

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR GO APE, ADVENTURE FOREST LIMITED



SUBJECT: Continuous Belay

RISK ASSESSMENT REF: CBS 1/2023/V1

WRITTEN BY: Operations Team & Head of Health, Safety & Wellbeing

Risk Matrix							
Risk rating guidance	Likelihood (L)	5	5	10	15	20	25
		4	4	8	12	16	20
		3	3	6	9	12	15
		2	2	4	6	8	10
		1	1	2	3	4	5
				1	2	3	4
Severity (S)							
Acceptability of risk guidance	High-risk: 15 – 25		High-risk activities should cease immediately. Further effective control measures to mitigate risks must be introduced.				
	Medium-risk: 8 – 12		Medium-risks are an acceptable level based on the reduced likelihood after sufficient control measures are implemented				
	Low-risk: 1-6		Low-risks are largely acceptable. Where it is reasonable to do so, efforts should be made to reduce risks further.				
Guidance. When completing a risk assessment, you should:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the persons at risk and the significant hazards. 2. Calculate an initial RR for the activity. 3. Identify risk control measures that reduce the risks to an acceptable level. 4. Calculate a revised RR - you should consider how much safer the task will be if the control measures are followed. Here, you should consider changing both the likelihood (L) and the severity (S) ratings. 						
Note. Ideally, you should look to reduce the risks so that the task can be classified as “low-risk”.							

Likelihood	Definition	Points rating
Inevitable	If the work continues as it is, there is almost 100% certainty that an accident will happen, for examples: A broken stair or broken rung on a ladder, Bare, exposed electrical conductors, Unstable stacks of heavy boxes	5
Highly likely	Will happen more often than not. Additional factors could precipitate an incident but it is still likely to happen without this additional factor.	4
Possible	The accident may occur if additional factors precipitate it, but it is unlikely to happen without them.	3
Unlikely	This incident or illness might occur but the probability is low and the risk minimal.	2
Remote possibility	There is really no risk present. Only under freak conditions could there be any possibility of an accident or illness. All reasonable precautions have been taken - This should be the normal state of the workplace.	1

Severity	Definition	Points rating
Very high	Causing multiple deaths and widespread destruction eg. fire, course/building collapse.	5
High	Causing death, serious injury or permanent disability to an individual.	4
Moderate	Temporary disability causing injury (to member of the public, contractor or employees) or disease capable of keeping an employee off work for seven days or more and reportable under RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995).	3
Slight	Minor injury (to member of the public, contractor or employee), which would allow the individual to continue work after first aid treatment on site or at a local surgery. The duration of the stoppage or treatment is such that the normal flow of work is not seriously interrupted.	2
Nil	Very minor injury, bruise, graze, no risk of disease.	1

The Review Process. This risk assessment will be reviewed when it is suspected that the assessment is no longer valid or there has been a significant change. In addition, it will be reviewed annually.

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Alexandra Palace, Battersea, Bedgebury, Chessington, Coventry, Coombe Abbey, Moors Valley, Temple Newsam and Dalkeith (when Open) Tree Top Challenge Courses are included in this Risk assessment:

4	HAZARD	L	S	RR	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED	CONTROL MEASURES	FURTHER CONTROL MEASURES: reviewed annually to formulate Risk Reduction Plan	L	S	RR
	Falling to the ground, onto another person, onto another part of the course or another object due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliberately removing equipment or unclipping from the safety system then slipping, jumping or falling, either unintentionally or intentionally • Being attached on to the safety cable (system) incorrectly • Failure of part of the course infrastructure • PPE failure, incorrect selection, use, fitting, etc • Tree/Pole/suppor structure failure, falling over or onto the course, etc • Slips and trips 	4	4	16	Employees Course Users Contractors Onlookers Trespassers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous Belay Safety System does not require course users to remove their trolley at any point. • Instructors to attach customers to safety system on the ground (exception Bedgebury, Moors Valley & Chessington Challenge Courses) • On Adventure Courses minimum height of 1m wearing footwear to enable users to move their safety line around the safety system. Height markers installed. Instructors carry out check. • Under 6 year olds to be accompanied by an adult (1:2) to assist with safety lines. • On CB Challenge Courses minimum height 1m.40. • On Adventure+ courses, minimum height 1.2m • Maximum weight of 20.5 stone / 130 kg due to load limits of course. Scales provided at sites. Information provided to customers on booking confirmation documents, RAD and website. • Anyone deemed to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs is not permitted access onto the course. • Anyone who does not have the correct footwear (e.g. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to an incident, currently under investigation, an additional temporary safety measure has been implemented. • A second safety line has been added alongside the continuous belay trolley as a back up to act as a failsafe allowing two points of contact to the safety system. • The Audio Safety Brief will include clear instruction that the customer must use both trolley and secondary attachment points for their safety. • Instructors will monitor and reinforce the importance of the additional safety line. • An external independent course inspection has been undertaken. • 24/05/2021 	2	4	8

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	<p>This could happen whilst opening or closing the course, operating the course, participating on the course, carrying out inspections or carrying out a rescue.</p>					<p>sandals/platforms) or clothing that may lead to a slip or a trip will not be allowed onto the course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only trained and assessed instructors will be allowed to supervise the Continuous Belay Courses. 				
						<p>Course inspections and checks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-use course checks are carried out by trained instructors to ensure the course is safe to use. Opening/closing procedure. Hazards caused by cold weather Damage to Course Policy • Periodic site operational checks are carried out and recorded by a competent person. 				
						<p>PPE provision and checks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective procurement and management system, using reputable suppliers to ensure all PPE is of the correct standard (CE/UKCA marked, etc) and design and has correct information provided for use and is therefore safe and appropriate for its intended use. • PPE must be/is assembled correctly, and correct procedures are documented. • Each site will have a minimum of one competent person trained in PPE inspection. Instructors are trained internally in PPE checks. • PPE will be checked prior to first use (from the manufacturer) • PPE is visually checked prior to and after each use. • The Site Managers ensure that instructors are trained in the correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All PPE procured for the additional safety line, will conform with Go Apes requirements under the document Setting up additional lines for adventure harnesses. 			

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						fitting of PPE, its operation and its operating limits, inspection of the PPE and record the training. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No smoking whilst wearing PPE 			
						Operation systems and controls of the course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First aid supplies are available and there is a minimum of one First Aid qualified member of staff on duty each day. Emergency course evacuation procedure in place for each course. 			
	Falling objects	3	3	9		Retainers and Lanyards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course users must attach or secure all loose items (such as cameras). Mobile phones can be used to take photographs but should be secured to the user to prevent them falling. Cameras should be secured. Lanyards available. Trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All course trees visually checked during opening the course, for loose and broken branches. Deadwood should be removed. 	2	3	6
	Impact including: Course users swinging into something solid <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the course At the landing (e.g. resulting in lower leg injury) Being struck by parts of the course Collision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Zip Wires At Zip landing	3	3	9		Course design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design of the course must take into consideration the possibility of impact problems. Materials are finished to provide smooth, surfaces. Zip Wires and landing areas are designed and installed to arrive at an optimum landing speed. Landing sites are constructed to provide a soft and moveable surface of woodchip or wood peel. Where applicable; Zip landing sites are fenced to discourage members of the public and children wandering into them. Operating Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landing areas are prepared (raked or dug) on a regular basis. 	2	3	6

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only 1 course participant is allowed on the zip wire at any one time. <p style="text-align: center;">Provision of Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety Brief given to all course participants. 			
	Head impact on metal brackets at junctions	3	3	9		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handrails constructed on crossings to eliminate the need to duck. Padding to be added to junctions to draw attention to their position and provide protection. 	2	3	6
	Entanglement in ropes nets, cables or chains and body parts trapped in moving parts of the course	2	3	6		<p style="text-align: center;">Course Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities designed to minimise the risk of entanglement or entrapment. <p style="text-align: center;">Operating Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety brief Long hair tied up 	1	3	3
	Plummet (Only applicable to Alexandra Palace Coombe Abbey Temple Newsam)	3	3	9		Manned by an instructor to ensure correct: retraction of the tape (and monitor condition) attachment departure Area secured when not in use	1	3	3
	Contracting COVID 19 See generic Covid-19 risk assessment	3	4	12		Schools may not have exclusivity of the course during the time of their activity School groups are expected to stay in their designated bubbles School supervisors should ensure that participants maintain hand hygiene using facilities provided at site on arrival and departure School supervisors should ensure adequate supervision is provided to ensure social distancing of designated bubbles is maintained			
Refs	HSW Act 1974, MHSW regs amend 1999, WAH regs 2005, PUWER 1998, LOLER 1998, PPE regs 1992, Workplace HSW regs 1992, H&S (Safety Signs) regs 1996, First Aid regs 1981, Occupiers Liability Act 1984, HSE 5 Steps to Risk Assessment INDG 163, HSE A Guide to Risk Assessment requirements INDG 218, EN 15567 – 2015+A1 2020 (Construction and safety requirements) and EN 15567-2:2015 (Operation requirements), GAD = Go Ape documents. Generic Continuous Belay RA, Setting up additional lines for adventure harnesses.								

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