

Site Premises Risk Assessment

Boyd Campsite & Activity Centre



Name of Activity	Climbing Wall - Operation	Date of Risk Assessment	26.2.22	Name of who undertook this Risk Assessment	Tracey Murrell John Gibson Graham Thorpe
		Date of Next Review			

Hazard Identified? / Risks from It?	Who is at Risk?	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
<i>Hazard – something that may cause harm or damage. Risk – the chance of it happening.</i>	<i>Young people Leaders Visitors?</i>	<i>Controls – Ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk from it. For example - you might use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way the activity is carried out.</i>	<i>Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change it...or even stop it! This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.</i>
Incorrect raising of wall -Risk of toppling -Risk of wall collapse / failure	Participants, Instructors, spectators	Ensure all critical tower function elements are inspected daily prior to use:- -Ensure each of the two ram overflow reservoirs for each auto-belay cable system is empty of fluid / oil as this could indicate a bleed from the harness ram system. IF FLUID / OIL PRESENT DO NOT USE THE RESPECTIVE AUTO-BELAY CABLE STSTEM -Ensure each harness cable hydraulic gauge indicates 80-90 (as this is equivalent of holding weight of 23 stone). -Ensure each of the wall assistor rams have pins in place with retaining clips and no damage is visible -For each of the auto-belay cables, pull until stops are reached for a total of 10 times, to flush air air out of the system -Ensure each auto-belay cable is fitted with a recovery rope and released, to ensure full range of cable movement	Note – if any of the listed items do not comply. Do not use tower and contact a trained set up instructor.

Additional information can be found in the Safety Checklist for Leaders and other information at scouts.org.uk/safety

HQ Template Published June 2020



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		-Ensure the tower has a slight lean forward (best observed from the RHS of tower) to ensure participants does not hit the tower upon descent.	
Impact with ground upon decent -Risk of Leg injury	Participant, instructor	Ensure crash mats are in place prior to use	
Descending climber onto spectator -Risk of general injury	Participant, instructor	Ensure no spectators are no the mat whilst climbing tower is in use. Instructors to be mindful of descending climbers to ensure they are not in the path of decent of the climber	
Inadequate supervision of activity -Risk of general injury	Participants, Instructors	Ensure TWO trained instructors are present at all times *One to supervise harness fitting *Once to supervise auto-belay operation Ensure each instructor is wearing a herness before commencing the session (in case rescue of participant is required)	
Falling equipment or personal belongings whilst climbing the wall -injury from falling items	Participants, spectators	Ensure all participants do not carry anything in pockets that could fall out onto waiting climbers or spectators. No helmets required by climbers due to entrapment issue	
Incorrectly fitting harness system -Risk of falling -Risk of equipment failure -Risk of participant panic	Participants, Instructors	Ensure suitably sized harnesses are given to the participant and that they are correctly worn. When done up, the participant should NOT be able to pass a fist down the front of the harness. Leg loops should be close fitting	Note – Full body harnesses are available for smaller children Note – Harnesses should be inspected every 90 days and recorded in the Operations manual. If a harness does not have an up to date record - do not use
Incorrectly fitting / tightening of harness -Risk of snagging on hand holds	Participant	Ensure each participants harnesses are checked by the instructor prior to use.	

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		Ensure excess harness webbing is fed into retaining loops and if required lopped back and forth through the loop to reduce the amount of freely hanging webbing	
Snagging of loose items / hair -Risk of entanglement -Risk of strangulation -Risk of tower impact	Participants, Instructors	Ensure loose clothing is tucked in Ensure long hair is tied back All jewellery and watches that potentially could snag on a climbing hand hold should be removed Neckers should be removed or tucked into clothing	Removed jewellery / watches should be given to the leader / organiser present and not the instructor. Boyd Activity centre will not be held accountable for damage or loss of valuables during the activity
Improper usage of climbing tower -Risk of falling -Risk of collision injury with tower	Participants, Instructors	-Ensure each participant is given a safety brief on the correct usage of the climbing tower and expected conduct required. Ensure all participants understand the need not to tamper or unattach the carabiner clip from the harness during climbing. Ensure Safety Rules sign is displayed during the activity	If poor behaviour issues are identified, the participant will be removed from the activity, and upon the discretion of the instructor may not be allowed to continue
Collision with climbing wall and/or ground on descent -Collision impact injury to any part of body	Participants, Instructors, spectators	Ensure correct climbing methods and let participants have the chance to understand how Auto belay system works in relation to their climb. Ensure safety matting in the climbing zone, and ensure spectators and instructors do not pass underneath a participant climbing	
Exposed arms / legs -Risk of limb abrasion on handholds	Participants, Instructors	Long sleeves should be worn by participants & instructors Shorts should not be worn by participants & instructors Open toed shoes must not be worn by participants & instructors	
Failure of Auto-belay to allow decent -Risk of panic	Participants	If auto-belay does not decent, check if object has become jammed in belay mechanism. Implement rescue protocols as per the Operating manual For younger / lighter children, attach a secondary lone to the harness so that the instructor can aid decent	

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Participant unable to descend due to anxiety / fear - of panic	Participants	Ensure participants are shown the auto-belay operation especially the rate of descent. If participant is unable to descend, Instructor to initially try to talk them down. If this is not successful, instructor may need to climb up to the participant and descend together.	
Injury when dealing with rescue scenarios -Entrapment, arm injuries, slipping & tripping	Participants, Instructors	-Ensure all emergency climber recovery procedures are explained clearly through training and practiced at regular intervals. -Have emergency plan in place for frozen/jammed Auto belay	
Unsuitable weather – high winds, lightening, storms, freezing temps and very hot weather. -Injury due to collision, -Weather exposure	Participants, Instructors	Training to cease in winds of 25mph or higher, or is storm or lightening approaches. Anemometer available for use in harness box. If weather is too cold for hands to work correctly cease activity If weather is too hot, monitor dehydration, sunburn heat stroke, lack of concentration etc Indoors also consider adequate light, ventilation, extreme temperatures. Ensure appropriate breaks	Use of weather apps to be used if required
Exposed mechanical parts -Risk of entanglement	Participants, Spectators	Area behind tower should be cordoned off to prohibit unauthorised access. Only trained instructors should need to go behind the tower (for pre use checks etc..)	
Incorrect climbing technique (use of tower edge) -Risk of cuts from exposed fibreglass & exposed bolts	Participants, Instructors,	Ensure all participants are instructed to use the hand holds for climbing and not the edge of the tower itself.	
Review:			