

## RBKA Apiary meetings - Risk Assessment

The **Apiary owner** to be designated the **Responsible Person (RP)** and to consider prior to the meeting the health and safety issues outlined below:

Recognised hazards	Level of risk	Action
Bee stings	<b>Potentially High</b>	See below
Heavy hives	<b>Medium</b>	Ask for help
Uneven ground/trip hazards	<b>Low</b>	Clear obvious hazards
Livestock/pets	<b>Low</b>	Ensure controlled
Others peculiar to venue	Assess	Assess

### Bee Stings

#### 1. Prevention

- Weather: consider cancelling the meeting if cold/wet/windy
- Avoid jeans or clothing made of fluffy material
- Avoid strong scents
- Avoid opening known aggressive colonies where practical
- Ensure protective clothing is bee proof – mutual inspections
- Don't stand in the bees flight path
- Remove any bees before removing protective clothing (mutual inspection)

#### 2. Preparation - the RP shall:

- Ensure access to Mobile phone/signal or landline phone
- Know Postcode of property
- Delegate duties once meeting starts if also doing demonstration

#### Attendees – shall:

- Notify **RP** if history of serious adverse reaction to stings or identified allergy.
- Allergic members will carry their own adrenaline as necessary

#### 3. Action

- Remove sting if possible
- Smoke area or wash gloves in soda solution
- Move away from hive to dark building or inside if necessary to escape from bees

#### 4. More severe reaction

- Move inside to assess and consider:
  - Administering their own adrenaline/antihistamines
  - Take in car to A&E
  - Summon ambulance

**Indoor Meetings:** A **RP** to be aware of potential hazards and advise on exits.