



Risk Assessment

Location: The Armstrong Centre, Grovehill Road, Beverley, HU17 0ED

Date: 2023 onward (live document will be updated; last update 12/04/2026)

This document is a live document and will be updated and amended after each cycle of training groups.

All risk is calculated by looking at the likelihood of event occurring and impact it could have on the training instructor/s, dog guardians, dogs and other parties.

All must follow this risk assessment and agree to its terms which is sent prior to commencement of the course. This document has been created by Marie Derycke (trading as Ingenious Dogs) and covers all training instructor/s, dog guardians, dogs and other parties involved in dog training.

Total risk rating

		Likelihood of risk rating				
		1	2	3	4	5
Severity risk rating	1	1	2	3	4	5
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	5	5	10	15	20	25

1-4 = Low risk rating / 5-9 = Medium risk rating / 10-15 = High risk rating / 16-25 = Very-high risk rating

Risk assessment

Hazard	Individuals affected	Likelihood	Severity	Risk rating	Mitigating measures	Likelihood after m.m.	Severity after m.m.	Risk rating after m.m.
Late arrivals: disruptions, startle, stress (barking)	Training instructor, clients and dogs	4	1	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Late arrival procedure explained to clients at the start of class: No rushing into hall Clients to offer their dog treats or toys as soon as they hear or see arriving client and dog Exercises to be summarised after late arrival to reduce disruption 	2	1	2
Dog interactions: aggression, fear, jumping up, pushing over, injury	Training instructor, clients and dogs	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dogs kept at safe distances (length of arm, plus length of leash, plus 1.5m) from other dogs and clients No other person but the guardian and family to handle their own dog, other than the training instructor Dogs muzzled if previous history of aggression Clients encouraged to have insurance for their dogs, to include at the minimum 3rd party liability Accident book provided by The Armstrong Centre (Beverley) Ltd 	1	3	3
Enrichment items (toys, snufflemats,	Training instructor,	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dogs kept at safe distances (length of arm, plus length of leash, plus 1.5m) from other dogs and clients. 	1	3	3

Lickimats, etc.): resource guarding	clients and dogs				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrichment items to be kept at a dog's station. • No other dogs to approach a dog's station, where enrichment items are located. This is explained on week 1 of group class, and reminded when dogs are moving through the hall. • Accident book provided by The Armstrong Centre (Beverley) Ltd 			
Training equipment (mats, toys, platforms): tripping	Training instructor, clients and dogs	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment arranged around the edges of the hall, with training spaces and paths to doors kept clear. • Reminder after each exercise to tidy up toys, platforms, target sticks, buckets, etc. • Accident book provided by The Armstrong Centre (Beverley) Ltd 	1	3	3
Water bowl spills: slipping	Training instructor and clients	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any spills to be mopped dry • Wet floor signs provided by The Armstrong Centre (Beverley) Ltd • Water bowls placed at the edges of the hall and away from doors, or alternatively under/behind clients' chairs (if own bowl) • Accident book provided by The Armstrong Centre (Beverley) Ltd 	1	3	3
Dog escape (in hall or from venue):	Training instructor, clients and dogs	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog's equipment checked on arrival for type and fit and presence of ID tag • Hall has double doors (hall + corridor), which both are to be kept shut 	1	3	3

aggression, fear, injury					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients to check dog's equipment before leaving the hall • Accident book provided by The Armstrong Centre (Beverley) Ltd 			
Aversive methods	Dog (and training instructor)	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients to read and sign Training Policy before attending • Fallout of aversive methods discussed in class • Alternative approaches offered to resolve issues 	1	2	2
Dog urination and excrements	Clients and dogs, other venue users	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning supplies are present for clients to clean any dog mess • Training instructor to supervise whether cleaning is appropriately carried out 	1	2	2
Spread of diseases: kennel cough, giardiasis etc.	Clients and dogs, other venue users	2	4	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the client's responsibility that dogs are kept up-to-date on their vaccinations and anti-parasite treatment • Poorly dogs not to attend group classes • Clients encouraged to bring a water bowl for their own dog to reduce the spread of diseases • Dogs to be kept at a safe distance from each other • Any dog messes to be cleaned immediately • Hall is swept/vacuum cleaned and mopped with a biocidal disinfectant immediately after class 	1	4	4

Children	Children	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children not to interact with other dogs beside their own • Children to remain under the supervision of their parents or guardians at all times, and remain at their station • Parents or guardians to bring appropriate activities for children (tablets, colouring book) • Accident book provided by The Armstrong Centre (Beverley) Ltd 	1	3	3
Dog's stress	Dog (and clients)	2	4	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog assessment included in client intake form • Dog continuously assessed by training instructor in class • Guardians sensitised to signs of stress, and encouraged to take dogs outside for a walk around the field if necessary to recover • Guardians instructed to remove dog from hall if stress is an issue, as welfare overrides training. Training to be carried out as private sessions. • An assistant will help with training classes if they include more than 4 dogs. 	1	3	3
Client's stress	Clients (and dog)	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guardian stress levels monitored by the training instructor in class • Training instructor to regularly check in to assess client's confidence 	1	2	2

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An assistant will help with training classes if they include more than 4 dogs. 			
Damage to equipment	Training instructor and venue	1	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment is property of Ingenious Dogs or The Armstrong Centre (Beverley) Ltd and it is the guardians' responsibility to replace should they or their dog damage this (Training Policy) 	1	1	1
Wooden floors: slips, anxiety	Dogs	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog's skeletomuscular issues assessed in client intake form Mats provided for each dog at their station if floor provides poor traction Clients to keep dogs at their stations unless instructed otherwise Additional mats laid out for recall & loose-leash walking practise 	2	2	4
Noise (and noise-induced) stress	Training instructor and clients	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clients made aware of hall acoustics and to avoid chatting during instructions Clients to be proactive to reduce dog barking Mats provided and clients to keep dogs on mats unless instructed otherwise (sounds of nails on floors) Enrichment activities are made available to guardians to prevent dogs from barking 	2	2	4
Female dogs in season: scent marking, disruption,	Dogs	4	3	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Female dogs not to attend group classes if in season Clients to attend sessions without their dog, or attend the next occurrence of 	4	1	4

distracton, arousal					the class after the bitch has finished their season			
Fire	Training instructor, clients, dogs, venue	1	5	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire plan to be updated by The Armstrong Centre (Beverley) Ltd regularly • Clients made aware of during first visit to the hall • Training instructor knowledgeable of fire escape procedures, fire exits and assembly point • Fire doors to be kept shut • Fire extinguishers provided and checked by The Armstrong Centre (Beverley) Ltd 	1	4	4
COVID	Training instructor, clients, venue staff and visitors	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training stations are spaced out • Clients are informed at the time of booking not to attend if they have signs of COVID, suspected COVID or tested positive for COVID • Clients encouraged to wear masks • Government guidelines to be followed 	1	2	2