

# What is risk management?

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Risk management is planning ahead for the uncertainties of potential loss. Planning and training in risk management is constantly evolving, as we become aware of risks which need better management, or discover risks of which we were previously unaware.

While it is important to manage risk, it is also important to provide a meaningful experience for participants. Therefore, manage does not necessarily mean eliminate. There must be a balance between a challenging program and the management of foreseeable risk.

## **Risk Management Essentials**

- Build an awareness of responsibility for risk management in each staff member
- Train staff to recognize the ripple effect of their decisions on future events
- Identify the rationale for policies and procedures, and the significance of not implementing those policies and procedures

## **Role of Staff in Risk Management**

- Enforcement of known policies and procedures
- Vigilance for the health and safety of all participants
- Constant awareness of changing environmental conditions that affect program or participants
- Notification of administrators when situations are observed that require attention
- Use of good judgment in daily decisions

