



THE GLIDING FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.

RISK EVALUATION TOOL

Step 1 – Define the risk.

Step 2 – How serious is the consequence of the risk potential?

Description	Level	Consequence		
		Personal Injuries	Public Image or Compliance Breach	Damage to property or aircraft
Extreme	4	Death or permanent disablement	Significant effect on the sport; national media coverage; CASA penalty	Damage costs exceed \$50000
Major	3	Extensive Injury	Potential to affect club membership; local or state media coverage; breach of regulations but no penalty.	extensive damage \$5000-\$50000
Minor	2	Minor injury	Impact on club members' confidence kept within club; no breach.	damage less than \$5000
Insignificant	1	No Injuries	Negligible effect on reputation; no breach	Very minor or no damage to property or aircraft

Step 3- How likely is it that this risk could happen?

Evaluate the possibility of the risk occurring. The four options are: Likely, Possible, Unlikely, or Very Unlikely.

Step 4 – What is the calculated risk level?

Likelihood x Consequence = Risk Score

Likelihood		Consequence			
		Insignificant (1)	Minor (2)	Major (3)	Extreme (4)
Likely	4	Moderate (4)	Moderate (8)	High (12)	High (16)
Possible	3	Low (3)	Moderate (6)	High (9)	High (12)
Unlikely	2	Low (2)	Moderate (4)	Moderate (6)	Moderate (8)
Very Unlikely	1	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Moderate (4)

Step 5 - Ensure your club has controls in place to minimise the risk.

Risk Level	Acceptance	Mitigation Measures ¹
Low Risk	Tolerable	Monitor this risk to ensure it remains low
Moderate Risk	Must be formally managed	Ensure mitigation measures are established and working, and checked every Ops Status check
High Risk	Unacceptable, Immediate intervention	

¹ Mitigation measures include procedures, rules, training, records, etc



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Step 6 – Check that, with mitigation measures in place, the risk has been reduced to as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP).



Examples and Guidance

Step 1 – Identify & Define the risk

Further Information: the risk must be clearly defined and not too broadly described.

Example: “Loss of directional control on ground run (takeoff or landing). Collision with fixed objects resulting in damage to the aircraft and/or injury”

Step 2 – How serious is the risk potential?

Further Information: For the risk as it is defined, assess the seriousness of the consequences against the table provided. The consequences may relate to injuries, damage and reputation/breaches.

Example: From the table, loss of directional control and resulting damage has a consequence level of “minor – 2”.

Step 3– How likely is it that this risk could happen?

Further Information: Select from four levels – “Likely”, “Possible”, “Unlikely”, or “Very Unlikely”. The likelihood should be assessed in the context of the GFA procedures or club controls that are in place and effective.

Example: Loss of directional control is quite possible for an inexperienced pilot, so the likelihood could be assessed as “possible – 3”

Step 4 – What is the calculated risk level?

Further Information: Multiply the Likelihood x Consequence to give a Risk Level.

Risk Level	
1, 2, 3	Low Risk
4, 6, 8	Moderate Risk
9, 12, 16	High Risk

Example: Our example of “loss of directional control” has a risk level of $2 \times 3 = 6$ i.e. moderate risk.



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Step 5 - Ensure your club has controls in place to minimise the risk.

Further Information: Risks can be tolerated/accepted, reduced or eliminated. Risks can be reduced by

1. reducing the likelihood it will happen by removing your exposure to the risk, or
2. reducing the consequence of the risk, or
3. both.

Mostly, the reduction in risk is achieved by reducing the likelihood it will happen.

Examples:

- The risk of jammed fingers in a tow release while hooking on glider is **low** and would be accepted
- The risk of loss of directional control hitting objects off the airfield is **moderate** and needs to be managed by training, clear takeoff and landing areas, instructor supervision, observing maximum cross wind components, etc.
- The risk of mid air collisions in competitions is **high** needs to be significant attention using rules, briefings, minimum experience levels, parachutes and technology (Flarm).

Step 6 – Check that, with mitigation or treatment measures in place, the risk has been reduced to as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP).

Further Information: Review the risk in view of the controls the club uses to ensure that either the likelihood of the risk has been reduced, the severity of the risk has been reduced, or both.

Example: For the risk of “loss of directional control”, the XYZ Soaring Club has the following measures in place (including GFA procedures from MOSP) which reduce the likelihood of this risk occurring, and believe there is nothing more they can address for this risk:

- Daily briefings before flying
- Level 2 instructor in charge
- No flying when the crosswind component exceeds 15 kts
- Annual checks review crosswind landing techniques
- Club currency requirements for members
- Instructor discretion for allowing/monitoring low-hours pilots flying in crosswinds
- Takeoffs and landings are made on the downwind side of the strip in crosswinds