

Risk & Operational Assessment Activities / Climbing

Next Review: Dec 2025

Centre: Whitemoor Lakes	Assessed By: Nicola Whiting (Chief instructor) Robin Jones (Senior Instructor) Chris Browning (senior instructor) Luke Austin (Senior Instructor) Alex Jones (Senior Instructor)	ASSESSED	ASSESSED	Dec 2024	
		May 2013	Nov 2018		
		Nov 2013	Nov 2019		
		Nov 2014	April 2021		
		Nov 2015	April 2022		
		Nov 2016	June 2022		
		Nov 2017	Dec 2023		

Overview: Carried out on a purpose built tower supplied and erected by JM Adventure. A Rock climbing instructor RCI qualified Chief Instructor has overall responsibility. All other instructors hold NGB qualifications (RCI or CWI or ERCA instructor) and/or have been in-house trained using NGB recognized techniques. An examination is completed on each staff member by the Technical Advisor and/or Chief Instructor. This process is periodically checked and validated by the independent Technical Advisor. Staffing Ratio 1:12+1 (maximum 2 off ground) or 1:16 (under exceptional circumstances with consent from the client)

STEP ONE	STEP TWO	STEP THREE	STEP FOUR	STEP FIVE
List significant hazards here:	List groups of people who are at risk from the hazards you have identified:	List the Control Measures for the identified risks:	Identify any residual risk remaining after the control measures have been put in place:	Identify any benefits that may result from exposure to the perceived and residual risk for participants:
Falling from height	Instructors Guests Staff	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start. Safe Working practice Session guide Personal Protective Equipment Group leader responsibilities RCI/CWI/ERCA training and/or in House Training Emergency procedures First aider always present First aid & near miss forms No crop-tops, short shorts and no open-toed sandals to be worn.	Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	Exposure to Heights has proven personal developmental benefits, as well as been part of a group belaying.

Structural failure	Instructors Guests Staff	Regular inspections carried out by qualified external inspector and remedial work to installation and equipment carried out whenever required.	Some elements have ladders and/or staples.	Equipment could be completely fenced off and locked or access to outside areas could be refused however this would have a negative aesthetic impact on the environment and prevent use of outside areas for recreation.
Falling objects	Instructors Guests Staff	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start.	Some may not take items out of their pockets. Shoes may become loose when climbing.	
Equipment Failure	Instructors Guests Staff	All staff trained to use suitable belay device and set ups according to NGB standards. Equipment safety checks Equipment decommissioning policy.	Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	
Peer belaying	Instructors Guests Staff	All staff trained to use suitable belay device according to NGB standards. In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start.	Instructors' attention diverted while group belaying	The group will feel a sense of responsibility for looking after each other's safety. Handling ropes teaches responsibility and encourages involvement. Teaches responsibility and trust to groups
Rope burns	Instructors Guests Staff	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start.	Small risk of rope burn. Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	Handling ropes teaches responsibility and encourages involvement
Unauthorized climbing on equipment	Guests Staff Public	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start. Ladders locked up when not in use. Fences surround the course. No access" signs, fences, and gates at base of towers. Tower locked when not in use. Staff use authorisation procedure.	Safety rules might not be adhered to. Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	

Weather (High Winds, lightening, extreme temperatures)	Instructors Guests Staff	Activity cancelled or curtailed during lightning or extreme winds.	Negative effects of weather on individuals can never be fully removed.	Exposure to cold and inclement weather has proven positive developmental effects and teaches people about their limitations.
Trips over tracers	Instructors Guests Staff	Tracers to be coiled and hung up over/on the fence posts	Safety rules might not be adhered to. Wind may blow it off. Guests may play/move the tracer	
Hitting Girder inside Tower and Swing outside of the tower	Instructors, Staff Guests	Guests given route which will reduce swing.	Risk still posed to individuals not following instruction and route.	Teaches responsibility and trust to groups.