

Assessment of:	Low Ropes, Mini Zip and Problem Solving		
Location:	Mount Cook	Date of assessment:	January 2024
Completed by:	Bernard Müller	Expiry Date:	February 2025
Ratio:	1:12 Max and Min 1 Group Leader	Staff Competencies	ERCA Low Ropes or In-house Trained and signed off by activity manager. Must have suitable group management experience.
Activities covered:	Low Ropes and Mini Zip, low level team challenges		

Hazard <i>(something with potential to cause harm)</i>	Risk <i>(How could hazard cause harm and to whom)</i>	Control Measures <i>(What is required to reduce risk)</i>	In place <i>(Y/N)</i>	Action Required	Action Owner	Residual Risk <i>(low / medium / high)</i>
Slips, Trips and Falls (Ground Level)	To Participant and Staff: Minor Bruising, cuts, abrasions. Head and spinal injuries.	Thorough pre-session inspection of the course and ground- particular care to ensure all trip hazards are removed and rabbit holes filled in. Helmets to be worn throughout session. Clear safety brief given to participants outlining boundaries and no running rule. Potential trip hazards such as guy lines highlighted during safety talk. Appropriate footwear to be worn.	Y	Activity Staff suitably trained & inducted Daily pre-use inspections	Activity manager Activity Staff	LOW

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Medium = Serious Injuries or significant health effects / There is a likelihood that harm may occur;

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Hazard	Risk	Control Measures	In place	Action Required	Action Owner	Residual Risk
Slips, Trips and Falls (From Height)	<p>To Participant and Staff: Bruising, cuts, abrasions, breaks and sprains. Head and spinal injuries.</p>	<p>Helmets to be worn throughout session.</p> <p>Clear spotting briefing at the start of the session. Participants must demonstrate good spotting technique to the instructor before being allowed to proceed.</p> <p>Participants must be spotted whenever they are off the ground.</p> <p>Participants encouraged to jump off the obstacles in a controlled manner as opposed to falling off.</p> <p>Instructor to actively spot where necessary.</p> <p>Participants climbing underside of cargo netting to be spotted by instructor only.</p> <p>Maximum of 1 active participant per element.</p> <p>Instructors to demonstrate and explain elements.</p> <p>Consider use of harness in combination with safety sling on mini-zip for younger participants, (junior school) those who struggle to support their own body weight or who appear to be top heavy.</p>	Y	Activity Staff suitably trained & inducted	Activity manager	LOW

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Equipment Failure	<p>To Participant and Staff:</p> <p>Bruising, cuts, abrasions, breaks and sprains. Head and spinal injuries.</p>	<p>Annual inspection by an independent ERCA Type A inspector.</p> <p>Quarterly Inspection by ERCA type C inspector.</p> <p>Before all sessions, instructors to check that all aspects of structure/ elements and components, are in working order</p> <p>Pre-use helmet inspection.</p> <p>CCTV in place to deter vandalism and signage in place</p>	Y	<p>Regular inspections logged</p> <p>Staff trained in both PPE inspection and Course Inspection</p>	<p>Activity manager</p> <p>Activity Staff</p>	LOW
Wood and wire rope splinters	<p>To Participant and Staff:</p> <p>Splinters</p>	<p>Regular inspection of the course and elements to reduce likelihood of splinters. Any splinters identified to be sanded down not pulled off.</p> <p>Participants briefed to only stand on wire ropes and never to pull on them.</p>	Y	Activity Staff suitably trained & inducted	Activity manager	LOW
Entrapment of Feet and Fingers	<p>To Participants:</p> <p>Bruising, cuts, abrasions, breaks and sprains, particularly to fingers and ankles.</p>	<p>Participants made aware of the potential dangers of touching/using chains and other connectors throughout the course.</p> <p>Participants shown the correct way to traverse tyres. Feet are not to be placed inside tyres. Instructors on hand to assist if feet become trapped.</p>	Y	Activity Staff suitably trained & inducted	Activity manager	LOW

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Lifting others and being lifted	<p>To Participants and Staff:</p> <p>Bruising, cuts, abrasions, breaks and sprains. Head and spinal injuries.</p>	<p>The wall activity is only to be done if the instructor is confident in their group's physical ability and control.</p> <p>Participants shown correct lifting technique (back straight against wall, bent knees, hand over palm and lift with legs.)</p> <p>Every group member to spot whilst doing the wall activity.</p> <p>Instructor to take an active role in the spotting of the wall exercise.</p> <p>Spotters reminded that their job is not complete until lifted person is on the platform safely.</p>	Y	Activity Staff suitably trained & inducted	Activity manager	LOW
Exposure to extreme weather – cold, wet, heat and sun.	<p>To Participants and staff:</p> <p>Hypothermia, frostbite, circulation problems, death.</p>	<p>Daily weather forecast obtained.</p> <p>Kit list sent to all groups in advance, so all participants have suitable footwear, clothing and equipment to match expected conditions.</p> <p>Activity is cancelled if conditions determined to be dangerous or degrade on session.</p> <p>Spare clothing (gloves, hats, coats) available close by. Sun cream if necessary.</p>	Y	Instructor to monitor group condition and ensure all individuals are appropriately dressed for the weather conditions.	Activity Staff	LOW
Rough edges on equipment/equipment failure	<p>To Participants and Staff:</p> <p>Cuts, splinters, bruises</p>	<p>Equipment checked before sessions. Clear instructor brief. Crates only picked up by handles. Any damaged equipment quarantined.</p>	Y	Clear briefing. Equipment checks before sessions.	Activity Staff	LOW

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Incorrect use of equipment	To Participants and Staff: Entanglement, cuts, bruises, sprains, twists, falls, head injury, eye injury.	Clear briefing by instructor on correct use. Leader supervising, preventing horse play.	Y	Clear briefing	Activity Staff	LOW
Falls from Crates/Stumps	To Participants: Breaks, Twists, Falls, Sprains	Clear brief from instructor. Activity site level. Staff trained to recognise the acceptable level of difficulty for a group.	Y	Clear briefing from instructor.	Activity Staff	LOW
Blind Folded activities	To Participants: Breaks, Twists, Falls, Sprains Eye infections	Pre-course checks for trip hazards and stable ground. Instructors supervising closely, preventing horse play. Challenge by choice is observed.	Y	Clear briefing from instructor. Blindfolds kept clean.	Activity Staff	LOW
Moving through woodland	To Participants and Staff: Slips, trips and falls, Eye damage, Lost child	Full safety brief activity staff, Buddy system for students, regular head counts, boundaries, no running. Head torches in low light, No climbing.	Y	Clear safety briefing, Head Counts	Activity Staff	LOW
Slips, Trips and Falls	To Participants and Staff: Breaks, Twists, Falls, Sprains	Close leader supervision during activities and rest periods. Suitable footwear will be worn by the young people. Activity site checked by Mount Cook staff before all sessions and hazards cleared.	Y	Briefing by activity instructor	Activity Staff and Participants	LOW
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Heavy/ Awkward lifting	To Participants and Staff: Manual handling injury, lifting and twisting, crushing injuries, breaks, concussion, head injury, eye injury.	Full safety brief from activity staff, Instruction on correct lifting techniques, participant ratios for shared lifting suitable to ability of group.	Y	Instructor instructions on correct lifting and equipment use technique.	Activity Staff	LOW
Poor light/visbaility	To Participants and Staff: Increased risk of slips trips and fall. Groups becoming separated from one another.	Full safety briefing and clear definite boundaries. Areas where activities are present will be lit, either with portable lighting or exterior fixed lights.	Y	Portable lighting charged prior to session and placed in most effective locations. Exterior fixed lighting turned on where required.	Activity Staff	LOW
Vehicles and Machinery	To Participants and Staff: Contact with Machinery, unsupervised machinery	Safety Brief at start of activity outlining potential hazards of car onsite. No vehicles permitted onsite (deliveries exempt) Speed limited onsite and intercom system prevents traffic through site.	Y	Clear staff briefing and boundaries.	Activity Staff	
Animal/Insect habitats	To Participants and Staff: Disturbing of habitats, Lime disease (Ticks) potential anaphylaxis, wasps/bees/mosquitoes	Pre-course checks for insect nests, any insect nests in or very close to activity area to be reported and removed or destroyed by suitable persons.	Y	First Aid kit, participant to keep medication close for those with allergies.	Participants and Mount Cook staff	LOW
Lack of Boundaries	To Participants: Missing participants. Unwanted public access	Buddy systems and regular head-checks. Brief on what to do if a student becomes lost. Clear markings of boundaries, fences and gates	Y	Boundaries in place. Monitoring of boundaries	Mount Cook staff	LOW
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Uneven Ground / Animal holes	To Participants and Staff: Breaks, Twists, Falls, Sprains	Animal holes identified, and filled in where necessary. Initial safety brief to highlight danger areas. No running rules enforced in woods Supervision at all times.	Y	Filling in any dangerous holes, removal of any dangerous stumps and roots	Mount Cook Staff	LOW
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Risk Assessment Checked by H&S or Line manager.

Name : Steve Turner CEO

Date : February 2024



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