

SFG 3 Leaders notes

Carry a first aid kit and emergency blanket (usually foil).

Hi-Vis for leader and backmarker.

Exchange mobile numbers with the backmarker.

Carry a map and/or an adequately charged mobile device for grid reference and give a spare map to the backmarker.

Signing in. Ensure all have given their name and signed in on the Walking Register.

Make new and infrequent walkers aware of the Terms and Conditions at the top of the Walking Register, especially if they are a responsible adult with a child or they are a carer. Count up the walkers and check the number tallies with the number signed-in, accounting for children etc.

Carry the Walking Register, so in an incident, a person can be identified.

Keep the back marker in sight, wait for the group especially at turn-offs, and count at intervals on the walk.

Have in mind short cut(s) if weather/circumstance require an early return.

Before starting, go through the route with the walkers; timing, distance, stiles, difficulty.

Advise walkers about clothing and footwear, either on the calling notice or at the start.

Be prepared to advise walkers not to go on the walk, if they are unsuitably clad, an unaccompanied child, or have medical concerns that may affect walking.

Do not hesitate to ask for age if in doubt about a young person being over 18.

Remind adults accompanying under 18s of their responsibility for direct care and supervision. Remind carers of their responsibilities.

Location. Leaders should have means of knowing their location by:

- a) Map reading and working out the grid reference
- b) Using a mobile device with grid reference readout display (e.g. "OS Locate" and "GridPoint GB" are typical apps).

In the event of a **serious incident**, phone 999 with grid reference location and details of injury, and your details and phone number. The operator may not be familiar with a grid reference but be sure to give it because the ambulance (road or air) will be able to use it. If you know the road or nearby road, give that as well.

Identify the nearest road and get a walker to direct the emergency services.

Grid references are preceded by two letters, in Cheshire the letters are SJ, followed by 3 plus 3 numbers or 5 plus 5 numbers (the more numbers the more accurate, but 3 plus 3 is usually sufficient). It is important to give the letters, otherwise the numbers are meaningless.

If possible, give **emergency assistance**, e.g. stem the bleeding, CPR* or just make them comfortable in the recovery position* and, if possible, keep them talking and awake (* if trained to do so).

Next of kin. Encourage walkers to carry identification and next of kin details.

Insurance. SFG is insured through Zurich for Public Liability and Product Liability, but not for personal accident. Therefore, if we negligently leave a farm gate open and livestock escape, we are covered to £5,000,000, but if someone is injured in a fall, that is their own responsibility, as stated and signed for on the Walking Register.

Zurich Insurance policy number XAO:27T0010013, tel. 0800 335 500