Electrical Safety & EAWR Compliance

EAWR | TEMPORARY EVENT POWER | ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT | 2026-27 REVIEW CYCLE

Document Ref	Version	Status	Issue Date	Next Review	Owner
RI-COMP-002	2.1	APPROVED	01 October 2026	01 October 2027*	Rugby Inflatables

Purpose and scope

This document records Rugby Inflatables' arrangements for preventing electrical danger under the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 (EAWR) and associated good practice. It covers inflatable blowers, extension leads, plugs/connectors, RCD/protective devices, portable electrical equipment, temporary event supplies and generator-supplied equipment used in Rugby Inflatables work.

Electrical safety principle

- Electrical systems and equipment must be suitable for their environment, maintained so as to prevent danger and used only within ratings and intended purpose.
- Visual inspection, risk-based inspection/testing and defect control are part of the system; PAT is one tool and is not a substitute for safe design or pre-use checks.
- RCDs reduce risk but do not make an unsuitable supply, damaged cable, incorrect earthing arrangement or wet connection safe.
- Electrical design, verification, fault diagnosis and specialist electrical work are undertaken only by persons competent for that task.

Operating boundary

Rugby Inflatables staff may connect and use approved plug-and-socket equipment within training. They must not design/alter fixed or temporary distribution systems, improvise neutral/earth arrangements, carry out live work, defeat protective devices or repair electrical equipment unless specifically competent and authorised.

Basis of the 2026-27 revision

Prepared against EAWR/HSE event electrical guidance, BS 7909:2023+A1:2024 and the 2026 BS 7671 transition. BS 7671:2018+A4:2026 was published 15 April 2026; the previous A3:2024 edition remains transition-valid until 15 October 2026. From 15 October 2026, competent electrical design/installation work should use the current A4:2026 edition. Existing installations designed to earlier editions are not automatically unsafe solely because a newer edition exists.

Competence boundary

A test button, plug-in tester, PAT pass label or functioning blower does not prove that a supply or temporary electrical system is correctly designed, earthed or otherwise safe. Escalate uncertainty to a competent electrical person.

1. Selection, supply and connection

RESPONSIBLE: SETUP LEAD / COMPETENT ELECTRICAL PERSON WHERE REQUIRED

1.1 Select suitable equipment

- Use plugs, connectors, leads and equipment with suitable ratings, condition and environmental protection for the intended use.
- Confirm blower specification and load; do not overload socket outlets, adaptors, extension leads or generator/distribution capacity.
- Use 16 A CEE-form equipment for event arrangements where required by the planned system; normal 13 A equipment is used only where suitable for the actual supply and load.

1.2 Assess the available supply

- Identify the intended supply point and obtain venue/event information where the adequacy of the supply is not obvious.
- Do not connect to visibly damaged, water-affected, overheated, loose or improvised supplies.
- Where earthing, protective-device operation, supply capacity or condition is uncertain, stop and obtain competent assessment.

1.3 RCD and overcurrent protection

- Use appropriate RCD and overcurrent protection as part of the overall protective arrangement. Do not bypass or repeatedly reset a device that trips. A test-button check confirms only a limited functional operation and is not a full verification of the electrical system.

1.4 Connections

- Make connections with equipment switched off where practicable.
- Keep plugs/connectors secure, strain-free, off unsuitable wet ground and protected from interference.
- Do not daisy-chain unsuitable adaptors or permit customers/traders to add loads to Rugby Inflatables circuits.

HOLD POINT - uncertain supply
If the supply cannot be shown to be suitable for the planned equipment, do not energise it. Use another verified supply or competent electrical assistance.

2. Cables, weather and portable equipment

RESPONSIBLE: TRAINED RI STAFF / ELECTRICAL TESTER WITHIN ROLE

2.1 Cable routing and mechanical protection

- Route leads away from entrances, exits and public routes wherever possible.
- Where a crossing is unavoidable, use suitable cable protection and preserve accessibility/evacuation routes.
- Keep cables away from vehicle movements unless a properly designed/protected route is provided.
- Unwind cable reels as required by their rating and loading to avoid overheating.

2.2 Rain, water and adverse conditions

- Keep electrical equipment and connections protected from unsuitable weather and standing water.
- Stop use where flooding, damaged enclosures or wet connections create danger; isolate only if it is safe to do so.
- Do not wrap a generator, blower or connector in a way that causes overheating or traps exhaust/fumes.

2.3 Pre-use visual checks

- Check plugs, pins, cable sheath, strain relief, connectors, switches, casings, guards and signs of overheating or contamination.
- Remove equipment from service for exposed conductors, crushed/cut cable, loose parts, damaged casing, scorching, unusual heat/smell or water ingress that may affect safety.

2.4 Inspection and testing regime

- Rugby Inflatables maintains risk-based inspection/testing appropriate to equipment type, environment, frequency of use and previous findings. The law does not impose a universal PAT interval.
- Test frequency and scope must be adequate to maintain safety, and specialist testing is carried out by a competent person.

3. Temporary event supplies and generators

RESPONSIBLE: OWNER / COMPETENT ELECTRICAL PERSON / TRAINED GENERATOR STAFF

3.1 Temporary systems at events

- HSE expects event electrical equipment and installations to be properly selected, installed and maintained. BS 7909:2023+A1:2024 is the current code of practice for temporary electrical systems for entertainment and related purposes. Apply it where the Rugby Inflatables arrangement forms part of a temporary event electrical system.

3.2 Generator supplies

- Apply RI-SOP-003 and RI-RA-004. Position the generator in suitable open air, segregated from the public and with exhaust away from occupied areas, openings and blower air intakes.
- The generator supply method, earthing/neutral arrangement, protective devices and distribution are system-design matters. Do not assume an earth stake or plug-in RCD is automatically required or sufficient.
- Use only the agreed Rugby Inflatables loads. Third-party equipment must not be added without competent review of the system.

3.3 Isolation and switching

- Know the normal isolation point for the Rugby Inflatables supply and keep it accessible to authorised staff.
- Make equipment dead before maintenance, repair or access to electrical parts.
- Use lock-off/tag-out or other secure isolation where maintenance risk requires it; verify dead where competent work requires verification.

3.4 Live work

LIVE WORK
Live electrical work is not part of normal Rugby Inflatables operation. Staff do not open enclosures, probe conductors or carry out fault-finding on live equipment.

4. Defects, incidents, records and competence

RESPONSIBLE: OWNER / STAFF / COMPETENT ELECTRICAL PERSON

4.1 Defect and trip response

- Stop use for electric shock, burning smell, smoke, sparking, abnormal heat, repeated tripping or suspected electrical damage.
- Keep people away and isolate only where safe. Do not repeatedly reset a breaker/RCD or substitute a larger fuse.
- Quarantine affected equipment until appropriately assessed, repaired and tested as required.

4.2 Electrical emergency

- For electric shock, fire or life-threatening danger, call 999 and follow RI-EP-001. Do not touch a casualty if they may still be connected to a live source. Preserve safe access for emergency services.

4.3 Records

- Equipment identification and inspection/testing results.
- PAT/portable-equipment records where used, together with repairs and defect quarantine.
- Competent electrical design/verification/test information for temporary systems where applicable.
- Generator supplier/system information and abnormal/trip records.
- Training/competence records for staff tasks.

4.4 Training and competence

- Staff are trained to recognise common hazards, complete visual checks, make approved plug-and-socket connections, route cables and stop/escalate on abnormal conditions. Electrical testing, design, repair and verification beyond that scope are assigned to competent persons.

No automatic PAT period

Inspection/testing frequency is determined by risk and equipment history. Do not treat an annual PAT sticker as the sole legal control or as proof that equipment remains safe after damage or adverse exposure.

5. Roles, related documents and technical basis

RESPONSIBLE: OWNER / DOCUMENT CONTROLLER

Roles and responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Owner - Rugby Inflatables	Ensure equipment/systems are suitable, inspection/testing and maintenance arrangements are maintained, competent persons are used for specialist work and staff remain within role boundaries.
Setup / event staff	Carry out permitted visual checks and plug-and-socket connections, route/protect cables, prevent interference and stop/escalate faults.
Competent electrical person / tester	Carry out assigned design, inspection, testing, verification, maintenance or specialist work within competence and provide records/results.
Venue / event organiser	Provide relevant supply/site information and prevent unauthorised third-party interference with Rugby Inflatables temporary supplies.

Related controlled documents

RI-COMP-001 PUWER Compliance; RI-SOP-001 Inflatable Setup & Collection; RI-SOP-003 Generator Safe Operating Procedure; RI-RA-004 Generator Risk Assessment; RI-EP-001 Emergency Procedures; RI-GD-002 Wind & Adverse Weather Guidance; relevant equipment/activity risk assessments.

Technical sources checked 01 October 2026

Electricity at Work Regulations 1989; HSE Electrical safety at events (updated 11 October 2024); HSE HSG85 Electricity at work: safe working practices; BS 7909:2023+A1:2024 (current); BS 7671:2018+A4:2026 and IET transition guidance - A3:2024 valid until 15 October 2026. Standards are applied by competent persons within their scope.

Revision history

Version	Date	Change	Status
2.0	Aug 2026	Previous approved EAWR compliance document.	Superseded
2.1	01 Oct 2026	2026-27 expansion: BS 7671 A4 transition, BS 7909:2023+A1:2024, competence boundary, temporary supplies, RCD limitations, risk-based inspection/testing and fault isolation.	Approved review