



Risk Assessments

Ropes Course

Contained in the following pages are the risk assessments for Dukes Barn Ropes Course.

These risk assessments have been carried out by the staff of Dukes Barn taking into account any entries to our accident / near miss report folder.

These risk assessments are Reviewed periodically

Reviewed periodically

Ropes Course

| Benefit Statement | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perfect for all ages, our purpose-built low ropes course encourages communication and co-operation, helping individuals build their confidence whilst developing their balance & coordination. Challenges call on team members' collective contributions – drawing on their ideas, support, and effort to achieve a team goal. | | |
|--------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Element | Who affected and Risk | What we are already doing / control measures | Further action required | Action required Responsibility/dates due and completed |
| General | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants Head injury Cuts and abrasions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close supervision Correctly fitting helmets will be worn unless agreed otherwise with the Head of Centre or Deputy Head Briefing at the beginning and during activity Correct level of clothing Spotting where appropriate | No further action at this time | |
| Failure of equipment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk the Course to check on the Elements and ground area. If any construction faults are noticed or other concerns, please place the Element out of use and advise the Head of Centre. | No further action at this time | |
| No: 1 Sloping Tube | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants In the ascent direction, the exit point could result in a fall on the head. Unintentional kicking by other users. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision and briefing Control entry to the tube | No further action at this time | |
| No: 2 Wobbly Trunk | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants Slip | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the area is clear of obstructions | No further action at this time | |
| No: 3 Wobbly Tube | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants Slip | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the area is clear of obstructions | No further action at this time | |

Ropes Course

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| No: 4 Swing Platforms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant - Fall - Slip | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ensure the area is clear of obstructions | <i>No further action at this time</i> | |
| No: 5 Mini Zip Line | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant - Fall - Slip | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supervision & Spotting ■ Limit to one person | <i>No further action at this time</i> | |
| No: 6 Rope Crawl | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant - Minimal Risk - Falling onto ropes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Limit two person max ■ No going over the top | <i>No further action at this time</i> | |
| No: 7 Free Balance Span | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant - Fall | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supervision and spotting at this point ■ Limit to one person. | <i>No further action at this time</i> | |
| No: 8 Burma Bridge | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant - Falling on to wire cable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supervision ■ No bouncing ■ Limit to 10 persons | <i>No further action at this time</i> | |

Ropes Course

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| No: 9 Horizontal Ladder | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant - Falling from travelling rope. - Landing on ladder parts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ensure the area is clear of obstructions supervision ■ One person at a time ■ Close supervision and spotting ■ Clear briefing as the ladder can twist ■ Travelling rope to be used for balance only | No further action at this time | |
| No: 10 Tyre Tyrolean. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant - Minimum Risk. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ensure the area is clear of obstructions ■ One person at a time | No further action at this time | |
| No: 11Commando Net. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant - Slip - Climbing over | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Instruct to supervise from ground or top of net according to group ability. ■ Limit to 1 person at a time going over the top. | No further action at this time | |
| No: 12 Free balance log | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant - Minimal Risk | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ensure the area is clear of obstructions | No further action at this time | |

Ropes Course

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| <p>No: 13 Large Seesaw</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant and helpers - Users falling off or being knocked off the Seesaw. - Being hit by seesaw - Participants and observers being hit or hands trapped by any sudden movement of the Seesaw. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Entry from the downside only ■ No person to have feet on the Red areas ■ Instruct users not to jump off the Seesaw until instructed to do so ■ Ensure observers are clear of the apparatus and briefed to stay out of the area while in operation ■ Limit 12 person max ■ Close Supervision at all times. | <p>No further action at this time</p> | |
| <p>No.14 Bridge Building Team Exercise</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant and Helpers - Slipping on wooden spars or wooden side pieces - Being hit by carried spars. - Planks flying up. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider only allowing flat planks to be stepped on. ■ Instruct to share carrying and not to lift spars above waist height ■ Instruct not to stand on the end of planks. May need regular reminders ■ Helmets to be worn ■ Close supervision at all times. | <p>No further action at this time</p> | |
| <p>No.15 Animal Bridge</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participants - Being hit by planks. - Lifting and carrying. - Falling off or being knocked off. - Tripping. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Clear briefing from the instructor. ■ Be aware of people around you when picking up planks. ■ No running when carrying equipment. ■ Helmets to be worn. ■ Close supervision at all times. | <p>No further action at this time</p> | |
| <p>No.16 Swamp Crossing</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participants - Being hit by planks - Lifting - Falling or being knocked off | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Helmets to be worn ■ Clear briefing from the instructor ■ Be aware of people around you when moving planks and use ropes when lowering ■ Planks to be secure before anyone stands on them | <p>No further action at this time</p> | |

Ropes Course

Platforms and Rail System

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| <p>No:1 Seesaw.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant and helpers - Trapping of Toes on entry - Being thrown from the seesaw - Rollatorer back wheels caught on a seesaw as it lifts, tipping user forward and causing fall | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Keep the next participant out of Red Area. ■ Instruct assistant in the management of chair. ■ Attach Seesaw chains when the last person is through. This action disables the Seesaw. ■ Ensure appropriate supervision of all persons ■ Helper to keep weight on seesaw until the user is on-ramp ■ Instructor to ensure sufficient helpers to support users. This may need to be 1:1 | <p>No further action at this time</p> | |
| <p>No: 2 Wobbly Bridge.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wheels twisting and dropping into entry/exit gap. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Competent pusher to ensure weight is on the back wheels of the chair on entry and exit ■ Limit to 2 Chairs max | <p>No further action at this time</p> | |
| <p>No: 3 Crossed Ropes.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feet Hitting Deck | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Adjust Height before commencing ■ Limit to 2 person max | <p>No further action at this time</p> | |
| <p>No: 4 Climb Holds & Vines</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hands trapped on ropes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ensure ropes under the plank aren't loose. | <p>No further action at this time</p> | |

Ropes Course

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| No: 5 Glockenspiel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Splinters from bamboo. - Hitting with a drumstick. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Advise and supervise ■ Limit to 1 person max | No further action at this time | |
| No: 6 Teepee Tunnel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimal Risk | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supervision ■ Limit to 2 person max | No further action at this time | |
| No 7: Spiders Web | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entrapment in the web | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supervision at all times ■ Limit to 1 person max | No further action at this time | |
| No 8: Sensory Crossing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post at the end | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supervision ■ Make sure a person is at the end post to protect. | No further action at this time. | |
| No 9: Barrell Swing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feet too low - Spinning too fast | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Make sure adjusted correctly ■ Make sure person is happy about speed and carry it out in a controlled manner | No further action at this time | |
| Static stilts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Splinters - Cuts and abrasions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supervision and briefing | No further action at this time | |

Ropes Course

Operating procedures

Ropes Course

Instructor requirements:

On-site training and First Aid certificate

Key briefing points:

Introduction

The ropes courses are a venue for various experiential and problem-solving activities, including team challenges.

The nature of the activity and the choice of venue will be based on:

- The physical needs of the clients
- The client's previous experience
- The educational aims of the session

Venues:

The low-level ropes courses are 'on-site' activities.

Other ropes courses are used occasionally

Risks:

The principle hazards include:

Injury from falling

Scratches and abrasions

Injury from associated equipment, e.g. Planks /barrels

Risk Management:

All sessions will be led by an experienced instructor familiar with the venue and will make necessary assessments during the session.

The instructor will 'spot' students when necessary

The instructor will inspect the site and brief the group at the start and again during the session

Correctly fitting helmets will be worn unless agreed otherwise with the Head of the Centre

Wind/waterproof clothing will be worn if appropriate

The instructor will maintain effective group control throughout the session

The instructor will assess the weather and adapt the session appropriately