

Transportation of Inflatables Risk Assessment

RI-RA-005 | Version 2.1 | APPROVED

Document Ref	Version	Status	Assessment Date	Next Review	Assessor
RI-RA-005	2.1	APPROVED	23 August 2026	August 2027	Macauly Peel - Owner
Activity			People at risk		
Transporting Rugby Inflatables equipment between storage and hire/event locations, including loading, unloading, load security and business driving.			Operators / staff, passengers where applicable, customers and members of the public.		

Assessment basis. This assessment retains the technical hazards and controls approved in the 23 August 2026 Transportation assessment. Version 2.1 corrects the document reference from duplicate RI-RA-003 to RI-RA-005; the risk-control content is unchanged.

Hazards, risks & control measures

Hazard	Potential harm	At risk	Controls in place	Further controls / requirements
Manual handling / heavy equipment	Musculoskeletal injury, crush injury or dropped equipment	Staff	Use team handling for heavy/awkward items; use trolleys/ramps or suitable aids; apply safe lifting technique; do not attempt an unsafe lift alone.	Use RI-HS-002 and request assistance where required.
Slips, trips or falls during loading / unloading	Bruises, sprains, fractures	Staff	Keep route reasonably clear; use stable ground/surfaces; maintain suitable lighting; wear suitable footwear; assess carry route before moving heavy equipment.	Pause/reposition where ground, access or lighting makes handling unsafe.
Vehicle movement / driving	Collision, injury or road traffic incident	Staff / Public	Only appropriately licensed/authorised drivers; complete pre-use checks; drive for road, load and weather conditions; maintain visibility and safe stopping distance.	Apply RI-VEH-001 and RI-VEH-002; do not continue with a safety-critical defect.
Falling equipment / shifting load	Crush injury, collision, equipment damage	Staff / Public	Distribute load sensibly; use suitable restraints/containment; prevent rolls, blowers, stakes and tools from dangerous movement; check doors/load security before departure.	Recheck security after significant load changes or suspected movement.
Equipment damage during transport	Damage affecting safe use; financial loss	Staff / Users	Protect inflatables from sharp/dirty items; protect blowers/electrical equipment from impact/moisture; inspect through normal pre-use/setup and collection processes.	Quarantine suspected damaged equipment under RI-EQ-004 until assessed.
Adverse weather / poor road or loading conditions	Loss of vehicle control, slips, handling injury	Staff / Public	Review weather as part of route planning; drive to conditions; avoid unsafe loading/unloading surfaces; postpone/change arrangements where conditions create unacceptable risk.	Do not use the inflatable 24 mph operating-wind limit as a road-driving limit; assess transport conditions separately.
Trapped fingers / hands	Cuts, bruising, crush injury	Staff	Keep hands clear of pinch points; coordinate team movements; use suitable gloves where they assist.	Stop and reset movement if control is lost.
Vehicle / trailer loading stability (where trailer used)	Trailer instability, detachment, road hazard	Staff / Public	Use suitable roadworthy towing equipment; connect correctly; respect weight limits; distribute and secure load appropriately.	Trailer controls apply only when a trailer is used; defects require removal from service.
Fatigue / rushing / human error	Driving, loading or handling mistakes	Staff / Public	Plan realistic routes/access windows; allow time for safe loading/setup; take appropriate rest; avoid rushing to recover delays.	Re-plan or communicate delays rather than compromise checks or driving safety.
Loading / unloading near traffic or public movement	Vehicle strike, collision with equipment, public injury	Staff / Public	Park suitably where practicable; assess traffic/public movement; use high-visibility clothing where exposure warrants it; keep equipment controlled during unloading.	Move unloading point or use additional control where roadside exposure cannot be managed safely.

PPE and equipment

- Suitable footwear for the task and conditions.
- Gloves where useful for grip, abrasion or pinch-point protection.
- High-visibility clothing where working near traffic or vehicle movements warrants it.
- Suitable trolleys/handling aids and load restraints where required.

Emergency / abnormal events

- For injury or immediate danger, make the area safe and contact emergency services where required.
- For vehicle defects, breakdowns or road traffic incidents follow RI-VEH-002.
- Any inflatable or safety-critical equipment suspected of damage during transport must not return to normal hire use until checked.

- Record relevant accidents, incidents or near misses under RI-HS-003.

Assessment and review

This is a generic activity assessment. The driver/operator must still respond to the actual vehicle, load, access route, parking position, weather and site conditions on the day. Review at least annually and sooner after a relevant incident, significant change in vehicle/equipment, or where controls are shown to be inadequate.

Related controlled documents

RI-VEH-001 - Vehicle Pre-Use & Daily Checks • RI-VEH-002 - Vehicle Defects, Breakdowns & Road Traffic Incidents • RI-OPS-002 - Vehicle Loading & Delivery Preparation • RI-HS-002 - Manual Handling Procedure • RI-EQ-004 - Defect, Quarantine & Repair Control • RI-HS-003 - Accident, Incident & Near-Miss Reporting

Approval & revision

Prepared / assessed by		Approved by	Approval date	Next review
Macauly Peel - Owner		Macauly Peel - Owner	23 August 2026	August 2027
Version	Date	Change		Status
1.0	01 January 2026	Original Transportation of Bouncy Castles and Inflatables assessment.		Superseded
2.0	23 August 2026	Redesigned and aligned with refreshed vehicle, operations, equipment and manual-handling controls.		Superseded
2.1	23 August 2026	Administrative correction: document reference changed from duplicate RI-RA-003 to RI-RA-005. Technical assessment content unchanged.		Approved