

MODULE 2 · REFERENCE CARD

RISK MATRIX & LEVEL DESCRIPTORS

A one-page field reference for rating absolute and residual risk on EOTC events.

1 THE 5 × 5 MATRIX

↑ Likelihood Severity →	INSIGNIFICANT No / minor injury	MINOR First aid	MODERATE Medical treatment	MAJOR Extensive injuries	CRITICAL Fatalities
ALMOST CERTAIN	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
LIKELY	Low	Medium	High	High	Extreme
POSSIBLE	Low	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme
UNLIKELY	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
RARE	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High

2 LIKELIHOOD

Almost Certain	Expected to occur at least once.
Likely	Will probably occur.
Possible	Could occur, but infrequently.
Unlikely	Could only happen in unusual circumstances.
Rare	Could only happen in exceptional circumstances.

3 SEVERITY

Insignificant	No / minor injury. Minimal impact on participation.
Minor	Injury requiring first aid. Cannot fully participate.
Moderate	Needs medical treatment (no permanent disability).
Major	Serious injury; hospitalisation & possible disability.
Critical	Fatalities; PTSD, long-term therapy likely.

4 RISK LEVELS & ACTION

LEVEL	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
EXTREME	Considerable potential for fatalities, serious injuries or illness, or post-traumatic stress.	Stop — look for alternatives. Unacceptable level of risk; don't do it.
HIGH	Moderate potential for injuries, illness or stress requiring hospitalisation, therapy or counselling.	Control to eliminate the risk where possible.
MEDIUM	Some potential for injuries, illness or stress requiring medical treatment and support.	Control to minimise as far as reasonably practicable.
LOW	Minimal potential for injuries or illness, stress or embarrassment.	Continue — stay vigilant that the risk level does not rise.