilities leads to discomfort or hygiene issues.	Players, Coaches	Medium	Ensure access to clean, functioning restroom facilities. Plan breaks to accommodate restroom use. Children don't go toilet alone and coaches go with groups never one player or if the parent of the child is there ask the parent to take the player.

Acknowledgment

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agree to uphold the highest standards of health and safety, prioritising the well-being and protection of players, staff, and all participants at Desire Football Club.

Reviewed by:

Name: Noah Kahsay (CEO)

Signature: N.Kahsay

Reviewed Date: 20/01/2025

Name: Tamia Padotan (Welfare Officer and Safeguarding Lead)

Signature: T.Padotan

Reviewed Date: 20/01/2025

Name: Donnel Anderson (Head Coach)

Signature: D.Anderson

Reviewed Date: 20/01/2025

