

Name of assessor(s)	Steve Dorrall – club secretary and H&S Advisor	Group / Establishment:	Burnham on Sea Harriers
Date	24 January 2026		



Risk assessment form

What is the activity being assessed:	How was the assessment done? e.g. desktop exercise, site visit, in consultation with employees, managers, safety representatives?	Next review date:
Brean Banger – race scheduled for 8 July 2026, 7.15pm Run Events entry link/licence: Race Directors and Organisers follow the England Athletics Race Director handbook for further guidance to the organisation of this race: race-director-handbook.pdf	The Brean Banger is a 10.5km multi-terrain running race that encompasses Brean Beach, the English Coast path and Brean Down. The Brean Banger first ran in 2025 although race organisers have run the route via previous events on Brean Down and Brean Beach; race organisers complete a pre-race recce of the route to identify hazards and ensure the course is safe for the event. The race is organised by committee members from Burnham Harriers running club, who complete all elements to the planning and delivery of the event including input to this risk assessment.	July 2026 (after event)
		Is the assessment 'generic' or specific to the situation?
		Specific to activity

What is the hazard?	Hazard in more detail & what are the control measures in place to mitigate these hazards?	*Risk Rating Impact x Likelihood		What further action is recommended to reduce risks further?	Action by whom?	Date action due
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Runners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race Director will deliver a pre-race brief to all runners highlighting potential hazards i.e. vehicles, public, animals course terrain. • Runners will run at their own risk – Risks include possible injury, falls or health issues. Entry forms ask runners to recognise their own capabilities and not to run if they feel ill or injured on race day. • Race related incidents can be logged on the Harriers incident form: Incident form. Significant incidents (fatalities/major health and safety concerns) to be notified to England Athletics: Health & Safety - Incident Reporting • Marshals are placed at designated points along the course to provide support and can call for assistance by radio or mobile phone for emergencies. • Runners are recommended to disclose any medical limitations or issues via their entry form and on the back of their race numbers which can be assessed by Race Director and notified to the appointed first aid provider who will support the event. • Burnham Harriers has a Welfare Officer to provide safeguarding support for runners yet to reach adult age. Welfare concerns can be raised to the Welfare Officer at boshwelfare@outlook.com. • Missing Person concerns to be raised to Race Director who will alert marshals and emergency services. 	High	Low	<p>Runners are not permitted to wear headphones - bone conductors are permitted.</p> <p>A qualified first aid provider (Apex medical and rescue) provides a qualified and accredited first aid throughout the race.</p> <p>Burnham Harriers website provides race information.</p> <p>Coast path is open only between 15 May – 16 July for runners wishing to conduct a run before the event.</p> <p>Somerset safeguarding contact: 0300 123 2224.</p> <p>Race has a time limit of 1hour 45minutes. Runners will be supported off the course if they cannot complete the course within this time.</p>		
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Weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weather conditions on the day may be unpredictable i.e. hot/cold/wet. • Weather conditions on the day and prior to the race may make the course wet, slippery, or muddy. Mud can accumulate on the coast path and Brean Down, with the steep tarmac descent towards Brean Down fort a recognised slip/trip hazard. • As the race takes place in mid-summer, the risk of hypothermia is low. Runners may start to feel cold after the race or if race conditions are cold/wet. Sea breezes are likely owing to the coastal route and exposed headland of Brean Down. • The course is open to elements with exposure to on-shore and off-shore breezes on Brean Down and when running along the beach. • Race headquarters is at Brean Down Cove Café, offering shelter and warmth to anyone suffering from the cold and first aid will be present throughout the race. • Conditions may be hot causing possible risk of heat exhaustion or dehydration – a water station is located approximately 5.6km into the course. Refreshments are provided to all runners at the end of the race. Runners are welcome to carry their own water/fluids and refreshments available at the café (HQ). • Beach – The opening 2km of the run is on Brean Beach. High tide on 8 July is at 12:52pm (9.73m), and low tide is at approximately 19:00pm, long before organisers, participants and supporters will 	Medium	Medium	<p>Water station is located at 5.6km, near to the coast path/military road junction. A weather assessment will be taken close to the event to organise additional water provision if the event is run under hot conditions.</p> <p>First aid support based at Race HQ.</p> <p>Course marshalled – marshals will carry mobile phones (WhatsApp) or radios.</p> <p>Race Director reserves the right to postpone event if conditions are too dangerous.</p>	Race Organisers	Race Day
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	<p>arrive. Course and beach will be checked before during and after race to account for everyone involved and vehicles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lightning – possible lightning making conditions too dangerous to run – Forecast will be checked before the race. • Daylight – Sunset is scheduled for 21:28, giving runners ample time to complete the course. Marshals can alert Race Director where they observe participants who are struggling, injured, or require assistance (medical, mental health, other). 					
Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10.5km course is multi-terrain, surfaces include road, gravel, sand, and grass – see route map below. • Course description is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start: Wide mass start on the beach (1 mile of sand). • Into the dunes, road crossing (keep right, follow marshal instructions). • Through campsite: tarmac and gravel • Seasonal coastal path beside River Axe (grass trail, can be waterlogged, muddy or overgrown with vegetation, having views of Uphill). • Water station at 5.6 km • A steep, narrow, single-file trail with sharp left drop – overtake only with care • Uphill section onto Military Road to Brean Down Fort and climb to trig point. • Uphill section from the fort toward the trig point consisting of grassed, undulating terrain across Brean Down. 	Medium	Medium	<p>Pre-race information highlights course as multi-terrain, and runners will be alerted to on uneven surfaces at the pre-race brief.</p> <p>Organisers/Harriers will run the course prior to race.</p> <p>Course map can be viewed via plot-a-route: https://www.plotaroute.com/route/2830047?units=km</p> <p>Visitors/members of public will be present especially at popular spots including Brean Down and the Beach. Marshals to observe and communicate with everyone to help</p>	Organisers and Harriers will hold a club run along the route.	Race day

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish: Steep downhill on gravel/tarmac then flat final 100m. • The course is uneven with hidden holes (e.g. rabbit holes on Brean Down, muddy paths on the Coast Path, potholes and uneven sand) • The course is fully marshalled and signposted giving runners' direction and support. 			avoid conflict and collisions.		
Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main road on the course is Brean Down Road (1km) - crossing point for runners from the beach dunes to Warren Farm. The race HQ consists of roads including parking on the beach and adjacent car parks. Supporters, volunteers and runners will be present on the beach and adjacent roads to access the start and congregate with friends, family and those involved with the event upon completion of the course. • Course contains a short road section from the Beach to Warren Farm. Individuals not involved in the race may be present, e.g. on the beach, Brean Down and Coast path. • Sections through the campsite and the military road are on tarmac and can involve moving vehicles. • Course will be marshalled at key turning points, gates, and road junctions – marshal points are noted on the plot a route map – see link in Course hazard above. • Course marked with 'caution runners' signs to alert drivers, cyclists, public and horse riders. 	Medium	Medium	<p>Somerset Highways contacted for race notification purposes and check that there are no road closures for maintenance etc on race day - Roadworks and travel information</p> <p>Where possible, race marshals will alert runners of any approaching vehicles to help avoid contact or collision.</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start is on Brean Beach. Race Director, marshals and tail runner maintain constant communication by way of walkie talkies and WhatsApp group chat to identify runner locations, tail runner progress and alert Race Director/medical support for assistance. 					
Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle access and parking on Brean Beach will be available to Brean Banger participants, supporters and volunteers. Vehicle access and parking will be marshalled to ensure vehicles are controlled for access and egress where pedestrians are present. Course is marshalled at road crossings e.g. Brean Down Road (Beach to Warren Farm), alerting runners to oncoming traffic. Vehicle controls in place to marshal vehicles wishing to leave the event as runners continue to complete the course to avoid conflict. Marshals will be prebriefed to allow emergency vehicle access and manage runners onto the Military Road or required access points for emergency response. 	Medium	Medium	<p>Where possible, race marshals will alert runners of any approaching vehicles to help avoid contact or collision.</p> <p>Vehicles to be controlled on the beach to prevent 'beaching' e.g. stuck in sand, caught by water/tides.</p>		
Animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course runs alongside the England coast path adjacent to farmland – sheep and cattle may be present. Sheep and goats are known to populate Brean Down. Runners will be told to respect all animals and wildlife when running. Landowners are contacted prior to the race to gain permission to open gates and install livestock controls for the race. Race 	Low	Low	<p>Race organisers to contact local landowners to obtain permission to open gates for the race and put arrangements in place for livestock controls.</p>		

	<p>organisers and marshals manage these gates through the race, opened for runners, and then closed by marshals once the final runner/tail runner has passed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main gates are managed by marshals and tail runner to ensure all gates are closed, preventing possible animal intrusion. • Animals unlikely to access the course, marshals to monitor animal movements and can radio race HQ if there are problems during the race. • Dog walkers may be present along the course – marshals to alert dog walkers to the presence of approaching runners. Race Director will equally tell runners to respect other users on the course. • First aid providers present throughout the event to manage stings, bites etc. 					
Safeguarding /Lost Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race Director and Burnham Harrier run leaders who will be supporting the event have all completed Safeguarding training to identify any concerns towards adults and children. • Race Director will remain present at the main start/finish area of the course and will have communications (WhatsApp, radios) to respond to safeguarding issues, lost children etc. • Children present will be supported/supervised by parents/responsible adult. • Lost children will be reported to marshals on the course. Once located, race HQ is the rendezvous point, handover to parents to be 	Medium	Medium	<p>Somerset Safeguarding Contact (Children and Adults): 0300 123 2224</p> <p>Burnham Harriers welfare officer: BOSHWelfare@outlook.com</p>		

	managed by Race Director/Harriers welfare officer.					
Crowd Control/Anti-Social behaviour	<p>Race Director, marshals and supporters need to be aware of antisocial or inappropriate behaviours including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals interfering with runners; • Spectator or members of public blocking or obstructing the course; • Individuals raising complaints/acting inappropriately towards runners, volunteers and race supporters; <p>Race Director and marshals remain alert and observant to potential disruptions to the race.</p> <p>Finish area contains a funnel designed to keep runners separate from the public/race supporters.</p> <p>Where possible and safe to do so, Race Director and marshals will politely challenge the behaviour of individuals that poses a risk to others, asking them to move away from the course/event to prevent disruption.</p> <p>If it is unsafe to challenge individuals/groups, or there are signs of escalation, Race Director can pause/suspend the race and contact the Police to calm, manage or disperse the given situation.</p>	Low	Medium	<p>Burnham Harriers has a runner etiquette outlining key expectations and behaviours that all runners must follow: Health & Safety Burnham on Sea Harriers</p> <p>Police can be called on 111 or 999 depending on the severity of the situation.⁷</p> <p>Marshals will have radio and WhatsApp contact to alert marshals or race Director for support or to a disruptive situation.</p>		Race Director will pre-brief marshals on how to respond to anti-social behaviour situations.
Terrorism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any suspicious activity or behaviours will be reported to the Race Director. • Suspicious behaviour or situations believed to be terrorist related will be called to the Police (999) or the anti-terrorist hotline - 0800 789321. 	Medium	Low	Race Directors and organising committee will complete the Race Director checklist (P.27) prior to event: race-director-handbook.pdf	Race Director and race organisers.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online reporting can be made: report possible activity. <p>Pre-race checks will be made to ensure course is clear for the race, also observing unusual issues such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vehicles parked unusually or driving erratically. individuals acting unusually or asking questions/saying things that 'aren't quite right'. items, bags or packages left unattended. 			Race Director and organisers to complete the ACT awareness e-learning: ACT Awareness e-Learning ProtectUK	Marshals and race supporters	
Headquarters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headquarters is at Brean Down cafe with spectators, public, and supporting groups present. Race Director, organisers and first aid will be based at the Brean Down throughout the race. Food/Water provisions on site, first aid and communications present to support event 	Low	Low	Race organisers to confirm booking arrangements with Brean Down Cafe. Brean Down café provides a café, toilets, and parking facilities - Brean Down Somerset National Trust		

Risk assessment sign-off

Name of assessor	Steve Dorrall	Date:	24 January 2026	Race Director:	Alex Hamilton
Signature:	S Dorrall - Burnham Harriers Secretary				

The race is a 10km UK Affiliated multi terrain race, run on road, grass paths, beach, and the England coastal path. All Race Numbers to be collected on the day. The race is marshalled and will have one water station at approximately 5km.

Course: – Starts on Brean Beach. Runners head along Brean Beach for approximately 1km before turning left, over the dunes and onto Brean Down Road. The course takes runners through Warren Farm, Turnbourne Farm and Diamond Farm collecting the England Coast Path and running along the River Axe estuary. Runners will leave the coast path and ascend onto Brean Down, running along the southern grass trail towards Brean Down fort. Runners will run along the road/gravel trail descending off the Brean Down to the café and finish line.

