AVON OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES CLUB CAVING RISK ASSESSMENT - GENERIC				
GENERAL LOCATION? EVENT? ACTIVITY?)	SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS (i.e. how might people forseeably be harmed?)	AOAC RECOMMENDED CONTROL MEASURES  (i.e. what steps are commonly taken to reduce the risk of the hazard?)  Tick those control measures that are applicable and will be implemented.  Put a cross beside those control measures that are not applicable or cannot be implemented.	ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES (i.e. add any further standard control measures that your own organisation also applies)	OVERALL RESIDUAL RISK RATING (Low/Med/High) (Take into account both seriousness and likelihood of hazard)
All caving activities	Inadequate training, and ratios → Accidents/ Injuries	Level of Experience/Qualifications required: (see Technical Competence/Qualifications matrices in Appendix for further details)  In addition to evidence of recent and relevant experience, the leader will be working towards completing an appropriate National Caving Association qualification for the system (such as Local Cave Leader)  Experienced caver /New caver ratios required for Grade 2/3 cave:  Min. 1: 6 recommended		
All caving activities	Inadequate preparation and planning → Accidents/ Injuries	<ul> <li>The Overall Group Leader will ensure that:</li> <li>the Leaders continually assess and respond to risk throughout</li> <li>the Leader has up-to-date local knowledge or advice</li> <li>the proposed route is suitable for the ability and experience of all group members</li> <li>a record cave location and details is left with the emergency home contact together with car registrations</li> <li>an expected time of return is left with the emergency home contact the emergency home contact has clear written emergency procedures, including if the group is overdue</li> </ul>		
All caving activities	Inadequate planning/maps and knowledge of venue → Group lost → Injuries / Hypothermia	The Overall Group Leader will ensure that:  they are equipped with an appropriate survey or have sufficient previous experience of / familiarity with the proposed routes  emergency survival equipment and clothing is brought on trip and appropriately placed / carried. The extent of emergency survival equipment / clothing to be determined by leader based on weather conditions, nature of cave.		

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GENERAL LOCATION? EVENT? ACTIVITY?)	SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS (i.e. how might people forseeably be harmed?)	AOAC RECOMMENDED CONTROL MEASURES  (i.e. what steps are commonly taken to reduce the risk of the hazard?)  Tick those control measures that are applicable and will be implemented.  Put a cross beside those control measures that are not applicable or cannot be implemented.	ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES (i.e. add any further standard control measures that your own organisation also applies)	OVERALL RESIDUAL RISK RATING (Low/Med/High) (Take into account both seriousness and likelihood of hazard)
Setting up ropes by the instructor	Slips/ Falls by the instructor	The Overall Group Leader will ensure that:  instructors are always appropriately protected whilst setting up belays and working near the edge at the top of caves		
Equipment	Equipment failure  → Injuries  Equipment failure  → Injuries	<ul> <li>The Overall Group Leader will ensure that:</li> <li>all equipment is cleaned, maintained and checked regularly</li> <li>any damaged or worn equipment is disposed of and replaced (N.B. substandard equipment must be clearly marked as no longer for caving use)</li> <li>a record is kept of equipment condition (including any repairs/replacements)</li> <li>all participants are briefed regarding the correct usage and treatment of equipment</li> <li>all helmets are checked for correct fit</li> <li>rope rigging systems shall aim to minimise friction/ wear on ropes and ropes will be protected from sharp edges</li> <li>suitable and sufficient anchors/belay points are used in the setting up of climbs and ladders</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>rope rigging systems shall aim to minimise friction/ wear on ropes and ropes will be protected from sharp edges</li> <li>suitable and sufficient anchors/belay points are used in the setting</li> </ul>		

AVON OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES CLUB CAVING RISK ASSESSMENT - GENERIC				
GENERAL LOCATION? EVENT? ACTIVITY?)	SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS (i.e. how might people forseeably be harmed?)	AOAC RECOMMENDED CONTROL MEASURES  (i.e. what steps are commonly taken to reduce the risk of the hazard?)  Tick those control measures that are applicable and will be implemented.  Put a cross beside those control measures that are not applicable or cannot be implemented.	ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES (i.e. add any further standard control measures that your own organisation also applies)	OVERALL RESIDUAL RISK RATING (Low/Med/High) (Take into account both seriousness and likelihood of hazard)
All caving activities	Falls from height, Objects (rocks and equipment) falling from above Holes in floor, Trips and slips → Injuries	<ul> <li>The Overall Group Leader will ensure that:</li> <li>group members are informed about correct caving procedures and calls</li> <li>group members are briefed regarding hazards, safe practice, and any no-go areas</li> <li>karabiners are closed/locked/checked before each and every climb</li> <li>helmets are worn at all times</li> <li>group members are wearing suitable footwear with a good grip</li> <li>separate anchors are used for the ladder and the safety rope.</li> </ul>		
After heavy or prolonged rainfall	Flooding → drowning	<ul> <li>The Overall Group Leader will ensure that:</li> <li>note is taken of weather conditions in the days preceding</li> <li>For wet caves an up-to-date weather forecast is obtained on the day prior to departure</li> <li>the activity is cancelled or adapted if flooding is a likely threat</li> <li>the group returns to the surface immediately should water levels begin to significantly rise whilst they are underground</li> </ul>		
Quality of Air/Water	Water Pollution  → illness  → Weil's disease	The Overall Group Leader will ensure that:  group members have suitable protective outer clothing group members are briefed regarding Weil's disease and the action to take if signs/symptoms show group members are briefed to cover any cuts/wounds before trip		

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GENERAL LOCATION? EVENT? ACTIVITY?)	SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS (i.e. how might people forseeably be harmed?)	AOAC RECOMMENDED CONTROL MEASURES  (i.e. what steps are commonly taken to reduce the risk of the hazard?)  Tick those control measures that are applicable and will be implemented.  Put a cross beside those control measures that are not applicable or cannot be implemented.	ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES (i.e. add any further standard control measures that your own organisation also applies)	OVERALL RESIDUAL RISK RATING (Low/Med/High) (Take into account both seriousness and likelihood of hazard)
Caving	Cold temperatures (including surface hazard) → Hypothermia	<ul> <li>The Overall Group Leader will ensure that:</li> <li>the length and the difficulty (technical and effort) of the proposed route is appropriate for all members of the group group members have adequate protective clothing and equipment emergency survival equipment and clothing is brought on trip and appropriately placed / carried. The extent of emergency survival equipment / clothing to be determined by leader based on weather conditions, nature of cave.</li> </ul>		
Caving	Illness or injury	The Overall Group Leader will ensure that:  they or another member of the party are trained in first aid information about existing medical conditions are known to them suitable first aid equipment is carried by the group		

## IMPORTANT.

The final "Risk Rating" column should be completed by the Overall Group Leader, before giving signed approval.

The Risk Assessment should **only** be approved once all significant hazards have been identified, the control measures that will be implemented are agreed, AND the overall risk ratings are considered acceptable.

In most circumstances, if the Overall Residual Risk is considered "Med" or "High", the activity/event should be cancelled, or further control measures put in place to reduce the risk to "Low".

This Generic Risk Assessment is being used as the basis for a	particular visit to:		Date:
It has been accepted and approved by:-			
Overall Group Leader's signature:			Date:
Additional Leaders signature(s):			Date:
This Generic Risk Assessment is being used as the basis for all	relevant trips.		
It has been accepted and approved by:			
xxxxxxxxsignature:		Date:	
Activity Coordinator signature:		Date:	
Signature(s) of leader involved in the visits:		Date:	