

# CHESTER CROQUET CLUB

## Health & Safety Risk Assessment 18 August 2025

**Significant risks highlighted in yellow. Items requiring attention following an inspection by David Guyton and Robin Tasker on 18 August 2025 marked in red.**

The overall risk factor for an accident (R) is assessed as a combination of the likelihood (L) multiplied by the severity (S) of an accident. Likelihood (L) is assessed with a value 1 (low or seldom), 2 (medium or moderate frequency) or 3 (high). Severity (S) is assessed with a value 1 (minor cuts or bruises), 2 (medium to serious injury), or 3 (multiple serious injuries or fatal). The overall risk factor thus ranges from 1 to 2 (low priority), through 3 to 4 (medium priority) to 6 and above (high priority).

Location	Hazard	Risk			Precautions and comments
		L	S	R	
Croquet lawns	• Injury from moving balls and mallets	1	2	2	Warn players to take care and to be aware of double banked players on the same lawn, players on nearby lawns, and spectators and members of the public in positions not protected by the hedge or fence.
	• Slipping and tripping	1	1	1	Members to wear flat soled shoes with gripping soles when playing.
	• Hammer injury when installing hoops	1	1	1	Care needed when using hoop drills and hammers.
	• Back injury when extracting hoops	1	1	1	Use hoop lever when lifting hoops.
	• Erection and use of tent or marquee or gazebo	1	2	2	Extra care needed when erecting gazebo or marquee in windy weather and ensure poles and cross pieces are properly secured.
	• Lawn maintenance and chemicals	1	1	1	Maintenance undertaken by trained Council staff and lawns closed when work in progress Wash hands after handling balls and equipment on treated lawns.
Ball stop boards	• Tripping on displaced ball stop boards	1	1	1	Club maintain and repair as needed.
Hedge and borders	• Scratches and allergic reactions from hedges and weeds when retrieving balls	1	1	1	Council responsible for trimming hedges and borders and removing clippings.
Fences and gates	• Injury from damaged fences and gates	2	1	2	Council responsible for maintaining and repairing fences and gates as needed. Checked and all currently in working order.
Paths and paving around clubhouse	• Slipping on algae or leaves in wet weather	1	2	2	Council responsible for maintaining paths and paving. Club undertake cleaning as needed. Council responsible for safety, disability and other statutory requirements.
	• <b>Tripping on steps and ramp</b>	2	3	6	<b>Club to repaint edge of steps on the patio with yellow hazard warning paint before next season. Tripping hazard on ramp still outstanding and needs to be rectified.</b>
Clubhouse	• Back injuries or trapped fingers when opening and closing heavy external doors	1	2	2	Warn members to take care and ask for help if necessary.
	• Security checks and risk of persons being locked in WCs, store room or main clubhouse when locking up	1	2	2	Notice at the front door to check everyone has left; radiators, kitchen equipment and lights turned off; windows closed and locked; Allen key returned to key safe; and key safe and combination lock locked and checked. <b>Notice needs amending to include check everyone has left.</b>
	• Alarm in disabled WC	1	1	1	Checked and found to be satisfactory.
	• Electric shock from electrical equipment	1	2	2	<b>Council responsible for regular checks of circuit breaker installed 17 November 2010 but no recent records.</b> Club undertakes visual inspection of kitchen equipment. Checked and found to be satisfactory.
	• Risk of legionella and legionnaires' disease	1	2	2	<b>Council responsible for testing, last inspected by Cofely 24 March 2020 but no recent records.</b>
	• Fire	1	3	3	Smoke alarm, fire extinguisher and fire blanket installed. Fire blanket checked and in order. <b>Council responsible for fire detection alarm, last tested by Engie 21 March 2019, and for fire extinguishers, last inspected in September 2018 but no recent records.</b>
Kitchen	• Scalds from hot water taps	1	3	3	Warning signs next to basins in WCs. <b>Additional sign needed by kitchen sink.</b>
	• Other kitchen equipment	1	3	3	Warn members to take care when in use. Visual inspection undertaken and satisfactory.
Storeroom and equipment	• <b>Risk of injuries due to lifting heavy items up to or down from shelves, moving or storing other heavy items,</b> loose equipment falling over, and loose items falling out of cupboards	2	2	4	Warning signs to take special care and to ask for help when lifting heavy items up to or down from top shelf and moving or storing other heavy items. Large, heavy boxes labelled 'Heavy – Care needed'. <b>Long or heavy items propped up vertically should have a restraining strap.</b>
Lawn watering system	• <b>Falls and injuries when accessing pumphouse</b>	3	3	9	<b>Recurring incidents emphasise urgent need for safer access down steep bank and door made easier to open and close.</b>
	• Strain or injuries when manoeuvring hose reel	1	2	2	More than one member when manoeuvring hose reel.
	• <b>Damage to hands and local flooding when connecting or disconnecting hose at hydrant</b>	2	2	4	<b>Check quality of hose fittings and protruding jubilee clips and ideally install extension to hydrant on the croquet side of the hedge with easier and raised access.</b>
First aid and emergencies					Notices in clubhouse and in wheelie bins regarding emergency first aid. A limited first aid kit and a newly installed defibrillator are available in the clubhouse. A written record of any accident must be made in the accident book in the clubhouse and a committee member must be informed. <b>Need for reminder to members and to inform members about the availability and use of the new defibrillator.</b>