



BARSTOBRICK EQUESTRIAN AND INDOOR RECREATION CLUB (BEIRC)

Health & Safety Policy

STATEMENT OF INTENT

BEIRC is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for staff, volunteers, participants, visitors, and animals. We will take all reasonable steps to prevent accidents, injuries, and ill health, and to comply with relevant UK health and safety legislation, including the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.

We recognise our duty of care to protect people, horses, dogs, and the public from foreseeable risks and will regularly review this policy.

2. Responsibilities

Trustees and Committee Members

- Provide and maintain safe facilities, equipment, and working practices.
- Assess and manage risks associated with riding, horse handling, dog agility, and site operations.
- Provide training, information, and supervision for staff and volunteers.
- Ensure appropriate PPE is provided and worn.
- Maintain emergency procedures and first aid provisions.

Staff & Volunteers:

- Follow safety instructions, training, and risk assessments.
- Use PPE correctly.
- Report hazards, incidents, and near misses immediately.
- Do not undertake activities for which they are not competent or authorised.

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Participants & Visitors:

- Comply with centre rules and instructions from staff.
 - Wear required PPE (e.g., riding helmets, appropriate footwear, gloves).
 - Supervise children and dogs in their care at all times.
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3. General Safety Arrangements

- **Site Access:** Clear signage, designated pedestrian areas, and vehicle speed limits.
 - **First Aid:** Qualified first aider on site during activities; stocked first aid kits for humans and animals.
 - **Fire Safety:** Fire extinguishers maintained and accessible; evacuation plan displayed.
 - **Risk Assessments:** Carried out for all activities and reviewed annually or after incidents.
 - **Insurance:** Public liability, employer's liability, and relevant animal-related cover in place.
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4. Equestrian Safety

- All riders must wear an approved helmet (to current British standards) and suitable footwear.

5. Dog Agility Safety

- All dogs must be up to date with vaccinations and in good health.
- Handlers must keep dogs on a lead unless inside the agility arena.

6. PPE Requirements

- **Riders:** Helmet, gloves, sturdy boots.
- **Handlers:** Suitable footwear, gloves as needed.

7. Hygiene & Biosecurity

- Handwashing facilities available; all encouraged to wash hands after handling animals.
- Manure, waste, and dog fouling disposed of safely.

8. Emergency Procedures

- First aid provision for both humans and animals.
 - Clear emergency contact list displayed.
 - Accident/incident log maintained.
 - In case of serious injury, call emergency services immediately and secure the area.
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9. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if significant changes occur in activities, equipment, or legislation.

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____