

Speed Pop Safety Guide

When planning for the safe running of this game, you may want to consider the following as part of your Risk Assessment:

Minimum Safety Rules:

- Site Check done before the game to remove hazards/debris.
- Youth Leaders will be supervising the game players and audience.
- New players have rules explained to them before play.
- Players and supervisors wear eye protection and shoes in case pins become loose.
- Ensure players keep their faces forward-facing when they are close together at the end of the game to ensure the pins from one player's hat don't accidentally come into contact with another player.
- Count the number of pins in play at the beginning of the game and at the end of the game to ensure that no pins are left on the ground where someone can stand on them. Pins with coloured plastic tips are more easily located on the ground than non-tipped pins.
- First Aid is available.
- Liquid products can damage your venue's carpets and fittings. Consider using a waterproof drop sheet for venue protection and easier clean up.

Additional potential safety considerations may include but are not limited to:

- Game variations include the use of water or custard in the balloons. Be aware that these products can make the floor slippery for players, the people holding the string and the leaders running the game. Point this potential slip hazard out to participants.
- Food products and the latex in balloons may also cause eye irritation and/or severe allergic reactions. Be aware of these potential hazards and ensure that participants with related allergies are not permitted in game play. Always inform players of exactly what food is in use. Ensure that participants with allergies have appropriate medication (eg epipen) and/or anaphylaxis plans on hand if required for their safety. Check to see if parents have also advised of allergies/intolerances – sometimes young people are embarrassed to reveal their allergies in social situations.

Remember, the best way to document your plans for safety is to prepare a Risk Assessment. Investigate how best to write these by searching the web for guides applicable to your State or region. A useful web search is "workplace health and safety risk assessments [name of your State or region]".

As a starting point, you can use the above to help you in preparing your Risk Assessment but this is a starting point only. You must also consider the legislation/policy of your State and organisation. And don't forget you also need to assess the hazards in your variation of the game, the venue you will be using, other environmental factors, and your knowledge of the numbers and abilities of young people participating in your game...and watching it enthusiastically!!

If you're looking for a simple online tool to document and store your Risk Assessments, then check out www.riskezi.com. This cloud based tool is fully customisable to your Church or Group.