

# Whiteley Woods OAC



## Risk Assessment –Cave Pod

Date September 2024

Potential Hazard	Who is at Risk	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating	Preventative Measures
Bumps / trips / scrapes and falls	Participants, Staff, Guests	2	1	2 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brief participants about activity.</li> <li>- Ensure participants are wearing helmets.</li> <li>- Brief participants on how to exit the cave and how best to perform moves whilst in there.</li> <li>- Cave access doors to be inspected by instructor / leader.</li> <li>- Cave Pod to be inspected on a 12 monthly basis by cave Pod staff.</li> </ul>
Safety equipment and clothing	Participants, Staff, Guests	1	2	2 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Do not let participants to take part if correctly fitting equipment is not worn.</li> <li>- Do not let participants to take part in clothing that may restrict their movements.</li> <li>- Ask participants to remove jewellery / tape up any belly button piercing</li> <li>- Equipment should be regularly checked and any faulty equipment should be reported to warden / office as soon as possible and not used.</li> </ul>
Light failure	Participants, Staff	1	2	2 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brief participants not to worry if the lights fail / encourage buddy system so participants assist and encourage each other.</li> <li>- Participants to be told that if they are worried, they should shout for help and an instructor / leader will open access to assist.</li> <li>- Leaders / instructors to have spare light / torch.</li> </ul>
Entrapment	Participants	1	2	2 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Instructor / leader to open all hatches.</li> <li>- Use available torches to light up passage and allow participant to see around them.</li> <li>- Assist and talk participants into freeing themselves.</li> <li>- In extreme circumstances assist in freeing participant through pushing / pulling (where appropriate).</li> <li>- Assist all other participants to exist the cave where appropriate.</li> </ul>

# Whiteley Woods OAC



Panic	Participants / instructors	1	2	2 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brief participants not to panic, to ask for help and describe where they are in the cave.</li> <li>- Instructor / leader to open nearest emergency hatch / door and assist participant to exit.</li> </ul>
Prohibited Items	Participants / instructors	1	2	2 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participants not to take in mobile phone / lighters or matches into the cave.</li> </ul>
Unauthorised access	Participants, Staff, Guests	1	2	2 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pod to be locked at all times except for when it is being used by a group.</li> </ul>
Existing medical condition	Participants	2	3	6 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leaders to ensure the appropriate health &amp; parental consent forms are used.</li> <li>- Ensure necessary medication available if needed.</li> <li>- Ensure all leaders are aware of the OAC's accident/emergency procedures.</li> <li>- Group to have access to a mobile phone.</li> </ul>

## Operating Notes:

Where an activity specifies that a helmet must be worn, every effort must be made to get participants to wear one. However, this may present difficulties for those who wear a turban or other similar head covering. Participants in this activity who are wearing a full 'pagri' turban are exempt from wearing a helmet, as the turban should control sufficiently the risks that the helmet would otherwise guard against. This exemption does not apply to participants who are wearing a 'patka' or lighter cloth head covering, with or without a top-knot. These individuals must wear a helmet, and provision should be made for a private area where these participants can remove or adjust their patka in order to fit the helmet. Where a turban is worn in place of a helmet, special care must be taken to ensure that there is no risk of any loose cloth getting entangled in equipment or apparatus.

Signed: .....

On behalf of: .....

Date: .....

## Whiteley Woods OAC

Likelihood of Occurrence	Severity of Outcome				
	1 Negligible	2 Slight	3 Moderate	4 Severe	5 Very Severe
1 Very Unlikely	LOW (1)	LOW (2)	LOW (3)	LOW (4)	LOW (5)
2 Unlikely	LOW (2)	LOW (4)	LOW (6)	MEDIUM (8)	MEDIUM (10)
3 Possible	LOW (3)	LOW (6)	MEDIUM (9)	HIGH (12)	HIGH (15)
4 Probable	LOW (4)	MEDIUM (8)	HIGH (12)	HIGH (16)	HIGH (20)
5 Very Likely	LOW (5)	MEDIUM (10)	HIGH (15)	HIGH (20)	HIGH (25)

**Likelihood of occurrence X Severity of outcome = Risk Rating**

Example:

Likelihood (possible 3) X Severity (Moderate 3) = Risk Rating (Medium 9)