

Surf The Turf, A.S.A.P: Risk Assessment.

SUMMARY: To be read in conjunction with attached site plan.

Surf The Turf is operational on an area of private land belonging to Graham and Jane Wadsworth at the Lakeland Maize, Rains Farm, Cumbria.

The mountain boarding/biking/ area at present is 250 yards wide and 300 yards in length. The area is essentially a grassy hill, ideally suited for gravity sports. It is a gentle slope with tailor made tracks and long grass boundaries, ideal for slowing down. The tracks have some earth and wooden mountain board/bike specific features i.e. Start ramp,berms (banked corners), north shore, rollers, jumps etc. There are also some fabricated grind rails.

The field is bordered with hedge rows and a dry stone wall.

Although it is an ideal gentle slope and very well suited to mountain boarding/biking, there are elements to the area that need to be considered.

Below are potential hazards together with measures we at Surf The Turf take to avoid accidents or incidents.

Surf The Turf has cover for 5 million public liability insurance.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

When parking in the Surf The Turf car park please be aware that there are clearly marked NO PARKING areas by the chicken shed.

ACTION: Park in designated areas and park respectfully of the farm.

A clearly marked path allows you to walk through a field that may be quite slippery/muddy.

ACTION: Be aware of under-foot conditions as walking up to the site.

In and around the Surf Shack be aware of any training/balance aids lying around as they can be a tripping hazard.

ACTION: These aids are part of the Surf The Turf experience and there for practice balance, please watch where you are stepping and use common sense in this area.

There is a skate 'half pipe' and trampoline for use by customers around the Surf Shack area.

ACTION: The half pipe and trampoline is in a clearly marked area and is used at customer's own risk.

There is an area next to the half pipe kept for wood storage, etc.

ACTION: This is an obvious storage area and should be avoided, Keep off signs will be erected.

Basic skill teaching areas are away from other users.

ACTION: This area is clearly mown and self-contained away from other users to allow for best training potential.

An area fenced off in the bottom left corner for the farms chickens is cordoned off with

electric fence netting.

ACTION: this fence will have a barrier of tyres lined at some distance in front to stop riders riding into the area and there will be warning signs on the fence, when turned on.

Riding terrain is divided into the following areas; learners, slalom, free ride, north shore, 4X/boarder X, dirt jumps, slope-style, buggy run, zorb lanes.

ACTION: all areas are clearly explained, guidance is given of suitability of skills levels, riders are to walk tracks before use and use common sense as to their own ability.

All riders are required to wear safety equipment that is either supplied by themselves or rented from Surf the Turf.

ACTION

Boarders - knee, elbow, wrist and helmet minimum – Age limit: Nobody under 8 years old.

Bikers – helmet minimum gloves recommended –Age limit: Nobody under 8 years old.

Buggy – helmet minimum – Height limit: Nobody under one 1.35 Metres.

Zorb – internal safety harness – Height limit: Nobody under one 1.35 Metres and a combined weight limit of no more than 33stone.

There is an ‘up-lift’ service that operates for all but the zorb users.

ACTION: The up-lift area is an obvious track not to be ridden; customers are made aware of this.

When the trailer lift is in operation, the access and exit is an open end.

ACTION: Only eight people on board at any one time. A notice stating this to be attached to the trailer.

At no point must anybody ride at Surf The Turf without having signed the disclaimer form.

ACTION: Signs soon to be erected.

OTHER PRECAUTIONS TAKEN:

- Maximum number of beginner students to be taught by one instructor can be 16. But we recommend 12 or under.
- Slalom cones should be set 8-10 paces apart.
- All safety equipment is mandatory and safety leashes must be used on all boards that are not fully fixed bindings. (Surf The Turf will supply).
- There is to be no conflict of interest between users, all riders should be aware of each type or riding area and where these may be shared use or single use.

OPERATIONS:

When disclaimer forms have been signed, boarders will be talked through 'padding up'. Each rider will be given a suitable board, all boards are checked regularly.

We then proceed to demonstrate the correct stance and the setting of the bindings, running through do's and don'ts. Once everyone is happy instructor will take them to the slope.

All instructors are ATBA-UK (All Terrain Boarding-UK) and at least one member of staff on site will be first aid qualified.

TRAINING:

- Safe self start and heel side J turns.
- Safe start and heel side power side.
- Safe start and toe side J turn.
- Safe start and toe side power slide.
- Linking turns through slalom cones and executing consecutive power slides.
- Snake run, teaching the rider the importance of weight distribution.
- Rails, rollers, ramps, this will be dependent on the groups progression and be down to the instructors discretion.
- Boarder X race track, teaching the use of the drop-in, race rollers, berms and table top type features.