


<b>Location:</b>	Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre	<b>Date of Assessment:</b>	5/12/12	<b>Last Reviewed:</b>	December 2023	<b>Name of Assessor:</b>	Chris Murnin
<b>Activity:</b>	Bushcraft – Friction Fire Lighting	<b>Assessment Reference Number:</b>	4.37		CM	<b>Signature of Assessor:</b>	
<b>ITEM/ HAZARD</b>	<b>CONTROL MEASURES</b>						
Group Bow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure group have been fully briefed on where to stand when the bow is in use.</li> <li>▪ The group members holding the bearing block must be in a stable, kneeling or braced position.</li> <li>▪ Users must have a firm grip of the bow before starting their first strokes.</li> <li>▪ Non-participants and observers to stand clear of the working area.</li> </ul>						
Hand drill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure the group have been fully briefed on where to sit or kneel.</li> <li>▪ Instructor to demonstrate good technique before Users attempt a go.</li> <li>▪ Users must ensure a good grip before beginning to drill.</li> <li>▪ Users must stop if they feel hot spots occurring on their palms.</li> <li>▪ Non-participants and observers to stand clear of the working area.</li> </ul>						
Finger entrapment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Keep hands clear whilst the bow is in use</li> <li>▪ Hold onto the top of the bearing block, keeping fingers clear of the drill.</li> <li>▪ Instructor to demonstrate how to hold the bow correctly</li> <li>▪ Care is to be taken when wrapping the drill in the bow string</li> </ul>						
Burns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The drill, bearing block and base board will be hot after use, leaving to cool down before handling.</li> <li>▪ Use an ember pan eg. (sliver of wood, leaf ) to move embers about, to avoid burning fingers.</li> <li>▪ All loose hair and clothing to be tied back when blowing the ember to light the tinder nest.</li> <li>▪ Ensure Participants hold the tinder nest lightly from below, so they are able to quickly drop it in the event of it getting too hot to hold.</li> <li>▪ Fire only to be lit in a designated area.</li> </ul>						
Drill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Non participants to stand clear whilst bow and drill are in use.</li> <li>▪ Drill ends will become very hot during use, do not touch</li> <li>▪ Care is to be taken when wrapping the drill in the bow string</li> <li>▪ Drill to be inspected for splinters and cracks before use</li> </ul>						
Physical injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure the working area is free of anything which could catch the bow or the bow hand.</li> </ul>						



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Take turns in operating the bow to reduce fatigue</li> <li>▪ Loose hair and clothing to be tied back or removed.</li> <li>▪ Group to be closely supervised by an Instructor</li> <li>▪ Equipment only to be used as instructed</li> <li>▪ Once tinder nest has taken light, it must immediately be placed in the designated fire area / fire lay, or extinguished.</li> </ul>
Further risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All risks should be minimised by continual appraisal of participants condition, the environment and equipment through dynamic risk assessment by the staff members involved.</li> <li>▪ Some risks remain due to the nature of the activity but every care must be taken to minimise these.</li> </ul>

