

VSCC Nine Hammers (9H) Risk Assessment - October 2025

ACTIVITY	HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	INITIAL RISK (H/M/L)	CONTROL MEASURES (RECOMMENDED)	RESIDUAL RISK (HML)	FURTHER ACTION RECOMMENDED/REQUIRED		
						Y/N	WHAT	CONTACT
9H	Weather, cold, punctures , isolated route	Rider	L	- Cycles must be legal and roadworthy - Riders to inspect their cycle prior to each ride paying particular attention to brakes, frame, steering, pedals / cleats, wheels and tyres. - Groups size kept small, riders to stay together - Carry emergency blankets	L	Y	Emergency blankets to be distributed to regular leaders. Local and Met Office weather forecast to be checked before rides. Cancel if unsafe to ride	-
9H	Dark roads	Rider and Public	M	- All riders to have high powered lights capable of illuminating dark road. - Quality lights Minimum 300 Lumen - Recommend high visibility/reflective clothing (note: fluorescent fabrics only work under daylight, not street or vehicle lights)	L	Y	Briefing and Facebook posts,	-
9H	Riding skills and experience. Cornering, lack of experience of some riders, Descending at pace	Rider	M	- Riders to wear approved safety helmets that should not be worn following impact and in any case should be replaced at manufacturer's recommended intervals - Manage the speed according to skill and experience - Safety briefings	L	Y	Briefing and Facebook posts	

9H	Traffic on Harrogate Road	Rider	H	• Riders to be familiar with route and be aware of where they are at all times • Riders to go single where appropriate • Appropriate lights • Rides not to commence before 6 pm	M	Y	.Safety Briefing	
9H	Road surface conditions: Items in the road; Wet/slippery surfaces; Speedbumps	Rider	M	• Manage speed to the conditions • Members doing daytime rides to report new hazards • Appropriate lighting • Call out hazards and repeat calls down the group	L	Y	Safety Briefing Dynamic Risk assessments on the ride by Ride Leader	
9H	Road features: Road narrows to single file under bridge on Little Switzerland – although uphill has priority, cars may come down anyway Mini-Roundabout at top of Gledhow Wood Road – cars do not always give way to the right New road layout at junction from Harrogate road to Gledhow Valley Road	Rider	M	• Riders to be alert and anticipate cars' actions in both locations • Riders in front to call out if cars are ahead (Little S), or approaching the Roundabout • Riders to single out for the LH turn from Harrogate Road onto Gledhow Valley Road.	L	Y	Safety Briefing Dynamic Risk assessments on the ride by Ride Leader	

9H	Road features: Zebra Crossings at multiple locations on the route	Rider and Public	M	• Comply with highway code re zebra crossings	L	Y	Safety Briefing	
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Version History

2021 09 – Original

2025 10 – Updated by Bill McCaffrey