

# **OPERATING PROCEDURES**



## **Axe Throwing**

All group leaders using the Axe Throwing as an activity need to read the operating procedures below and sign the log sheet to confirm that they have read and will operate the activity in accordance with the procedures laid down therein.

- All Axes shall be collected from and returned to storage after use. Axes must be cleaned after use.
- Conventional axes and felling axes as well as knives, including designated throwing knives and other sharp items must not be thrown under any circumstance. For clarity; throwing angels are also known as small hawks.
- The Range Officer, who must be a responsible adult and have suitable knowledge, must never leave a group unsupervised or be a participating member of the group.
- Activity leaders must ensure that each person taking part has the strength and can do so safely according to their own training. The age, maturity and ability of each participant should be considered.
- Only purpose made throwing angels and throwing tomahawks should be used.
- Participants should wait until instructed by the activity leader before retrieving the axe.
- When transporting a throwing axe, the participant should walk and hold the axe to the side of their body with sharp edges downwards and away from the body and other people.
- At any one time, only one thrower is to aim at each target, only one axe to be thrown at each target.
- The activity leader is the only person who can instruct a thrower to remove a throwing axe from a target unless they have explicitly delegated or shared this responsibility.
- Any observers should be instructed to stand in a safe location by the activity leader.
- Participants deemed to be deliberately throwing too aggressively should be managed appropriately by the activity leader to ensure their own and others safety.
- All people throwing must wear suitable footwear and full leg cover, trousers should be worn not shorts, to minimise the risk of any injury resulting from accidentally dropping the equipment or a rebound from the target.

- To avoid accidental head or upper body injury when retrieving throwing axe it is important to remove those items that are embedded into a target before those lying on the floor.
- If any equipment is damaged it must not be used – THIS MUST BE REPORTED IN LINE WITH BIBBYS FARM PROCEDURES.
- A throwing axe should be offered handle first to another person.
- Each throwing axe activity leader can supervise a maximum of two targets. The group size for any one target should be no larger than five ie one person throwing and four waiting to throw. If the activity includes more than 2 targets then a Range Master should be appointed, as happens with shooting, to supervise the increase numbers participating. A Range Master can supervise a maximum of three activity leaders.