

Risk Assessment – Tree Climb

Date: September 2024

Potential Hazard	Who is at Risk	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating	Preventative Measures
Slips, trips & falls	Participants, guests, staff	3	1	3 LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activity area to be monitored by centre with regular maintenance to keep area clear and safe - Activity assessed by group leader prior to taking part to be suitable for the age of group etc - Safety briefing to be given to participants - Leaders must be vigilant and maintain good group control (inappropriate behaviour must not be tolerated and participants to be removed from activity) - Appropriate footwear to be worn which is securely attached to the feet & covers toes (wellies, flip-flops etc not permitted) - Group to take extra care when stepping around equipment with spare ropes to be tied off correctly & tidied away when not in use
Being hit by falling objects	Participants, Staff, Guests	2	1	2 LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helmets must be worn correctly as per the manufacturer's guidelines by all persons within the designated area. This area will be set out by instructors at start of a session - Activity to be suspended during high winds - Instructor to check participants helmets before starting activity - Participants to be briefed on safety including removal of helmets - Behaviour monitored & managed appropriately, vigilance of all staff during activity (groups should have a leader with them at all times) - Participants must have empty pockets before ascending - Participants waiting to climb should wait in clearly marked designated area set out by the instructor until their turn
Adverse Weather – Lightning & high winds	Participants, Staff, Guests	2	4	8 MEDIUM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If lightning occurs suddenly then the group should vacate the area immediately - During high winds the activity will be cancelled to prevent injury from falling branches.

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After heavy rain if ground is too muddy for young people to safely stand and use Belay equipment session to be called off
Incorrect Belay set up	Participants, Staff	1	4	4 LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All instructors to either have SPA, RCI or higher or have in house training and be signed off by the MIA qualified technical advisor - Instructor must read and sign the SOP at the start of each season. - Instructor must check Belay set up before use & again before each participant – faulty equipment to be labelled and put in the isolation box in the shed and then checked by someone else
Entrapment	Participants	2	2	4 LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brief and check participants have tucked away and secured the loose section of the harness in the plastic clip - Brief and check participants have tucked away and secured any loose or baggy clothing - Brief and check participants have removed any large or dangly jewellery - Brief and check participants have tied back / secured long hair - The activity instructor must check themselves for the above as well
Unsecure attachment to safety rope or incorrectly fitted harness	Participants	1	4	4 LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sit harnesses are to be correctly fitted (waist loop tight above the hips & leg loops tight). - Check the active participants PPE & roped attachments twice; when attaching the safety rope and before the climber is allowed to leave the ground.
Impact with ground or other obstacles	Participants	2	2	4 LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rope to be snug to the climber whilst they ascend and the instructor to Belay or be within touching distance of both ropes while participant Belays. - The Belayers must always hold the dead rope as a break to help with descent - Lower participant at an appropriately slow pace making sure they don't hit the ladder on the way down

Unauthorised access	Participants, Staff, Guests	1	4	4 LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to roped activity structures must be secured against casual or unauthorised access when not in use for extended periods. Gate to activity area locked when access is not required - On arrival group informed of areas that are out of bounds
Existing medical condition	Participants	2	3	6 LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leaders to ensure the appropriate health & parental consent forms are used. - Ensure necessary medication available if needed. - Ensure all leaders are aware of the OAC's accident/emergency procedures. - Group to have access to a mobile phone.
Equipment failure	Participants	1	5	5 LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All equipment to be routinely checked by centre staff, with logbooks kept up to date in the office - Instructors to complete a visual pre-session inspection before all sessions, including all equipment being used as well as the site (including tree, wires, ladder, etc.) - Instructors should report any equipment that they have concerns with immediately to the duty manager, and isolate the equipment (session should not take place unless there is a suitable replacement piece of equipment)

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:

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)