



High Ropes

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
Unauthorised access	All Un-authorized users	Access to high section of the course restricted by removing part of an element	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. 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.	High
Structural failure of course	All above or below the course	Course constructed by High Ropes course building 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	

			<p>relevant areas; by professional, external, qualified body – with appropriate remedial action as a result.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	
Equipment Failure		<p>All safety equipment is specifically designed and fit for purpose</p> <p>All equipment is maintained and used according to manufacturer guidelines</p> <p>All equipment is within the safe working lifetime defined by the manufacturer</p>	<p>Daily visual checks by Instructors for obvious immediate faults</p> <p>Periodical inspections by competent crew</p> <p>And faults to be reported and the equipment retired immediately until repaired or condemned.</p>	
Failure of anchor points		<p>The course, all anchor points and safety lines are professionally designed and installed and are appropriate for their purpose.</p>	<p>Daily inspections by instructors looking for rust, damage and wear and tear to anchor points.</p> <p>Annual and periodical inspections to specifically look at anchor points.</p>	
Zip wire		<p>Zip wire trolley out of reach to lessen the risk of trapped fingers</p>	<p>Briefed on use of trolley at top of zip wire.</p> <p>Landing area clear of sharp objects, rocks and substantial undergrowth.</p>	
Objects falling from the course		<p>Participants should not have any unnecessary equipment attached to them</p> <p>Briefed to remove anything loose from pockets etc.</p>	<p>Instructors to be careful with equipment to ensure nothing is dropped, especially during rescues.</p>	

		Anyone under High Ropes course should be wearing a helmet and be aware of the risk		
Moving around the course		Helmet to be worn at all times Appropriate safety harness to be worn at all times	Appropriate equipment used	
Participant totally unclipping themselves from the course		Bornack lanyard system prevents the participant from unclipping themselves while using the course.	Briefing on how to use Bornack lanyards at the start of every session. Participants to use the low ropes course as training period to get used to the system while easily rescued/trained	
Falling onto or past an element		Bornack lanyards short enough to prevent participants falling past an element.		
Extreme adverse weather – electrical storms, high winds, ice and snow, sun exposure etc		Participants briefed on appropriate clothing for the conditions When appropriate sessions will be cancelled and access to woodland restricted	Instructor authorised the call to end a session at any time Mandatory cancellation of sessions in electrical storms.	
Trapped fingers		Primarily a risk on zip, sling attaching zip wire trolley long enough to prevent fingers being trapped while running. Risk of being caught in karabiners minimised by using Bornack karabiners designed to be used by children and snap back in a relatively controlled way.	Briefing on use of lanyards/clips and trolley. If necessary reiterate the instructions at the top of the zip wire.	
Choking/strangulation in cow tails		Bornack lanyards designed specifically to prevent choking when loaded, even with a head trapped in the way.		