

Scouting Risk Assessment – Mobile High Ropes



Date of risk assessment	15/2/25	Name/Role of who undertook this risk assessment	Ben Shirvill
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Earleywood Scout Campsite

Hazard Identified? / Risks from it?	Who is at risk?	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
<i>Hazard – something that may cause harm or damage. Risk – the chance of it happening.</i>	<i>Young people, Leaders, Visitors.</i>	<i>Controls – Ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk from it. For example - you might use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way the activity is carried out.</i>	<i>Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change it...or even stop it! This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.</i>
Instructors	Instructors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity instructors leading and running the activity to hold a current Scout permit issued by Berkshire Scouts. The maximum ratio will be 2 activity instructors: 6 participants. – Plus, another adult required to clip in and out of system. Activity instructors may be assisted by other adults to maintain maximum capacity. One activity instructor must be on the start platform the other on the finish platform. Helmets to be used by all participants and spectators within the activity compound, including the activity instructor. Activity instructor to run activity using conventional rope techniques as covered in the RCI / CWA awards. 	
Lifting parts of the course during build	Employee/ Staff trained in set-up procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No one single part of the course heavier than the safe lifting weight of 25kg. Activity instructors trained in safe lifting practices and manufacturers procedures 	
Working at height during setup	Employee/ Staff trained in set-up procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity instructors trained in safe climbing practices and manufacturers procedures. Use of ropes and platforms to build course. Activity instructors are always clipped to the course so even in the event of fall they only drop 3 metres. Safe working at height practices used in conjunction to current HSE legislation. Helmets worn. 	

Additional information can be found in the [Safety Checklist for Leaders](#) and other information at scouts.org.uk/safety

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Failure of Structure	Instructor, Leaders and Participants Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure inspection by external assessors • Monthly inspection of structure. • Before/During use inspection done by activity instructor. 	
Failure of Equipment Equipment/Harnesses/Ropes	Instructor, Leaders and Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An annual inspection by qualified inspectors. • A 3-monthly inspection by qualified/trained staff. • Before and during use, inspection done by activity instructor. • Earlywood's equipment, harnesses, ropes, helmets will be checked by a competent person on a regular basis as advised by the manufacturer. • Records of checks will be retained. • Harnesses which are frayed, have split webbing, split stitching or any other damage will be taken out of use immediately. • Frayed/damaged ropes will be taken out of use immediately. • Helmets showing signs of damage will be taken out of use immediately. 	
Falls	Everyone involved in the session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all long hair is tied up/back as appropriate. • Non-loose clothing/neckers to be worn, • Remove jewellery which impede the activity and necklaces tucked inside. • Harness fitted securely with no lose straps. • Participants leave the ground attached to safety devices/Auto belays/Top rope systems. • Participants (younger children) fiddling with the screw gate on the Carabiner meaning the safety device is not safe. All Carabiner's have self-locking gates. 	
Overcrowding and disorderly behaviour	Everyone involved in the session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-participants to observe from outside compound. • If any participant does not follow the instructions from the activity instructor, they are to be removed from the compound. 	
Emergency Rescue	Instructors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course has an Emergency Take Down Kit • All activity instructors trained in the use and manufacturers procedure for an Emergency Take down of a participant. • Clear signage showing the allowable user minimum heights accompanied and unaccompanied. • Signage also dictates the maximum /height weight of a user and route around course. 	

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Medical Incident/Injury	Everyone involved in the session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader in charge to have readily available an adult with current mandatory module 10 first aid training. • Leader in charge to have first aid kit. • Leader in charge/activity instructor to be aware of where nearest first aid kit is located (Scout Centre kitchen and Rowney Building kitchen). • Leader in charge to have available and be aware of all medical/allergy conditions and reasonable adjustments of everyone at risk. • Participants with reasonable adjustments to be located nearest the activity instructor and if necessary, have a competent person supporting them. • Leader in charge to be aware of Earleywood incident action plan and follow it. • Leader in charge establish procedures in the event of an injury at beginning of session. • Leader in charge to maintain young person/adult ratio 	
Slips, Trips, Cuts, Bites & Falls	Everyone involved in the session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader in charge to survey the activity area before starting to prevent participants having an incident: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mark locations of obstacles in the ground ○ Remove loose debris to a safe location ○ Mark locations of insect infestations and nests ○ Mark locations of low lying stinging or scratchy plants ○ Identify boundaries. • Wear appropriate footwear and shoelaces to be tied. • Walk, no running • Ensure the activity area is suitable for use, kept clear and tidy 	
Overcrowding and disorderly behaviour	Everyone involved in the session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader in charge/activity instructor rules/instructions explained to participants during briefing. • Leader in charge to remain with the group. • Activity instructor to stop activity immediately if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are too many participants using the activity ○ The participants behaviour is unacceptable or unruly ○ No leader is present from the participants group ○ Consider safety of participants is at risk 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader in charge to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of the activity instructor before the activity starts again. 	
Animal Encounter – Wild/Domestic	Everyone involved in the session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not approach animal. • Do not encourage animal to approach you. • Maintain safe distance between you and the animal. • Leader in charge to scare away the animal without causing physical harm. 	
Animal Faeces	Everyone involved in the session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader in charge to survey the activity area before starting, remove and dispose of animal faeces. • Any animal faeces identified while participating in the activity, pause activity and Leader in charge to remove and dispose of animal faeces. 	
Weather Conditions & Environment	Everyone involved in the session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring clothing and equipment appropriate to the weather conditions. • In event of inclement weather, the activity instructor may cancel or postpone the activity, in the meanwhile Leader in charge to find a point of safety. • In hot weather ensure adequate hydration and self-administration of sun protection. • Use torches if dark. • Wear close toed footwear (i.e. no sandals/ flip flops, etc) • Turn on activity flood lighting as appropriate 	
Missing Persons Lost individual in distress	Everyone involved in the session.	<p>Leader in charge to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take regular HEAD COUNTS • Take register before activity starts. • Have In-Touch arrangements accessible. • Check mobile phone connectivity is available. 	
Unauthorised Access Activity area left unattended Equipment unattended Theft Injury	Everyone involved in the session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment to be locked away securely whilst not in use. • Participants must never be left alone with equipment. 	

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Checked by		Name: Ben Shirvill Role: Activity Director Date 22 nd April 2023	
Approved by		Name: Derek Salter Role: Health & Safety Director Date 22 nd April 2023	
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	Revision Date 1st February 2024		Annual review
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