

# Risk & Operational Assessment Activities / High Ropes (Leap of Faith, Traverse, Gladiator, High All Aboard and Seesaw)

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	ASSESSED	ASSESSED
		May 2013	Nov 2019	Sept 2024	
		Nov 2013	April 2021	Dec 2024	
		Nov 2014	June 2022		
		Nov 2015	April 2023		
		Nov 2016	Dec 2023		
		Nov 2017	Mar 2024		
		Nov 2018	June 2024		

Overview: Carried out on a purpose-built structure supplied and erected by JM Adventure. A Rock-climbing instructor (RCI) & ERCA rescuer qualified Chief has overall responsibility. All other instructors hold NGB qualifications (RCI, 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. Ratio 1:12+1, when using one element, 2:12+1 if using two for more elements in a session or 3:24 (under special circumstances) or 2:16 (under exceptional circumstances) with consent from the group leader)

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-	Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	Exposure to Heights has proven personal developmental benefits, as well as been part of a group belaying.

		toed sandals to be worn.		
<b>Structural failure</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	Regular inspections carried out by qualified 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.
<b>Falling objects</b>	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.	
<b>Equipment Failure</b>	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.	
<b>Tangled in ropes or devices</b>	Guests	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 Hair to be tied back Fingers to be kept away from devices.	Safety rules might not be adhered to. Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	
<b>Misuse of equipment</b>	Instructors Staff Guests	All staff trained to use suitable belay device according to NGB standards. Ladders locked up when not in use Fences surround the course	Misuse of equipment deliberately by participants. Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	

<b>Peer belaying</b>	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
<b>Rope burns</b>	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
<b>Unauthorized climbing on equipment</b>	Guests Staff Public	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start. Ladders locked up when not in use Fences surround the course Staff use authorisation procedure Safety signs	Safety rules might not be adhered to. Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	
<b>Weather (High Winds, lightning and extreme temperatures)</b>	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.
<b>Helmet caught on equipment on lowering</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	Participants must be facing the equipment, especially on Gladiator to prevent the helmet getting caught on the equipment and causing asphyxiation/hypoxia.	Behaviour of participant or staff not following procedure	
<b>CRATE CHALLENGE Falling crates</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start.	Safety rules might not be adhered to.	
<b>ALL-ABOARD Trapped fingers</b>	Guests Staff	In-depth, activity specific, safety talk given prior to start.	Safety rules might not be adhered to.	

<b>Collision with equipment/structure when lowered or slip off the ropes course</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	Safety brief to include protecting oneself when been lowered as to prevent a collision with the elements	Swinging off/ jumping off at an awkward angle. Unexpected slip.	With the inherent risks associated with adventurous activities, bumps and bruises do happen, but we reduce risk where possible.
<b>Trips over tracers</b>	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	
<b>Racing to complete the task on the elements</b>	Instructors Guests Staff	Participants are reminded that it is not a race, and to take their time safely to enjoy the element they are using. Then reminded while using the equipment.	Participants may become excited and forget. Instructors may not be able to keep up with the belaying, and their focus is on the belaying and not asking the participant to slow down.	With the inherent risks associated with adventurous activities, bumps and bruises do happen, but we reduce risk where possible.