



Abseiling - Tower

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| Activity | Woodland Activity Tower | Pages | 2 |
| Task / Operation | Daily Checks and Operation | Version | 1.0 |
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| Reviewed By | Ed Rutson | Review Interval | Annual |

| What are the Hazards? | Who might be harmed? | What existing control measures are already in place? | What further action is required to manage the risk? | Risk Rating |
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| Unauthorised access | All Un-authorized users | Access to the tower restricted to qualified instructors | Regularly remind activity instructors on the importance of ensuring area is secure | Low |
| Slip, Trips and Falls | All users and instructors | Instructors trained in basic first aid Area periodically maintained to restrict undergrowth and remove trip hazards | Safety brief – mention awareness of uneven ground/trip hazards etc as appropriate Teacher/Leader/Instructor from the participant group to be with the group at all times for crowd control and discipline. | Low |
| Falling branches, Falling trees | Anyone in woods | Course constructed in an appropriate area as decided by professional, external, qualified body | Annual tree surveys of the woods by professional, external, qualified body – with appropriate remedial action as a result. Annual Inspection of the course including assessment of encroaching branches and supporting trees by professional, external, qualified body – with appropriate remedial action as a result. Periodical checks by competent crew for obvious threats, such as hanging branches etc, particularly after foul weather – with appropriate remedial action as a result. | High |

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| | | | Daily checks (when course in use) to course by instructor looking for major and immediate threats to course – with appropriate remedial action as a result. | |
| Structural failure of course | All above or below the course | Course constructed by specialist company to a commercial standard. | Annual Inspection of the course including assessment of anchor points, platforms, load bearing cables, safety lines and all other relevant areas; by professional, external, qualified body – with appropriate remedial action as a result. Periodical checks by competent crew for obvious threats, such as wear and tear to platforms, anchor points and eye-bolts, particularly after foul weather – with appropriate remedial action as a result. Daily checks (when course in use) to course by instructor looking for major and immediate threats to course – with appropriate remedial action as a result. | Low |
| Equipment Failure | | All safety equipment is specifically designed and fit for purpose All equipment is maintained and used according to manufacturer guidelines All equipment is within the safe working lifetime defined by the manufacturer | Daily visual checks by Instructors for obvious immediate faults Periodical inspections by competent crew And faults to be reported and the equipment retired immediately until repaired or condemned. | Medium |
| Failure of anchor points | | The course, all anchor points and safety lines are professionally designed and installed and are appropriate for their purpose. | Daily inspections by instructors looking for rust, damage and wear and tear to anchor points. Annual and periodical inspections to specifically look at anchor points. | Low |

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| Participant Lack of Knowledge | Climbers and Belayers | Safety Talk carried out by instructor before starting and practical elements. | Lead instructor to take ultimate responsibility for safety during the session. Instructor to determine competency of the group at the start of the session. Instructor to explicitly highlight safe areas and danger areas, as well as, when and where safety equipment (helmets) must be worn. No Person to climb until their equipment has been checked and they are tied into the safety rope. | Medium |
| Falls from height | Participants | All participants must wear helmets and harnesses which are properly fitted and checked by an instructor. Participants tied into appropriate rope and belay system Anchor points checked annually by external competent company Belay system and anchor points set up Lead instructor to hold appropriate levels of qualification and assistants to be appropriately trained and competent. | Instructor to visually check rope and belay system as every participant steps out. | Medium |
| Foul Weather - | Anyone in activity area or near tower | Check weather conditions ahead of sessions Visual check of activity area in conditions such as snow or wind to determine whether or not to proceed | Management and Session instructor to make the call as to whether or not a session runs. Instructors have authority to suspend sessions. | Low |
| Incorrect use of equipment – Including PPE and belay devices | All participating, belaying or in contact with rope, as well as anyone close to those people. | Anyone belaying must be appropriately trained and supervised by a competent person qualified to do so. | Activity leader to provide appropriate supervision for the group. | Medium |

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| | | <p>All climbers have their PPE and knots checked by the instructor before beginning.</p> <p>Anyone belaying must be trained in how to do so safely and qualified or supervised in how to do so.</p> | | |
| <p>Hair, scarves or other loose items becoming trapped in the figure of 8 device</p> | <p>All participants</p> | <p>Long hair must be tied or pinned back behind shoulders. Loose items must be removed.</p> | <p>If an entrapment is to occur instructors are to perform a rescue in accordance with their training.</p> | <p>Low</p> |