## Specific Risk Assessment – ‘Partyrocksbounce’

**Activity** CHILDREN’S BOUNCY CASTLE RISK ASSESSMENT  
**Persons involved in risk assessment:** Catherine Downs  
**Date:** 14.10.12  
**Reviewed On:**

**Location** – 3<sup>rd</sup> party venues  
**Risk Assessment Reference Number:**  
**Review Date:** 14.10.13  
**Reviewed By:**

### Significant Hazard

(* see prompt list below – not exhaustive)

### People at risk and what is the risk

Describe the harm that is likely to result from the hazard (e.g. cut, broken leg, chemical burn etc.) and who could be harmed (e.g. employees, contractors, visitors etc.)

### Existing control measures

What is currently in place to control the risk?

### Risk rating

Use matrix identified in guidance note  
**Likelihood (L)**  
**Severity (S)**  
Multiply (L) * (S) to produce Risk Rating (RR)

### Further action required

What is required to bring the risk down to an acceptable level? Use hierarchy of control described in guidance note when considering the controls needed.

### Risk rating

Use matrix identified in guidance note  
**Likelihood (L)**  
**Severity (S)**  
Multiply (L) * (S) to produce Risk Rating (RR)

### Actioned to:

Who will complete the action?  
**Due date:** When will the action be complete by?

### Completion date:

Initial and date once the action has been completed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Significant Hazard</th>
<th>People at risk and what is the risk</th>
<th>Existing control measures</th>
<th>Risk rating</th>
<th>Further action required</th>
<th>Risk rating</th>
<th>Actioned to:</th>
<th>Due date:</th>
<th>Completion date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Bouncing off the bouncy castle | Children users - bruises, sprains and broken bones. In extreme cases head injuries | Safety mats positioned at main entry and exit point of the bouncy castle as per manufacturers instructions.  
Adult supervisor present at all times during use- either from company or 3<sup>rd</sup> party hirers organisation to ensure safe usage and number of users is adequately controlled.  
Supervisors must be capable of exercising authority over users and be over 16 years old.  
Supervisors must watch | | | 2 3 6 | 1 1 1 | Operator and supervisor or designated appropriate person on the behalf of the hirer | | Every event |
| Contact with other users when ‘bouncing onto each other’ | Children - bruises, cuts, sprains, broken bones and head injuries particularly if children of unequal weight and size are using the equipment | Height/age/weight limit clearly visible and enforced by adult supervisor  
All number restrictions on how many children to bounce on per castle are located on the side of each castle based on size. No children above the height of the side walls should be allowed to access the bouncy castle.  
The number of users at any one time will be controlled by the supervisor - depending upon size, age, weight etc. | 2 | 2 | 4 | M | Where there is a wide range of ages at an event - Timed sessions for different age groups will be organised to prevent accidents where larger children collide with smaller children  
Manufacturers recommended capacity of users may be reduced if thought | 2 | 1 | 2 | L | Operator and supervisor or designated appropriate person on the behalf of the hiree | Every event |
Verbal warnings to users if their actions are likely to lead to injury to self or another user. User to be removed from bouncy castle if they do not comply.

Supervisors must watch participants at all times. If they need to take a break the unit must not be used during that period.

All shoes, sharp objects, belts and pocket contents etc to be removed before entering the bouncy castle to prevent injury to self or other users.

Appropriate by the supervisor.

Adults and children will not be permitted to use the unit at the same time.

Spectacles to be all removed to prevent injury or if cannot see good vision without spectacles cannot use the unit at all.

Clear sign explaining safe use of the bouncy castle to children who are old enough to read and understand instructions and for the parents and guardians of younger children is displayed at the entrance to the castle.
| **Anchorage points/cables** | **Children/Public Bouncy Castle blowing away by wind if not Anchored properly** | All anchor points to be used and covered/marked as per manufacturers instructions in MUTHA guidelines March 2003, Inflatable’s should not be used when the wind or gust are in excess of the minimum safe wind speed specified which is 19-24 mph. See booklet for more information.

Cables are to be enclosed in appropriate cable covers when crossing pathways to prevent tripping and catching feet in loose cables. | 1 1 1 L | 1 1 1 L | Operator and supervisor | Every event |

| **Risk from petrol generator and blower- fumes** | **Children - inhalation of carbon monoxide fumes** | Generator/blower to be located in well vented area- preferably in the open air and windows and doors to be left open if used indoors.

Petrol to be stored in suitable containers away from the unit and generator. | 1 3 3 M | 1 1 1 L | Operator and supervisor | Every event |
| Risk from petrol generator and blower - fire from over heating | Children and operator and supervisor - burns from fire, fumes from fire and potentially burns from melted rubber of bouncy castle | Multi purpose powder fire extinguisher is present when bouncy castle is in use outdoors. Supervisor has been trained to use it - if 3rd party hire then owner/operator will ensure that hirer has a suitably trained person supervisor. | Event and stored well away from children. Generator will only be operated by the owners or staff of the company. Unit is only to be powered by the mains/electricity when it’s on hire to a 3rd person or when used indoors. | 1 | 3 | 3 | M | 1 | 2 | 2 | M | Operator and supervisor | Every event |
If Bouncy Castle in operation indoors then organisation and venue have fire extinguisher supplied to use if a fire was to occur.

Units switched off when refuelling. Generator and blower to be inspected by a competent person prior to each usage.

Generator and blower serviced regularly according to manufacturers recommendations or at a minimum annually.

has not been activated

Unit is only to be powered by the mains/electricity when it’s on hire to a 3rd person or when used indoors.
| Equipment faults - electrical failure/ collapse of bouncy castle whilst in use | Children crush injuries from other users & suffocation | Unit to be erected away from large trees/ fences and on level ground to prevent damage.
Checks will be carried out before the first use on each day as set out in the manufacturers operations manual.
Unit must be inspected by a competent person as designated by the manufacturer every 14 months in compliance with code of practice.
MUTA CODE OF PRACTICE FOR OPERATOR'S OF PLAY INFLATABLES states annual inspection needs to include any part of the inflatable and its ancillary equipment that may affect the safe operation of the device. This procedure needs to be carried out by a suitably qualified or occupationally competent person.
Annual PAT test for electrical component of the unit to be completed by an appropriate person | 1 | 3 | 3 | M | All daily checks to be recorded in an appropriate log book which is available to view by any 3rd party hirer.
All staff and supervisors are aware of these daily check lists and have relevant training in regards to daily checks of inflatables.
Any defects noted will be repaired and checked before the unit is used. | 1 | 2 | 2 | M | Operator and supervisor | Every event |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biohazards</strong></td>
<td>Bodily fluids on the surfaces of the bouncy castle</td>
<td>All fluids noted must be cleared immediately using appropriate cleaning materials in line with COSHH regulations</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>Surfaces to be disinfected at the end of each session using suitable antibacterial products to prevent contamination from urine, vomit etc and from transmission of diseases. Container of antibacterial wipes to be supplied with each hire of the units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food/drink being consumed whilst using the unit</strong></td>
<td>All users- slips and trips leading to bruises, cuts, sprains and broken bones</td>
<td>No food or drink allowed on the inflatable at any time. Supervision at all times from Hirer’s and operator of company. No food and drink to be consumed whilst using the unit to prevent Inhalation of food particles</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Constant supervision at all times</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommendation for children's parties that the unit is used before eating to prevent vomiting and choking**
### Weather Conditions

| Children/users of inflatable - injury from unit being dislodged from anchor points - falls, trips, slips | Inflatable will not be operated in adverse weather conditions as set out in MUTA code of practice. | 2 | 4 | 8 | H | Operator will monitor weather conditions before and during an event. If wind speeds exceed guidelines or rain makes the unit slippery then unit will be closed and deflated. 3rd Party hirers will be required to follow the guidelines which will be part of the terms and conditions of hire | 1 | 1 | 1 | L | Operator or supervisor. | Every event |

### Risk Assessor(s)

| Signature(s) |

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**DEFINITIONS:**

- **Hazard** – Something with the potential to cause harm
- **Risk** – Chance that the harm will be realised
- **Hazard Prompt List:** asbestos, glazing, noise, vibration, electrical, poor ergonomics, repetitive motion, manual handling, heat / cold, fire, flammable materials, slip, trip, fall, fall from height, falling object, collision, glare, adverse weather, sharps, substances (dusts/liquids/gases), stress, lone working, confined space, moving parts, crushing, entrapment, compressed air, lighting, operation of vehicles, unstable stacking/storage, violence (Physical/verbal)

Likelihood (L)  
Severity (S)  
Multiply (L) by (S) to produce the risk rating (RR)
1 = Low risk, action should be taken to reduce the risk if reasonably practicable.

2,3,4 = Medium risk, is a significant risk and would require an appropriate level of resource.

6 & 9 = High risk, may require considerable resource to mitigate. Control should focus on elimination of risk, if not possible control should be obtained by following the hierarchy of control.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEVERITY</th>
<th>LIKELIHOOD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Unlikely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Slight/minor injuries/minor damage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Medium Injuries/Significant damage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Major Injury/Extensive Damage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Likelihood
3 – Very likely
2 – Possible
1 – Unlikely

Severity
3 – Major injury/Extensive damage
2 – Medium injury/significant damage
1 – Slight/minor damage