

## Near Misses

### Near Misses – what are they?

These can also be called 'near hits', because it's actually something that nearly hit you (or someone else): an accident that didn't result in an injury, but could have done. Think about a stack of chairs that toppled over; but thankfully didn't squash any one. By reporting it to the GSL, something can be done about it to prevent it happening again as next time someone could get hurt.

Other examples could be something dropping from a shelf close to someone; a door banging shut in the wind; or someone tripping or falling but not hurting their self. Each example gives an opportunity to examine the situation and see if something needs to be done to stop it happening again, since the next time it happens someone could be hurt.

### How to report a Near Miss

Near misses should be reported on the form below. Anyone can complete it, then pass the form to their Group Scout Leader. The GSL should bring any near miss forms to the attention of the DC. For Explorers and Network the form should go straight to the District Commissioner. By reporting these to the District everyone else gets a chance to learn from the situation and check their environment.

Near misses can also be reported on the scout website. <http://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/4017/near-miss-form> This information will allow the Scout Association to update its guidance if needed, so everyone can learn from the circumstances.

If there is any doubt whether something should be reported, consider if someone could have been hurt, and is there anything that you need to do to stop it happening again? Do you need to change the way you do things? Or remind everyone not to do something? If the answer is yes, then it is worth reporting so that your experiences can be shared. The District can help you decide whether to report it to the Scout Association on their website.

### Why report a Near Miss?

Reporting a Near Miss is about stopping a situation happening again and therefore keeping people safe. It is not a way of checking up on anyone or blaming them. It is purely a way of learning.

## Near Miss Reporting Form

<b>Completed by</b>		<b>Date</b>	
<b>Group</b>		<b>District</b>	

<b>Date of Incident</b>	
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<b>Who was Involved? (tick)</b>			
<b>Beaver</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Scout Network</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Cub</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Leader/Helper</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Scout</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Parent</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Explorer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Other (specify)</b>	

<b>Where did it happen?</b>

<b>What happened?</b>

<b>Why do you think it happened?</b>

<b>Action taken to stop recurrence</b>

<b>District Comments</b>