

Risk assessment form



Name of assessor(s)	Steve Dorrall	Group / Establishment:	Burnham on Sea Harriers
Date	16/06/2026		

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:
		25 October 2026
Burnham on Sea Half marathon – 13th September 2026. Race Licence number: 30614 Run Britain race detail and online entry: link Course measured 17/4/2026: Certificate	The Burnham on Sea Half marathon will celebrate its 40th event in 2026. The first half marathon took place in 1985 and has run every year except for 2020, 2021 and 2022 when the Coronavirus pandemic disrupted and prevented the race. Burnham Harriers have been the event organisers since 2006. Burnham Harriers is an England Athletics affiliated club. The half marathon is licensed through England Athletics and entries are made online through Run Britain. Race organisers conduct regular meetings prior to the event to confirm all race arrangements including first aid, entries, marshal posts, water stations etc. Route is signed with mile markers, and the course is assessed prior to the event to identify possible on the day hazards.	Is the assessment 'generic' or specific to the situation?
		Specific to activity

	This risk assessment is posted on the Burnham Harriers website and shared among organisers for review and comment.	
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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	Date action done
		I	L				
Runners	- Race is limited to 500 entrants. - Runners receive a pre-race brief when on the start line just before the race begins. The brief will highlight known hazards i.e. vehicles, public, course terrain, under foot conditions. - Runners will run at their own risk – Risks include possible injury, falls or health issue (mental or physical). - Marshals are posted throughout the course to provide support and respond to runner distress, or emergency. - Marshals are required to remain at their posts to direct runners and ensure that nobody misses key turns or junctions or becomes lost. - Runners are required to record on the reverse of their race numbers or entry form any medical conditions so marshals/race director/first aiders can	Medium	Low	Runners are not permitted to wear headphones - bone conductors are permitted. First aid will be available for the race, based at the BASC and ready to respond to incidents. Runner incidents to be reported to UK Athletics: Online Health and Safety Incident Reporting UK Athletics There are 3 drinks stations on route in Brent Knoll (4miles, Lympsham (7 miles, Berrow 11 miles).	Run Director will describe many of the hazards to runners on the pre-race brief. This risk assessment is available on the Harriers website and runners are emailed all race information before the event	Actions will take place before the race alongside the pre-race brief on race day.	

	identify any possible conditions or issues which may affect their run. • Race is licensed through Run Britain and is subject to the road race licence guidelines: Race Directors' Club - runbritain • The race has a 3-hour time limit. A tail vehicle follows the runners to ensure their safe completion and return. • By prior arrangement, a few recognised runners start the run at 9:15 to ensure that they complete the course among other runners and before the tail vehicle. The Race Director is informed of those runners granted an early start to identify their presence on the course before all other runners start the half marathon.			Course marshalled 15 marshals throughout the course will carry mobile phones or walkie-talkies to maintain communication with race HQ and Race Director. An appointed first aid provider (Apex first aid) will support the event and be mobile to respond to an accidents/incidents or runner injuries. A tail vehicle follows the last runner to ensure everyone completes the course successfully.			
Visually Impaired Runners	• Visually Impaired (VI) runners can enter the race, supported by an England Athletics qualified VI guide. • The course has stretches of open roads where there will be small margins between moving vehicles and runners. • The course includes surface changes (e.g. grass to tarmac at the BASC), dropped kerbs and narrow pavements that may	Medium	Medium	VI runners and their guides are recommended to complete a recce of the course to gain familiarity of the route, identifying hazards including dropped or uneven			

	require adjustments to the VI Runner and their guide when running.			kerbs, surface changes, and open roads, notably sections where traffic will be present and close to the VI runner and guide.			
Weather	- Weather conditions on the day can be unpredictable i.e. hot/cold/wet. - The route is entirely on roads except for the start and end of the course which is on the BASC sports field (outside the cricket pitch boundary). Course may be subject to wet, slippery conditions on both the field and roads. - The half marathon takes place in September; conditions could be subject to cold conditions where runners could be at risk of hypothermia of the effects of the cold. - Extreme weather forecasts to be monitored so decisions can be made to any changes to the race or cancellations. Weather to be monitored via The Met Office: UK weather warnings - Met Office	Medium	Medium	Race Director reserves the right to postpone event or adjust the course if conditions are too dangerous. BASC Sports Ground provides shelter for runners/spectators if required. Race is supported by Apex first aid to provide first aid to weather related injuries.	Race Organisers	Race Day	
Course	Burnham half marathon is a 13.1-mile route starting at the BASC Sports Ground following roads to Brent Knoll, Lympsham, Berrow before returning to the BASC Sports	Medium	Medium	A pre-race brief is communicated to all runners prior to the start of the race highlighting hazards. Entrants are emailed	Race Organisers and course marshals	Race day	

	ground. Course was measured and certified in April 2026. • The race is run on roads - main hazards include traffic (along the B3140 Queens Drive to Edithmead Roundabout) and country roads through Brent Knoll, Lympsham and Red Road towards Berrow). Berrow Road from the Red Road junction is on roads (pavement is on the opposite side) and runners will be at risk of passing vehicles. • Start and end of course is on grass as the route follows the outer boundary of the cricket pitch. This grassed area can be waterlogged or muddy. • Other hazards on the route will include obstacles on the course including street traffic, kerbs and potholes presenting possible slip/trip hazards. • The full course map showing water stations, marshal posts and directional signs is here: Burnham Half Marathon 2023 - 21km Running Route near Burnham-on-Sea and Highbridge (ID: 2247377) (plotaroute.com) • See further course details on pages 7, 8 and 9. • Runners enter a funnel area as they cross the finish line. The funnel is made of plastic netting, which can catch/trip runners as they cross the line – especially those who are heavily fatigued/unsteady as they finish the course.			an information race pack before the race. Race has a 3-hour time limit. Further race information is available on the Burnham Harriers website: https://www.burnham-on-sea-harriers.com/our-races/burnham-half-marathon/ Course is marshalled to provide support and call for assistance/first aid if a runner becomes distressed. Event has a tail vehicle that follows the final runners, ensuring everyone returns safely.			
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Roads and traffic	- Course will be run on roads with the B3140 Queens Drive and Red Road, Berrow recognised hazards. Road closures are planned for Queens Drive and Red Road, Berrow during the race. Collision with vehicles is possible, so runners are told to run in single file and observe traffic movements. - Temporary road limits/closures are in place (TTRO supplied by Somerset Council) as follows: - Stoddens Lane will remain open throughout. - Access to and from properties via Stoddens Lane will be maintained throughout. - The race uses Love Lane and the B3140 Queens Drive only. - Brief marshal managed holds may be required at junctions where runners pass. Inactive timings (based on a 9:45am race start) - Love Lane/Stoddens Lane junction clears approximately 9:55 – 10:00am. - B3140/Stoddens Lane junction clears by 10:15am. - Restrictions are removed on a rolling basis as runners and the tail vehicle pass.	Medium	Medium	Somerset Highways are contacted prior to the race to alert Highways of the event and identify whether any roadworks or closures are in place on race day. Further checks can be made here: https://one.network/?tm=GB131365913 Marshals to be made aware that: - they do not have any lawful powers to flag, slow or stop, or otherwise direct traffic on the highway. Marshals can warn drivers that runners are on the course/roads or junctions in that area. - Runners will be briefed to proceed with caution whilst traversing the highway and to always remain	Marshals		
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	• Signage (e.g. caution runners) is placed along the route warning drivers of runners. • Marshals are positioned at the Tesco roundabout and Edithmead roundabout to observe runners and manage traffic as far as is reasonably practicable. • Course is fully marshalled including the road section – see marshal map below. • Somerset Highways are contacted prior to the race to identify roadworks or closures to minimise disruptions to the course on race day. • Local businesses are contacted with details of the temporary road closures, including restrictions in place and timings when closed roads will re-open or soon after the last runners have passed.			vigilant regarding both traffic and adverse terrain. • A Marshals WhatsApp group is created to message and communicate with Marshals throughout the race. Marshals are prebriefed before the race on their roles and responsibilities. Marshals are provided with lanyards with route and emergency information, key contacts etc and hi-viz jackets.			
Animals	• Race is run entirely on roads except for the BASC sports field at the start and end of the route. • Runners may meet dog walkers along the course – runners to remain alert and avoid contact with dogs or other animals where possible. Marshals can alert runners and dog walkers or other animals where there may be contact. • Runners are briefed to respect pedestrians and road users as they complete their run.	Medium	Low	BASC Sports Ground operates a no dogs policy.	Marshals		

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Headquarters	- Headquarters is at the BASC sportsground, Stoddens Road, Burnham on Sea. - Race Director will be based at the BASC ground throughout the event. - Food/Water provisions on site, both in the BASC and refreshments will be provided to runners upon completion of the race.	Low	Low	First aid provision is available at the BASC sports ground with an accredited first aid provider appointed and available to respond to in race incidents and injuries.			
Spectators and children	- Spectators can line the course with the possible hazard of colliding with runners, either on the course or at the start/finish area. - Children/young people are in attendance, primarily at the BASC Sports Ground. Any lost children should be reported to marshals/Race Director to commence a search for the young person. The BASC Sports Ground is the main headquarters and where a child is relocated, they should be taken to the BASC Ground (bar area) to meet parents.			Start/finish area is funnelled to prevent spectators from entering the course but have the potential to cross the course. Race Director to be aware of lost child procedures. Burnham Harriers has a welfare officer present on race day. Burnham Harrier Run Leaders who support the race are safeguarding trained.			

Risk assessment sign-off

Name of assessor	Steve Dorrall	Date:	16 June 2026	Race Director:	
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Signature:

S Dorrall - Burnham Harriers Secretary

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Course identification:				A	B	C	D
Whole event codes (1-8):				H/M/L	A to H	9-30 (only)	Additional measures to reduce risk to LOW, with name of person or official function who will reduce the risk to LOW (if applicable)
ID No	Miles/ kms from start	Detail of hazard		Risk rating level H/M/L	Persons at risk from hazard		
		Symbol	Desc				
1	420m	↑	Hump	L	A		Exit gate at BASC
2	440m	←	L. turn	M	A, C		Traffic from right Emerge from BASC, marshalled
3	640m	↑←	Bend	M	A, C, E		Right hand
4	880m	↑	T-Junct	M	A, E		Sign
5	1.1M	←	L. turn	H	A, D, E		Roundabout-Sign and marshalled
6	1.9M	↑	T-Junct	M	A, D, E		Traffic emerging from left Road / Sign
7	2.4M	←	L. turn	H	A, C, D, E		Roundabout-Sign and marshalled
8	2.9M	←	L. turn	M	A, D, E		A38 Crossroads turn left marshalled
9	4.2M	↑	T-Junct	M	A, D, E	9	Traffic emerging from left Rd marshalled
10	4.4M	↑		M	A, C, D, E		Water Point
11	4.5M	↑	T-Junct	M	A, D, E		Traffic emerging from left Road
12	5.1M	←	L. turn	M	A, D, E		Sign and marshalled
13	6.3M	←	Bend	M	A, D, E		
14	6.5M	←	L. turn	M	A, D, E		Sign and marshalled
15	6.8M	↑←	Bend	M	A, D, E		Water Point on bend
16	7.1M	←	L. turn	M	A, D, E		
17	7.4M	↑	Hump	M	A, D, E		Railway Bridge Hazard
18	7.5M	↑	Hump	M	A, D, E		Railway Bridge Hazard

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19	7.5M	↑	T-Junct	M	A, D, E		Traffic emerging from left Road
20	8.8M	←	L. turn	M	A, D, E		Left turn on bend Sign and Marshalled
21	9.9M	↑	Bend	M	A, D, E		Water Point
22	10.6M	↑	T-Junct	M	A, D, E		Traffic emerging from right Road Sign and Marshalled
23	11.2M	↑	T-Junct	M	A, D, E		Traffic emerging from left Road
24	11.3M	↑	T-Junct	M	A, D, E		Traffic emerging from left Road
25	11.5M	↑	T-Junct	M	A, D, E		Traffic emerging from left Road
26	11.8M	↑	T-Junct	M	A, D, E		Traffic emerging from left Road
27	11.9	←	L. turn	M	A, D, E		Sign and marshalled
28	12.2	↑	T-Junct	M	A, D, E		Traffic emerging from left Road
29	12.8	←	T-Junct	M	A, D, E		Turn left into BASC Sign and Marshalled
30	12.8	↑	Hump	M	A, D, E		Enter gate at BASC
31	13.1	↑	Funnel	L	A, D, E		Finish

Persons at risk key: A - Competitors; B - Organisers/Volunteers; C - Spectators; D - Oncoming traffic; E - Passing Traffic F - Crossing from right; G - Crossing from left; H - Other – specify.