

Pawsitive Squad CIC - General risk assessment for public training sessions

Risk assessment completed by: Heather Pyne Date last reviewed: 22/03/2022 Next review due by: 1/03/2023	General risk assessment for Pawsitive Squad sessions taking place in public spaces for real world training including assistance dog workshop and assessments, day trips etc. This risk assessment should be used alongside any business's/ settings risk assessments where appropriate.						
Risk Description	Who is at risk	Likelihood 1-5	Impact of risk occurs 1-5	Overall risk LXI 1 - 25	Responsible for managing risk	Mitigating action	Risk acceptable?
Dog attacks/ dog fights/ dogs out of control resulting in fear or aggression from clients dogs	clients dogs, general public, clients, staff, volunteers	2 Low	4 Medium	8 Medium	clients dogs, general public, clients, staff, volunteers	Pawsitive Squad dogs kept on lead at all times unless specifically instructed otherwise by the trainer. Dynamic risk assessment of other dogs in the area and move away if necessary. All owners required to bring their own muzzle & first aid kit in case dog is injured and acting out of character. Safety briefing given at start of workshops around other dogs. All pawsitive squad dogs are told to keep 2m apart. Greatest risk is from other dogs from outside Pawsitive Squad which their owners should have under control. Local dog warden details saved with easy access. Only slightly higher risk than taking dog out generally.	Yes
contagious canine diseases spread between dogs	dogs	3 Medium	2 Low	6 Low	owners, public, trainer	Dogs to be kept 2m apart at all times during workshops and assessments. Dogs must have all vaccines, with the exception of kennel cough vaccine or be titre tested annually to minimise risk of carrying disease. We do not insist on kennel cough vaccine as this could pose risk to medically fragile household members & potentially impact on scent work. Shared equipment is cleaned between dogs.	Yes
Dog attacks to humans	general public, clients, staff volunteers	2 Low	5 High	10 Medium	owners, public, trainer	Dogs to be under direct control of an over 10 year old and supervised by an over 18 year old. All members taught to recognise signs of dog aggression to prevent escalation. Our dogs, as working dogs are highly unlikely to attack a person unless injured. All owners to have a muzzle with them in case the dog is injured which could result in self protective or pain induced aggressive behaviour in any dog. Dogs to remain on lead unless directed to be on long line/ off lead only by the trainer. Highest risk of dog attack in our sessions is by non pawsitive squad dogs, pet dogs out of control.	Yes
Dog causing trips or falls	general public, clients, staff volunteers	2 Low	3 Medium	6 Low	owners, public, trainer	If sitting, handlers reminded to encourage dog to tuck in front or under & select an area to sit which isn't too busy.	Yes

Dog causing injury due to play behaviour or excitement (jumping up, play biting in puppies, pulling handler over)	general public, clients, staff volunteers	3 Medium	3 Medium	9 Medium	owner, other clients, young people & trainer	All clients taught to turn back, then walk away if dog jumping up, puppy biting etc. All handlers instructed not to wrap the lead and dual handling leads have no handle to minimise ability to do this which decreases risk if dog pulls them over, minimising risk of being dragged. Everyone maintaining 2m distance including dogs. Emotion education provided and clients instructed to increase distance if dog appears over excited. All clients educated on enrichment and exercise requirements	Yes
Dog fouling inside public building	general public, clients, staff volunteers	3 Medium	2 Low	6 Low	public, owner, other dogs & clients	Pawsitive Squad dogs only permitted to begin training inside non pet friendly places once passed bronze assessment which includes owner confirming reliable toilet training. Regular toileting opportunities outdoors included in each session. Equipment present to quickly clean up after any accidents to minimise risk should fouling occur.	Yes
Traffic hazards	general public, clients, staff volunteers, dogs	2 Low	4 High	8 Medium	service users, staff and volunteers	All under 16 supervised directly by parent/carer around roads. All dogs to be on standard leads on footpaths along roads and car parks. Trainer with high visibility jacket supervising crossings to ensure highly visible to drivers. Community carer ratios for individuals to be maintained at all times.	Yes
Hazards resulting from damaged, incorrect or incorrectly used equipment	general public, clients, staff volunteers, dogs	2 Low	4 high	8 Medium	service users, staff and volunteers	All clients have access list of approved equipment. Taught to use equipment they have usually during zoom classes and following manufacturers instructions. Equipment check prompted by trainer at the start of sessions	Yes
Dog injured by environment	dogs	3 medium	2 Low	6 Low	dogs handler	If a small area, space checked by trainer before start of session. Larger area or multiple public spaces, dynamically risk assessed for hazards (eg glass etc) during session and plan changed as required to ensure	Yes
Handler injured by environment	general public, clients, staff volunteers	3 medium	2 Low	6 low	service users, staff and volunteers	instructions given for exercises while stationary to minimise distraction when moving, trainer to verbalise any approaching hazards they notice, If a small area, space checked by trainer prior to session, in larger area dynamic risk assessing skills used and location/ plan adapted as required.	Yes
contagious diseases spread between handlers	general public, clients, staff volunteers	3 medium	3 Medium	9 medium	parents & carers, staff and volunteers	Follow procedures outlined in the infection control and immunisation policy.	Yes

Lost child/ vulernable adult	children & vulnerable adults, clients	2 Low	4 High	10 Medium	parents & carers, young people, trainer	parents and carers to let trainer know if young person is prone to running away or hiding. Where known, areas where unexpected or loud noises are likely, the trainer will tell the group to enable ear defenders to be used preventatively. Agreed meeting space shared for each place visited, where young people are encouraged to head towards if they suddenly need to go and cannot communicate this. If child is lost, lost child policy is to be followed.	Yes
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