

# Beaunesert Outdoor Activity Centre

## Climbing & High Ropes Risk Assessment

Climbing Wall; Monkey Trees; Crate Stacking; Jacobs Ladder; Eliminator

<b>What are the hazards?</b> What can cause harm?	<b>Who might be harmed</b>	<b>What are you already doing?</b> What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	<b>Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?</b> By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
		See 'Generic Activity Risk Assessment' See 'Generic Off Ground Risk Assessment'	

### Risks we think are generic to Climbing & High Ropes

<b>What are the hazards?</b> What can cause harm?	<b>Who might be harmed and how?</b>	<b>What are you already doing?</b> What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	<b>Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?</b> By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
Harness or body part getting caught in on the element when lowering, or in the case of crate stacking ropes getting twisted so lowering cannot happened.	Participants & Instructor	Instructor to lower the guest slowly and when appropriate ask the guest to push of the wall or high ropes element. Ropes should not be twisted.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>

Rig Misuse/Rapid Decent – Causing client to hit to floor	Participants	Instructor controls the decent. Brief the group at the start of the session not to touch any metalwork unless otherwise told.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Rope Burns	Participants & Instructor	Instructor controls the decent. Group told to let go of the rope whilst the instructor descends the client.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Belaying Failure – Causing client to fall and hit the floor	Participants	Instructors teach and supervise belaying. All ropes must be tailed by the qualified instructor when in use.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Miss-use of Equipment	Site users and members of the public	Warning signs in place. Ladders taken down when sessions not in use or instructors not present. Elements rungs taken down when sessions not in use or instructors not present.	<b>Trivial</b> <b>If controls are followed</b>
Clipping into gear loop/incorrect loop – Causing client to fall and hit the floor	Participants	Instructor to complete final departure checks before the participants leave the ground.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed.</i>

## Risks we think are specific to our Climbing Wall

<b>What are the hazards?</b> What can cause harm?	<b>Who might be harmed and how?</b>	<b>What are you already doing?</b> What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	<b>Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?</b> By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
Moving/spinning hold leading to a fall.	Participants & Instructor	Visual inspection done and tightened where required. Wall to be periodically inspected by a suitable person.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Entrapment on holds.	Participants	Harnesses to be tightened and checked prior to climb. No loose loops on the harness. Qualified instructor controls the decent and fully briefs the group on the correct way to descend.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>

## Risks we think are specific to our Crate Stacking

What are the hazards? What can cause harm?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing? What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk? By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
Injuries from contact with the equipment & Injuries from falling objects/crates	Participants & Instructor	UIAA approved helmets provided, group fully briefed of hazards. Group should plan and maintain a clear escape route to avoid falling crates. Both climbing clients to be closely observed, and instructed, to avoid collision injury. Brief the group to ensure they do not hold crates steady for the climbers as they may collapse on top of them. Instructor to limit number of participants in stacking area.	<b>Tolerable</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Falling from crates when tower is small resulting in heavy contact with ground	Participants & Instructor	Safety rope kept tight, semi-static rope used to minimise stretch, qualified instructor controlling session. A stable structure of crates has been made to reduce the chance of falling to the ground. A staggered start to be used to ensure slack is efficiently taken up whilst low to the ground.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Crates breaking causing debris and entrapment issues.	Participants & Instructor	Crates checked regularly. Any broken crates are to be decommissioned. Crates are to be stacked so they fit on top of each other and are slotted together.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>If controls are followed</i>
Skin/fingers getting caught in-between crates causing entrapment injuries	Participants	Brief the group about the risk and make sure the 'climber' does not stand up on the crates until the 'stacker' is no longer touching them. 'Stackers' should hold the crates at the side rather than underneath or on top.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>If controls are followed</i>

## Risks we think are specific to our Jacobs Ladder

<b>What are the hazards?</b> What can cause harm?	<b>Who might be harmed and how?</b>	<b>What are you already doing?</b> What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	<b>Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?</b> By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
Injuries from kicks/contact with the equipment	Participants	Helmets to be worn and group briefed before the start of the session. Group briefed not to touch any metal cabling on the activity. Care should be taken that a climber only climbs on the correct side of the beams, and not up the wrong side. Rescuer available.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>

## Risks we think are specific to our Monkey Trees

<b>What are the hazards?</b> What can cause harm?	<b>Who might be harmed and how?</b>	<b>What are you already doing?</b> What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	<b>Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?</b> By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
Moving/spinning hold leading to a fall.	Participants & Instructor	Visual inspection done and tightened where required and periodic inspections.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Entrapment on holds/branches.	Participants	Harnesses to be tightened and checked prior to climb. No loose loops on the harness. Instructor controls the decent and fully briefs the group on the correct way to descend. Rescuer available.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>If controls are followed</i>

## Risks we think are specific to our Eliminator

<b>What are the hazards?</b> What can cause harm?	<b>Who might be harmed and how?</b>	<b>What are you already doing?</b> What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	<b>Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?</b> By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
Injuries from kicks/contact with the equipment	Participants & Instructor	Helmets to be worn and group briefed before the start of the session. Group briefed not to touch any metal cabling on the activity. The activity is periodically checked by a suitable person. First aid kit at the activity station and a fully qualified first aider on site during office hours.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>
Entrapment on equipment	Participants	Fully brief group prior to activity commencing, ensure vigilance is maintained, Rescuer available.	<b>Trivial</b> <i>if controls are followed</i>

Reviews Undertaken:	D Jones/ R Chamberlain 06/02/2014; D Jones/ R Chamberlain 09/02/2014; N Mills/A Pearce/ N Theaker 28/07/2015; R Irvine 24/07/2016; H O'Shea 09/06/2017 Richard Irvine 9.9.2017 and 12/7/2018 and 3/12/2019; Michael Barrett 2022 & 2023 Richard Irvine March 2024 and February 2025.	
Risk Assessment Approved by:	Richard Irvine	Date: February 2025

		Potential severity of harm		
		Slightly Harmful 1	Harmful 2	Extremely Harmful 3
Likelihood of harm occurring	Highly unlikely 1	Trivial 1	Tolerable 2	Moderate 3
	Unlikely 2	Tolerable 2	Moderate 4	Substantial 6
	Likely 3	Moderate 3	Substantial 6	Intolerable 9

**Slightly harmful:** Superficial injuries; minor cuts and bruises; eye irritation from dust, nuisance and irritation (e.g. headaches); ill-health leading to temporary discomfort.

**Harmful:** Lacerations; burns; concussion; serious sprains; minor fractures, deafness; dermatitis; asthma; work related upper limb disorders; ill-health leading to permanent minor disability.

**Extremely harmful:** Amputations; major fractures; poisonings; multiple injuries; fatal injuries, occupational cancer; other severely life shortening diseases; acute fatal diseases