

Waddow Hall - Risk Assessment Page 1 of 2

Activity: Crate challenge

Date: August 2009

Review carried out by:

Cameron Downing SI  
Bev Whiteside Y&AM

Activity	Hazard / Danger	Severity: High Medium Low	Likelihood : Very Likely Fairly Likely Possible Unlikely Very Unlikely	Control measures	Risk assessment after Control measures: High Medium Low	Review date
Performing the tower-build or belaying, trip over roots, branches	Injury to body	Medium	Possible	Warn about terrain. Instructor supervision. Check site before and during use.	Low	Jan 2010
High winds or heavy rain make climbing difficult.	Injury or cold	Medium	Unlikely	Cancel activity session in bad weather	Low	Jan 2010
Equipment fails or helmets/harnesses are worn incorrectly	Fall injuries	High	Very unlikely	Regular equipment checks, staff competent to check. All safety equipment checked before and end of session.	Low	Jan 2010
Belaying technique poor	Fall from tower	High	Unlikely	Instructor led, back-up belayer used on each rope with Gri-Gri.	Low	Jan 2010
Fall from tower onto crates or people	Injury to self or others	High	Possible	Ropes stretch, advised to land on feet. Helmets worn at all times in crate enclosure. Crate passers stand behind line until time to pass crate up.	Low	Jan 2010
Fall from Belay platform.	Trip, fall Injury	High	Medium	Participants advised to stay on belayers side of tower during activity and walk behind trees to collect crates. Fence erected three quarters of platform and warning lines painted.	Low	Jan 2010
Injury being lowered from tower to platform	Injury to body	Medium	Possible	Participants lowered after crates have been removed and swinging ceased. Lower in control, slow and steady manner.	Low	Jan 2010

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Personal safety in enclosure	Injury to head	High	Possible	Anyone entering enclosure; including participants, staff, group leaders, must wear helmet correctly whilst the session is in progress	Low	Jan 2010
Branches and Trees falling	Injury or death	High	Unlikely	All people in the enclosure wear a helmet. Activity cancelled in adverse weather conditions. All trees on the estate regularly checked by tree surgeon.	Medium	Jan 2010
Use of Anchored Petzl Gri-Gri's to trees (Against Manufacturers Guidelines)	Injury or death	High	Very Unlikely	The use of Gri-Gri's anchored to the tree (which is against the manufacturer's guidelines) is because attaching the Gri-Gri to the participants harness is more likely to cause the belayer to be dragged off the belay platform, causing injury. While being anchored to the tree it is easier for the instructor to gain control of the device, and rope. The Belayers are taught to belay/taught to peer belay by the instructor, who remains next to both belayers at all times when climbing is being commenced. The instructor also ensures they have good visual contact with the device and it is in easy reach.	Low	Jan 2010
Load bearing equipment breaking/sustaining damage due to excessive loading	Near miss/Injury/Death	High	Likely	A maximum weight limit is enforced of 16 stone to ensure that no equipment is overloaded and sustains damage. This guidance will be clearly stated on all new promotional material from September 2009.	Low	Jan 2010