

Risk Assessment	Live 9 Events Ltd
Activity	Soft Play Equipment This risk assessment applies to soft play equipment including ball pools, soft play shapes, mats and portable soft play areas.

Assessor	Molly Huthwaite	Location of Assessment	NG12 3UL
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Risk Rating Matrix (RR)	Likelihood (L)			
	Severity (S)	Certain or near certain to occur (High)	Reasonably likely to occur (Medium)	Unlikely to occur (Low)
Fatality; major injury or illness causing long term disability (High)		HIGH (H)	HIGH (H)	MEDIUM (M)
Injury or illness causing short term disability (Medium)		HIGH (H)	MEDIUM (M)	LOW (L)
Other Injury or illness (Low)		MEDIUM (M)	LOW (L)	LOW (L)

Hazards	Who is at risk?	Controls in place	L	S	RR
Loading, handling and transportation of equipment (Injuries caused by: heavy lifting, unacceptable access)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public Employees/Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All equipment must be handled correctly in line with manual handling. Only our staff should move the equipment. Manual handling should be reduced to a minimum by using the trolleys. Ramps & lifts to be used where required and available. All loads must be properly secured. Where required, multiple persons must handle equipment. Individuals should not undertake anything that puts themselves or anyone else at risk. Manual handling training is supplied to all staff annually. Under no circumstances shall anyone but our staff transport equipment. 	L	M	Low
Installation of equipment on site (Injury caused by: debris, tripping over equipment, related injury)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public Employees/Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The operator must have clear access to the setup area. The setup area must be level and free from any rubbish, debris and sharp objects, etc. The equipment must be inspected before, during and after installation to ensure it is free from damage. Once installed, the item should not be moved by any unauthorised persons. The equipment should be set up away from any entrances or exits, ensuring it does not block any fire exits. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for setup and break down. 	L	M	Low

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any spare equipment must be tidied away and put in a safe place. 			
Operation of equipment on site (Injuries caused by: overcrowding of the area, lack of supervision, not following operating rules)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public Employees/Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always follow the user limitations for the item. Participants are to queue in front of the equipment in view of the operator, who will control the queue. Participants are not to overcrowd the area and keep a clear space around the item. Spectators should be away from the equipment and not allowed to interfere with the equipment in any way. Where our staff are present, the equipment will be operated and supervised by trained personnel at all times. In the absence of our staff, the control, supervision, and safe operation of the equipment becomes the responsibility of the hirer. A safety briefing and written operating guidance will be provided and must be adhered to at all times. 	L	M	Low
Injury through incorrect set up (Injury caused by: positioning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public Employees/Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment to be set up by trained staff only. A final visual check is carried out after installation to ensure the equipment is safe for use. 	L	M	Low
Weather (if outdoors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public Employees/Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment is primarily designed for indoor use. If used outdoors, it must be placed on a dry, suitable surface. Equipment must not be used in wet or adverse weather conditions. A marquee can be added to cover equipment. 	L	M	Low
Overcrowding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of participants must be controlled based on the size of the play area. Only appropriate number of children permitted within the soft play area at one time. 	L	L	Low
Injury through equipment defect (Injuries caused by: equipment integrity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public Employees/Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment is visually inspected on setup and pack down. Any defective or damaged items must be removed from use immediately. 	L	M	Low
Slips, Trips & Falls (Injuries caused by: uneven surfaces, loose equipment, movement between items)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public Employees/Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment must be set up on a suitable, level surface. Mats and play items must be positioned securely to reduce movement. Area must be kept clear of obstructions at all times. 	L	L	Low
Falls from equipment (Injuries caused by:)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children must not climb on soft play items beyond their intended use. Unsafe use must be stopped immediately. 	L	M	Low

climbing, loss of balance)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision must be maintained to prevent risky behaviour. 			
Collision between participants (Injuries caused by: contact with other users, overcrowding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of participants must be controlled based on the size of the play area. Rough play, pushing or excessive running is not permitted. Participants must remain aware of others using the equipment. 	L	M	Low
Behaviour / unsuitable use (Injuries caused by: misuse, lack of control)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants must use the equipment in a controlled manner. No running, pushing or disruptive behaviour permitted. No food or drink permitted within the soft play area. Unsafe behaviour results in removal from the activity. 	L	M	Low
Hygiene (Injuries caused by: contamination, poor cleanliness)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment must be cleaned and sanitised between hires. Users should ensure appropriate hygiene is maintained during use. Any visibly contaminated equipment must not be used. 	L	M	Low
Uneven ground causing trips or instability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ground checked prior to setup. Equipment must be placed on level, suitable surfaces. 	L	M	Low
Unsupervised use (Injuries caused by: lack of control, misuse)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers Public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment should be supervised by the hirer or a responsible adult at all times when not operated by our staff. 	L	H	Medium

Date of Assessment	27/05/2019	Status	Complete
Re-assessment Date	17/04/2021	<i>M.Marriott</i>	Molly Marriott
Re-assessment Date	16/06/2023	<i>M.Huthwaite</i>	Molly Huthwaite
Re-assessment Date	13/05/2025	<i>M.Huthwaite</i>	Molly Huthwaite
Re-assessment Date	21/04/2026	<i>M.Huthwaite</i>	Molly Huthwaite