

Assessment of:	High Ropes		
Location:	Mount Cook	Date of assessment:	Jan 2024
Completed by:	Bernie Mueller	Expiry Date:	Feb 2025
Ratio:	1:12 Max and Min 1 Group Leader	Staff Competencies	ERCA, Ta sign-off, RCI or Higher. Must have suitable group management experience.
Activities Covered:	Leap of Faith, Gladiator, Jacob's Ladder, Crate Stack, High All Aboard	Specific Emergency Procedure:	Should an incident occur in which immediate threat to life or limb occurs: Lower the casualty to the ground Give first aid Call for assistance. If no reply, send two runners to reception.

Hazard (something with the potential to cause harm)	Risk (how could the hazard cause harm, and who could it harm)	Control Measures (what is required to reduce the risk)	In Place (Y/N)	Action Required	Action Owner	Residual Risk (assuming all controls in place; Low, Med, High)
Lifting heavy loads (during set up)	To Staff: Risk of muscle injuries, strains and bruises.	Only carried out by staff trained in setup Use wheelbarrow for moving heavy loads long distances Work in pairs when possible.	Y Y Y	Staff undertake manual handling training.	Centre Mgr.	LOW

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Unauthorised access to course	To Unauthorised personnel: Physical injuries, fractures or death from falls from height.	Restrict access to Tower by locking use of ladder using, fencing, chains and warning signs. Remove ropes after session and do not leave unattended for long periods CCTV coverage on public access points Remove lower elements of tower to make access to the obstacle difficult.	Y Y Y Y	Lower elements of tower after use and lock away. Ropes not left up for long periods whilst not in use	Activity Mgr. Activity Instructors	LOW
Course structure vandalised or damaged – severe storms/winds/ earthquake	To staff, volunteers, participants, contractors: Physical injuries, fractures or death from falls from height.	Quarterly inspection ERCA Type A to EN 15567 Part 1. Annual inspection ERCA Type C to EN 15567 Part 1. Before all sessions instructors to check that all aspects of structure - elements and components, are in working order. Pre-Use checks completed daily. Course is not used if components damaged. Course not to be used during periods of high risk of lightning strikes.	Y Y Y Y	Annual inspection by external Type C qualified persons to be scheduled in by Activity Manager Pre-use checks to be completed	Activity Mgr. Activity Instructors	LOW

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Medical emergency	To All: Risk that someone may experience prolonged wait for medical attention. Resulting in long term complications, bleeding out, shock, and or death	All staff to be trained in basic first aid. Preferably Outdoor FA Portable first aid kit available Participants to bring their own medications to the session and carry them throughout if necessary Any pre-existing medical conditions to be declared in advance of activity being undertaken. Consent form signed. Instructors to be able to rescue participants quickly and effectively within 15 minutes.	Y Y Y Y	Staff training and competent to run session. Regular rescue drills.	ActivityMgr.	LOW

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Incorrectly fitted PPE	To All: Physical injuries, fractures or death from falls from height. Items falling from height causing impact injuries	Safety instructions given from staff at start. Harnesses and helmets to be fitted and adorned before leaving the main room. Constant vigilance by trained leaders. Harnesses and helmets to be rechecked immediately before climbing. Correct harnesses and helmets fitted for participant.	Y Y Y Y	Regular PPE checks during session.	Activity Mgr & Activity Instructors	LOW
Faulty Equipment	To All: Physical injuries, fractures or death from falls from height.	All equipment checked by trained leaders prior to use. Harnesses and helmets to be checks immediately before launch by instructor as part of final checks All faulty equipment to be condemned and quarantined to reduce chances of being brought back in circulation Quarterly thorough PPE Checks Stock of spare kits accessible on site	Y Y Y Y	Activity Mgr.to carry out monthly inspections of structure and log on Papertrail PPE checks to be logged on Papertrail	Activity Mgr.	LOW

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Falling from height – i.e. due to incorrectly attached equipment	To All: Physical injuries, fractures or death from falls from height.	Group size limited to max 12 participants Safety brief given to all participants in the activity. Only competent instructors to lead activity. Instructors to carry out 'Final checks' before climbing commences Staff monitored by senior instructor and signed off as competent before solo session.	Y Y Y Y	Log all equipment checks on papertrail Log all staff training and TA sign off's on Cinolla	Activity Mgr.	LOW
Inadequate supervision.	To Participants: Risk of minor injuries.	Ratio of leaders to participants controlled to effectively manage the group. Safety brief given to all participants taking part in the activity. Visiting adults to help supervise the group.	Y Y Y	Booking co-ordinators to inform group leaders of supervision requirements /ratio	Booking Co-ordinators	LOW
Items falling from height	To Participants, Volunteers, contractors and Staff: Items falling from height causing impact injuries	Safety brief outlines not to remove helmets whilst on the bark chippings and to go under the shelter if need to adjust helmet. Instructors to check helmets put back on correctly when return to activity. Regular refreshment breaks during session to schedule in helmet adjustment times.	Y Y Y	Vigilant activity staff	Activity Instructors	LOW

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Adverse weather conditions – Cold, wet, windy, Hot	To Participants, Volunteers, contractors and Staff: risk of heat stroke, sun burn, Hypothermia	Instructors to monitor weather conditions before and during session.	Y	Weather conditions monitored. Fleeces/ waterproofs issued to group as appropriate	Instructors	LOW
		kit list to be sent in advance of arrival with suitable clothing list.	Y			
		spare clothing in centre for those under-prepared participants.	Y			
		Sun cream to be available for everyone in the centre.	Y			
		Water available whilst on session in hot conditions.	Y			
Shelter near HR tower to provide refuge from heat and wind/cold conditions.	Y					
Hands slipping whilst holding metal wire	To All: Minor injury	Safety brief given to all participants of danger of holding the wire.	Y	Instructors to deliver safety brief	Activity Mgr.	LOW
		Instructors vigilant during the activity session	Y			
Rope slips through belay device	To Participants, Volunteers, contractors and Staff: Physical injuries, fractures or	Only trained staff lower participants down on belay device	Y	Staff training logged on Cinolla. PPE checks logged on papertrail	Activity Mgr.	LOW
		Instructors trained in house by senior instructors and signed off by TA.	Y			
		Ropes checked as part of the PPE checks to ensure no deformations or fraying which could compromise the integrity of the rope.	Y			

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	death from falls from height.	Belay device checked before session and logged in PPE checks for wear and tear.	Y			
Incorrect set-up of knots on rope	To Participants, Volunteers, contractors and Staff: Physical injuries, fractures or death from falls from height.	Only trained staff to set up ropes on course and tie knots. External TA to sign off staff competency Knots to be checked before activity begins.	Y Y Y	Staff training logged on Cinolla	Activity Mgr.	LOW
Heavy participants on leap of faith	To Staff and Participants: Risk of being lifted off floor, potentially resulting in participants descending rapidly and injury to both staff and participant	Human anchors used to add extra ballast where appropriate. Instructors trained to belay heavier participants safely. 100KG weight limit on leap of faith.	Y Y Y	Staff training logged on Cinolla	Activity Mgr.	LOW

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Climbing on the wrong side of the element	To Participants: Risk of getting tangled in ropes, unable to belay down to ground. Factor 2+ falls resulting in serious injury	Safety brief outlines the importance of not going on wrong side of apparatus. Instructors must remain vigilant during the session.	Y Y	Clear briefing	Activity Mgr. Activity Instructors	LOW
Splinters	To All: Risk of getting splinters whilst climbing on apparatus.	Hazard highlighted in safety brief to participants. Element checked for excessive splitting of the wood and recorded.	Y Y	Reports logged on Papertrail.	Activity Mgr.	LOW
Crates falling on-top of participants	To All: Risk of head injuries and injuries to limbs.	Group supervised at all times by instructor and group leader Strong foundation of 4 crates to be present at bottom of tower. 'Builders' to be given briefing of potential hazard and to Clear platform as per instructors command, especially when tower reaches unstable heights. Helmets must be worn during activity and checked to be fitted correctly at start Participants instructed not to throw crates.	Y Y Y Y Y	Instructors trained on safe delivery of activity.	Activity Mgr.	LOW

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Slips, trips and falls.	To All: Risk if slipping on wooden platform and on railway line on route. Physical injuries, fractures.	Group given safety brief and informed not to run to activity and stay off railway line. Wooden platform to be jet washed and treated for mould build up annually. When descending onto platform ensure it is clear of crates to avoid ankle injuries. Anchor points covered when not in use to avoid trip hazard.	Y Y Y Y	Clear briefing.	Instructors	LOW
Tangling of participant ropes	To Participants and instructors: Risk of ropes becoming damaged due to friction. Risk of spinning upon decent. Leading to impact injuries, broken limbs and head injuries.	Instructors to point out hazard, especially on Crate stack and High All Aboard. Instructors to be vigilant to hazard and take necessary steps to mitigate dangers.	Y Y	Clear briefing and vigilance by instructors.	Activity Mgr. Instructors	LOW

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Hard edge of ledge on leap of faith.	To All: risk of swinging back and hitting body against hard edge of ledge-leading to bruising, head injuries and spinal damage.	Instructors to point out hazard to participants and to give instructions on how to limit chances of impact. Weight limit on element to reduce chances of rapid swing back. Only experienced instructors to run leap of faith element. Additional padding on ledge to reduce chances of impact injuries.	Y	Training logged on Cinolla Regular course checks.	Activity Mgr.	LOW
			Y			
			Y			
			Y			
Sharp edges / broken or damaged plastic crates	To All: Risk of cuts, and crate collapse leading to fall injuries, head/spinal damage, bruising and cuts.	Crates checked for structural damage before and after session and removed from stock if found to be damaged. Participants instructed to not kick tower down. crates stored in shelter to protect from UV damage and other weathering.	Y	Inspection to be carried out by instructors prior to session and recorded	Activity Mgr.	LOW
			Y			
			Y			
Trapped fingers/ jewellery	To All: Risk of cuts and crush injuries to fingers.	Instructors to give instruction on how to belay safely	Y		Activity Mgr.	LOW
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		Instructors to ensure participants do not touch/use the belay device and keep fingers away from it whilst belaying. Rings removed or taped over to avoid risk of “degloving”	Y			
Falling to the ground in the first 2 meters.	To All: Minor and Major Injury, especially to ankles and lower back	Climbers should climb when the belayer is ready. Instructors and belayers to be very attentive and directive. Where difficulties are seen, work with the belayer. Ensure belayers keep rope tight, particularly in first 2 meters of climbing	Y Y Y	Clear briefing. Close supervision	Activity Mgr. Activity Instructors	LOW
Entanglement with the upper wires	To All: Risk of needing rescuing, minor injury.	Instructors give clear safety brief at start of activity. Ensure that all climbers know that they must not climb onto the last wooden spar	Y Y	Clear briefing. Close supervision	Activity Mgr and Instructors	LOW
Collision with bars (especially to the face) when being lowered	To All: Risk of minor injury	Instructors only to lower participants. Lower people slowly. Advise people being lowered of potential risks and ask them to fend off the bars with feet and hands	Y Y	Training for Instructors logged on Cinolla	Activity Mgr.	LOW

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Participant unable to wear helmet for religious reasons	To participant: Personal injury to self through impact or contact with stationary or falling objects.	Participants own headwear (Turban)	Y	Careful supervision.	Activity Mgr and Instructors	MED
		Activities with known risk of falling objects: Participant to be allocated to lower risk activities within session (eg Crate Stack belay rather than passing or removed at certain height)	Y	Participants briefed on potential risks.		
		Roped activities with a dynamic swing element to have careful belay management. Leap of faith- Extra care to be taken to prevent possible swings on elements	Y			
		Thorough brief by instructor to ensure participants understand the content of activity before climbing begins.	Y			
		Instructor to dynamically risk assess group's behaviour and weather conditions, adapting the session or stopping it if deemed unsafe.	Y			

Risk Assessment Checked by H&S or Line manager.

Name : Steve Turner CEO

Date : 5th February 2024



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