### **The Stray Horns Performance Safety Protocol**

**1. Hazard Identification and Safety Measures**

* **Crowded Environments**: Designate a lead member for path navigation. Maintain a safe distance from the audience while moving and brief the band on potential hazards in the performance area.
* **Weather Conditions (Outdoor Events)**: Check forecasts, dress appropriately, use rain covers for instruments, and avoid slippery surfaces if possible.
* **Equipment Handling**: Use proper lifting techniques, check cases and straps, and assign a responsible band member to manage equipment safety.
* **Audience Interaction**: Politely manage any audience members who get too close, have a plan for crowd incidents, and ensure all members know the nearest exits.

**2. Noise Levels and Performance Duration**

* **Noise**: As a fully acoustic band with moderate sound levels, noise-related risks are minimal.
* **Duration**: Performances are limited to a maximum of 45 minutes, allowing breaks to reduce fatigue and dehydration.

**3. Medical Emergency Procedure**

* **Emergency Action**: In the event of a medical emergency, immediately call 999.
* **On-Site Facilities**: Use on-site first aid facilities or assistance if available, while waiting for emergency services.
* **First Aid Kit Access**: A first aid kit is kept in the band van, ensuring basic medical supplies are close at hand.

**4. General Precautions**

* **Insurance**: The Stray Horns have £10 million public liability insurance, covering potential injuries or damages.
* **First Aid Trained Member**: At least one band member has basic first aid knowledge.
* **Periodic Reviews**: Review this protocol every 6 months or after any incident to ensure continued safety and effectiveness.

Here’s a risk assessment matrix for The Stray Horns, categorizing potential hazards by likelihood and severity to give a clear overview of risks and control measures:

### **Risk Assessment Matrix for The Stray Horns**

| **Hazard** | **Potential Risks** | **Likelihood** | **Severity** | **Risk Rating** | **Control Measures** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Crowded Environments** | Collisions, tripping, injury to band or public | Medium | Medium | Medium | Designate a lead navigator, maintain safe distance, and conduct a pre-performance walkthrough to identify potential hazards. |
| **Weather Conditions** | Slips, falls, instrument damage | Medium | Medium | Medium | Check forecasts, dress appropriately, cover instruments, avoid slippery surfaces. Delay performance if area becomes unsafe due to weather. |
| **Equipment Handling** | Strain injuries, equipment damage | Low | Medium | Low | Use proper lifting techniques, inspect cases and straps, assign a responsible member to manage safe transport and packing of instruments. |
| **Audience Interaction** | Public obstruction, accidental damage to instruments | Low | Medium | Low | Maintain a safe distance, communicate with the audience as needed, and have a plan for crowd control or emergency exits if necessary. |
| **Noise Levels** | Potential hearing issues for band and public | Low | Low | Low | Limited noise risk due to acoustic setup and moderate volume. Inform venues of acoustic volume to avoid sound level issues. |
| **Performance Duration** | Fatigue, dehydration | Low | Low | Low | Limit to max 45-minute sets, ensuring breaks are scheduled. Keep water accessible and encourage hydration. |
| **Medical Emergencies** | Injuries or sudden illness | Low | High | Medium | In emergencies, call 999. Utilize on-site facilities where possible. First aid kit available in band van, and ensure at least one member is first-aid trained. |
| **Trip Hazards (Cables/Props)** | Tripping, falls | Low | Medium | Low | Check performance area for hazards, secure cables and other items, keep paths clear for roaming band members. |
| **Exhaustion and Dehydration** | Physical strain during long or hot performances | Medium | Medium | Medium | Schedule regular breaks, encourage hydration, and monitor for signs of exhaustion. |

### **Risk Rating Key**

* **Low**: No immediate action needed beyond standard precautions.
* **Medium**: Control measures in place; periodic review.
* **High**: Immediate action required to mitigate risk.