


<b>Location:</b>	Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre	<b>Date of Assessment:</b>	1/4/10	<b>Last Reviewed:</b> March 2021	<b>Name of Assessor:</b>	Chris Murnin
<b>Activity:</b>	Abseiling, Climbing and High Ropes	<b>Assessment Reference Number:</b>	4.1		<b>Signature of Assessor:</b>	

<b>HAZARD</b>	<b>CONTROL MEASURES</b>
Falling from height	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All staff and participants at height to wear the correct harness and helmet for the activity.</li> <li>▪ All staff and participants at height to be belayed throughout their activity unless secured to a safety line at the top of the tower or connected into the Aerial Trekking, Powerfan or Zipline systems.</li> <li>▪ A qualified LOPC Instructor will manage all belaying as per training and qualification.</li> <li>▪ Barrier chain at the top of the stairs must be in place when there is no one managing the top step.</li> <li>▪ Barrier chains at Abseiling, Aerial Trekking, Zipline and Powerfan points must be in place when activity is not in use.</li> <li>▪ Staff to warn participants against pulling down on their rope to aid their ascent.</li> <li>▪ Staff supervision and reinforcement throughout.</li> <li>▪ If participants are at high risk of unclipping themselves, they must be tied into the safety system</li> </ul>
Hitting head or danger from falling objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All participants and staff must wear helmets at all times when inside the wooden fenced high ropes area or anywhere under the Zipline.</li> <li>▪ All participants to ensure their pockets are empty, or zipped up.</li> <li>▪ Shoes must be adequately secured to feet.</li> <li>▪ All equipment at height to be securely attached.</li> <li>▪ All fixed equipment to be regularly checked (quarterly).</li> <li>▪ People should be made aware of what may be going on above them.</li> <li>▪ Staff supervision and reinforcement throughout.</li> </ul>
Structure failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Weekly and quarterly checks to be completed and recorded.</li> <li>▪ Annual inspection by an ERCA approved ropes course engineer to be carried out.</li> <li>▪ If there is any suspicion regarding the structural integrity or there is observation of structural damage then an inspection by an ERCA approved ropes course engineer must happen before any further use.</li> </ul>
Equipment failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All equipment checked prior to use. Any equipment found to be damaged or suspect to be withdrawn from use until repaired or scrapped.</li> <li>▪ All equipment to be used in line with training.</li> <li>▪ All equipment to conform to relevant standards (UIAA or CE).</li> <li>▪ Regular checks, replacement (as per replacement schedule) and maintenance of equipment to be carried out. Periodical checks must be recorded.</li> <li>▪ All belay systems to include the ground anchors and belayer.</li> <li>▪ Fixed equipment to be checked and maintained as per manufacturer's recommendations.</li> </ul>
Ground anchors failing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Anchors are appropriately safety rated.</li> <li>▪ The anchors are to be used as part of a system which must also include a person belaying.</li> </ul>
Failure of belay system and operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ On descent the rope must be tailed by the Instructor unless the Instructor holds CWA, SPA or higher.</li> <li>▪ Only recognised belay systems must be used as identified in the LOPC Highropes Manual</li> <li>▪ Close supervision of novices.</li> </ul>
Ill-fitting equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All participants to have their personal protection equipment checked by staff prior to beginning the session.</li> <li>▪ Staff to explain the importance of correctly fitting equipment, and for participants to identify any issues for a member of LOPC staff to rectify.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Staff vigilance to ensure that equipment remains correctly fitted throughout the session.</li> <li>▪ When tying in, the loop on the figure of eight knot must be appropriate to the fit of the harness(es).</li> </ul>
Mis-use of equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All participants are shown how to use the equipment in a safe, controlled environment before being allowed on the course.</li> <li>▪ Participants must be briefed not to use lead climbing bolts as hand holds.</li> <li>▪ Staff supervision and reinforcement throughout.</li> </ul>
Entrapment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Long hair to be tied up, jewellery to be removed.</li> <li>▪ Loose clothing to be tucked in</li> <li>▪ Participants made aware of hazard and Instructors to monitor.</li> <li>▪ Ensure participants do not cross their belay ropes.</li> <li>▪ Ensure unused ropes and tracers are stored neatly out of the way.</li> <li>▪ Participants must be briefed not to use lead climbing bolts as hand holds.</li> <li>▪ Staff supervision and reinforcement throughout.</li> </ul>
Ladders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reference must be made to the specifications mentioned in the ladder risk assessment ref. 4.33.</li> <li>▪ Ladders to be used in accordance with LOPC working at height guidelines.</li> </ul>
Medical emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All participants to complete relevant consent form.</li> <li>▪ People with heart conditions or using heart medication must make a member of staff aware.</li> <li>▪ People with asthma must show inhalers before activity.</li> <li>▪ Participants to bring their own medications to the location with them.</li> <li>▪ First aid kit to be readily available.</li> <li>▪ Staff to carry a mobile phone with them.</li> <li>▪ Staff to be competent at emergency rescues.</li> </ul>
Unauthorised access and use of off ground sections of facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All climbing ropes to be removed at the end of the day and all tracer lines to be secured out of reach.</li> <li>▪ Climbing wall tarpaulin covers to be replaced at the end of each day.</li> <li>▪ Ladders removed to secure storage at the end of the day.</li> <li>▪ Jacob's Ladder beams to be removed to secure storage at the end of the day.</li> <li>▪ Inclined beam to be returned to its elevated position at the end of the day.</li> <li>▪ Crates to be securely locked in compound.</li> <li>▪ Gates and doors to be locked when the high ropes course is not in use.</li> <li>▪ Suitable signage on display warning about the danger of unauthorised use.</li> </ul>
Fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ People to be evacuated from the Tower and assemble at Fire Assembly Point.</li> <li>▪ Fire Service to be called immediately.</li> <li>▪ Electricity supply to be turned off at the foot of the tower stairs if practical.</li> </ul>
Further risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All risks should be minimised by continual appraisal of participant's condition, the environment and equipment through dynamic risk assessment by the staff members involved.</li> <li>▪ Some risks remain due to the nature of the activity but every care must be taken to minimise these</li> </ul>
<b>Crate Stacking</b>	
Falling crates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Belay points to be chosen well away from the area of collapse if possible.</li> <li>▪ Instructors to influence the design of tower to enable prevention and recognition of tower falling.</li> <li>▪ Other participants to be kept at a safe distance from collapsing tower.</li> <li>▪ Instructors to warn participants to move away if tower is about to collapse.</li> <li>▪ Manual handling of crates to be supervised by the Instructor.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants advised not to try to catch falling crates.</li> </ul>
Lowering participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants and ropes must be untangled from each other before being lowered.</li> <li>Landing area must be clear of crates before lowering participants.</li> </ul>
<b>Leap of Faith</b>	
Collision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants and ropes must be untangled from each other before lowering.</li> <li>Only once the participants have stopped swinging, are they to be lowered to the ground.</li> </ul>
<b>Inclined Beam</b>	
Powerfan safety area post	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post only to be in place if Powerfan session is running.</li> </ul>
Hoist chain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hoist chain to either be removed or secured high around the pole whilst the activity is in progress.</li> </ul>
<b>Jacob's Ladder</b>	
Splinters from cables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During activity briefing staff to warn group not to hold cables.</li> </ul>
<b>Zipline</b>	
Entrapment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructors to be aware of the hazard of body parts coming close to the trolley.</li> <li>Participants advised to hold on to the rope in front of them if they wish to hold something.</li> <li>Just before participants jump, Instructor to check participants are not entangled in other ropes before removing their safety line.</li> </ul>
Collision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top Instructor to not release safety line until they can see the Zipline is clear, or have been given a signal from the Ground Instructor.</li> <li>Ground Instructor to manage the area and only signal when all obstructions are clear.</li> </ul>
Falling from height	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructor must ensure the RIG rope is tight before removing the safety line.</li> <li>Ground Instructors must ensure a good grip of the rope once it has been dropped by the participant.</li> <li>Instructors to issue clear briefing and instructions before and during the activity.</li> <li>Participants to be told only to climb up 2 flights of stairs and wait for the Instructor to call them up the last flight 1 at a time.</li> </ul>
<b>Abseiling</b>	
Falling from height	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants to be secured to an abseil rope and a safety rope belayed from the top. The safety rope must be attached before their safety line is removed.</li> <li>When abseiling through the hatch all participants must be clear of the hatch at all times until they are called forward by the Instructor for their turn.</li> </ul>
Entrapment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The abseil to be set up as trained. This must be releasable to allow for lowering in the case of emergencies.</li> </ul>
Items dropped from top of tower	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abseilers must wait in the designated waiting area when they are on the ground and they must be informed of how to react if the warning "Below" is shouted by the instructor.</li> <li>All equipment at height to be securely attached.</li> <li>Staff supervision and reinforcement throughout.</li> </ul>
<b>Powerfan</b>	
Falling from height	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum weight of 16stone fully clothed.</li> <li>Instructors to explain to clients to land with both feet together.</li> </ul>
Collision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure participants step clear of the take off platform.</li> <li>Instructor must visually check the area before allowing a participant to leave the platform.</li> <li>The drop zone area must be marked off to ensure that participants do not collide with people on the ground.</li> <li>A second responsible person can be used to manage the landing area if necessary.</li> </ul>
Equipment failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Powerfan is inspected daily before each use.</li> </ul>

