



Peak Bike Guides Ltd – Location Specific Risk Assessment

Name / Assessor: **Barry Smethurst**

Location: **Watchwood Plantation**

Meeting point address: **Burntstump Country Park, Car Park, Nottingham NG5 8RX**

Activity / exercise: **Mountain Biking**

Instructor to Student Ratio: **1:5**

Document reference: **PBG-RA-2020-001-Watchwood**

Date Assessment: **12/06/2020**

Generic Risk assessment: **No**

Session description & basic route info:

This session starts from the Main Car Park. The session will cover up to 40km distance and 1500 meters of climbing and descending. The route will take up 4 hours to complete. The location has a max elevation of 110 meters asl and cannot be considered as remote due to good (less than 20 mins) assistance access points throughout. The trails covered during the session are graded blue, red and black and a jump park which should not be treated as mountainous. Approximate difficulty ratio level is blue (20%), red (70%) and Black (10%) based on a typical UK grading convention. There are no deep-water River crossings, Scrambling sections or dangerous Cliff edges on this route. For more information on grading please visit our website at the address below.

<https://peakbikeguides.com/difficulty-guide/>

Ser	Activity / Element (Step 1)	Hazards Identified (Step 2)	Existing Controls (Step 3)	Is the Residual Risk Acceptable Yes / No (Step 4)	Additional Controls Required (Step 5)	Is the Residual Risk Acceptable Yes / No (Step 6)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
1	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Instructor Qualification for terrain	1. MIAS Level 3.	Yes		
2	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Adverse weather conditions	1. Check weather forecast before ride starts. 2. Students to carry bad weather clothing i.e. Rain Jacket, Waterproof socks, Waterproof gloves, Trousers, etc. 3. Use of bad weather alternative routes based on up to date weather forecasts. 4. Carry Sun Protection. 5. Carry OS Map of the area. 6. Carry a GPS.	Yes		
3	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Serviceability of bikes	1. Check bikes are in good condition, in particular brakes, chain and gear mechanism. 2. Check tyre pressures and tread. 3. No evidence of loose bolts on Bars, Wheels, Pedals and Seat. 4. Carry appropriate Tools and emergency spare parts i.e. Inner Tubes, Tyre Plugs, Quick Chain Links, etc.	Yes		
4	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Terrain: steep slopes, technical terrain	1. Pre-assessment of skills prior to attempting technical terrain. 2. Identification of hazards and briefing given on crossing terrain when they are reached. 3. Correct route selection. 4. No racing, reduce speed, no overtaking.	Yes		

Ser	Activity / Element (Step 1)	Hazards Identified (Step 2)	Existing Controls (Step 3)	Is the Residual Risk Acceptable Yes / No (Step 4)	Additional Controls Required (Step 5)	Is the Residual Risk Acceptable Yes / No (Step 6)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
5	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Major Injuries or death caused from falls; flying stones/rocks and insects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Helmets to be worn. 2. Gloves to be worn. 3. Knee pads on technical terrain. Elbow pads optionally recommended. 4. First Aid trained. 5. Carry stocked First Aid Kit. 6. Carry Mobile Phone. 7. Carry in date EpiPen. 	Yes		
6	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Major Injuries or death caused by the Mountain Bike	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mountain Bike to be serviceable and correctly maintained. 2. Mountain Bike to be inspected prior to use. (M check). 3. Mountain Bike to be suitably sized and to each rider. 4. Unserviceable or ill-fitting Mountain Bikes not to be used. 5. Mountain Bike becoming unserviceable during journey – instructor to carry basic repair/spares kit and capable of performing basic cycle maintenance. 	Yes		
7	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Major Injuries or death caused through excessive speed and loss of control	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Briefing on appropriate speed and dangers of excessive speed prior to start of journey. 2. No overtaking at high speed on narrow trails. 3. Both hands on handlebars at all times. 4. Correct application of brakes. 5. Correct use of gears. 6. Correct use of dropper seat post. 	Yes		

Ser	Activity / Element (Step 1)	Hazards Identified (Step 2)	Existing Controls (Step 3)	Is the Residual Risk Acceptable Yes / No (Step 4)	Additional Controls Required (Step 5)	Is the Residual Risk Acceptable Yes / No (Step 6)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
8	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Exhaustion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Instructor vigilance. 2. Challenge matched to ability of participants. 3. Rest stops as required. 4. Suitable diet (High energy to offset fatigue and hypothermia.) 5. Remain Hydrated. Consume approximately 1 litre of fluid for every 1.5 hours of exercise. 6. Use GPS to monitor effort and remaining route requirements. 	Yes		
9	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Effects of heat and cold. Hypo- and hyperthermia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training and briefing. 2. Correct equipment and clothing for weather conditions. 3. Sunscreen, sunhat, sun glasses/warm hat and gloves. 4. Recognition of symptoms. 5. Carry Thermal Blanket 	Yes		
10	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Blisters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correctly fitting shoes and appropriate quality socks. 	Yes		
11	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Roads and traffic	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training in correct procedures. 2. Observe Highway Code. 3. Use of Hi-Vis clothing if necessary. 4. Avoidance of potentially dangerous roads/junctions (A Roads, City Centres). 5. Ride in single file. 	Yes		
12	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Benightment. i.e. overtaken by nightfall	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Realistic route plan. 2. Navigation training. 3. Night cycling only if all of group prepared. 4. Avoid routes with Motor Vehicles. 	Yes		

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
13	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Licensable terrain	1. Avoid unless instructor suitably qualified. 2. Avoid unless group suitably experienced/route within capabilities of group.	Yes		
14	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Group separation	1. Instructor to control group speed to suit slowest rider. 2. Instructor to provide slowest rider with 2 way Radio and avoid losing sight of slowest rider. 3. Instructor to lead on descents and to hold at all junctions until all riders re-group.	Yes		
15	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking	Respecting the Countryside	1. Always take all rubbish home. 2. Always close any farm gates. 3. Avoid close contact with Livestock.	Yes		
16	Off-road Cycling/Mountain Biking and Coaching	Air born Infection, Virus (COVID-19) or Disease.	1. Check for symptoms before session starts and refuse participation if necessary. 2. Maintain social distancing of 2 meters 3. Avoid contact of person or equipment during session. 4. If equipment is shared wear gloves and sanitise after use. 3. If contact is necessary e.g. to administer first aid then wear PPE (Face Mask, Gloves, Eye protection, Apron). 4. After contact bag all PPE and sanitise equipment which is not disposable.	Yes		

	Name	Qualification	Date	Signature
Existing & Additional Controls Agreed				
Additional Controls Implemented				