



Perth Strathtay Harriers

Club Risk Assessment: Introductory Information

Perth Strathtay Harriers (The Club) as a club was established in the 1940s. We are entirely volunteer led offering athletics training and competition opportunities, primarily but not exclusively, for young people in Perth and Kinross and beyond. The Club have an established and vibrant disability inclusion programme. The club offers a variety of training options from bespoke to fully integrated. The experienced coaching team at the club work with local schools, care groups and NHS staff to deliver regular training opportunities throughout the year.

The appended map shows our main training areas, access and egress points and key structures. We utilise outdoor training facilities at the George Duncan Athletic Arena 12 months of the year with indoor facilities available within Perth Grammar School Gym Halls for 5 months of the year. This enables us to maximise training time for athletes in the safest manner, given prevailing weather conditions during the winter months in Scotland.

The Arena and School are linked and surrounded by a 2.4m weldmesh security fence, which promotes safe and controlled access to the main training areas. Gated access and egress points are indicated on the appended map. The Arena benefits from SAA approved flood lighting, which also partially lights the area utilised for cross country training. The grandstand and other permanent structures within the Arena are maintained by Perth & Kinross Council's Live Active team. The facilities within the School are maintained by Perth & Kinross Council's education department. Both facilities are fitted with warning alarms in the case of fire, which are tested regularly by Perth & Kinross Council teams.

Scottish Athletics Association coaching ratio recommendations are applied as a minimum standard to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our athletes, coaches and parents. There will always be a minimum of 1 Scottish Athletics qualified coach on site (the Session Lead Coach), supported by at least 1 Scottish Athletics qualified assistant coach or coach.

SAA Coaching ratios are:

Under 8 - 1 coach/volunteer to 8 athletes.

All older age groups - 1 coach/volunteer to 10 athletes.

These are recommended ratios and can vary depending on the age, experience and what is being delivered.

All athletes under 12 years will be coached and supervised by Scottish Athletics qualified coaches or assistant coaches. Athletes 12 years and older may be coached by volunteers within the general supervision (within sight and sound) of a UKA qualified coach.

All groups should be led by a qualified coach and not a volunteer. If they are an assistant coach, an Athletics Coach or CIRF should be within the venue and can oversee the sessions (not direct supervision).

These minimum standards are regularly reviewed and revised based on age, maturity and specific needs of athletes. These ratios are also assessed and revised in relation to Technical Events and activities that occur off site, such as road or cross-country training.

Every session delivered by The Club will be subject to ongoing dynamic risk assessment supported and informed by the general risk assessment appended.