

HIGH ROPES

LOCATION/ENVIRONMENT	OYC High Ropes Course – Jacobs Ladder, Zigzag Logs, High Ropes Course, Pamper Pole, High All Aboard			
RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS	Lead Instructor: High Ropes - OYC High Ropes Leader Pamper Pole and High All Aboard – OYC High Ropes Leader All other Ground Up High Ropes Activities – OYC Ground Up Leader Assistants: OYC certified belayers.			
NGB GUIDELINES	MLTB Single Pitch Award			
		LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURRING IN NEXT YEAR	IMPACT IF OCCURS	OVERALL SCORE
		1 = Low, 2 = Med, 3 = High		
POTENTIAL RISKS	1. Head injury 2. Body injury 3. Injury to hand 4. Rope burn 5. Failure of belay system 6. Inappropriate physical contact	1 2 2 2 1 1	3 2 1 1 3 3	3 4 2 2 3 3
WHAT EVENTS ARE LIKELY TO CAUSE THE ABOVE RISKS?	1. Object dropped from course onto person below Fall from element or against element while climbing, lowering or progressing across element. Hitting head while climbing tower ladder Falling out of harness 2. Climbing beyond your level Fall from element or against element while climbing, lowering or progressing across element. Falling off High Ropes Course Falling off tower Falling off ladders Falling out of harness Participant lowered too quickly 3. Hand being caught in friction device Hand being stood on by other climber while trying to get back onto element or platform. 4. Rope running through hand too quickly 5. Karabiners not locked prior to climbing commencing Karabiner gates unwinding during an activity Karabiners being cross loaded Poor belaying technique Climber heavier than belayer 6. Harnesses and helmets being fitted inappropriately. 7. Inappropriate spotting technique			
WHAT MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO MINIMISE THE RISKS?	1.a All people entering the area at the base of the High Ropes Course must wear a helmet. 1.b Explain the risks of fast lowers prior to descent and always lower participant slowly despite any requests made to go fast. 1.c Control speed of the lower with lever of the SRC with one hand gripped onto the dead section of the rope at all times. 1.d Ensure all hair is tied back or tucked in and well away from friction devices.			

	<p>1.e Harnesses to be laid out on the ground in correct position ready for when participants arrive so they can step into them once explanation is given as to how to correctly fit them.</p> <p>1.f Lead instructor to check harnesses once fitted, then again by belayers before client climbs (only fit same gender if at all possible).</p> <p>1.g Individuals are allowed up the tower only under supervision.</p> <p>1.h Participants must stand in safe area unless called forward by instructor.</p> <p>1.i Participants taught the 'below' call for falling objects.</p> <p>1.j Use spotters when appropriate.</p> <p>1.k An instructor must be present supervising any lowering off the course.</p> <p>2.a See 1.b, c, e, f & g above.</p> <p>2.b Make sure rope is not too slack so that if someone slips they don't land on the apparatus which they are negotiating at the time.</p> <p>2.c If someone requests to be pulled across a particular section of the course, make sure you do so very slowly, stopping a couple of metres before the next platform to ensure they don't collide with it. Also make sure you are not too far in front of the participant when they step off the platform or they will be pulled along too quickly.</p> <p>2.d Instructors run climbing sessions progressively so as not to push people beyond their level.</p> <p>2.e Only one person is allowed on a ladder at a time.</p> <p>2.f If participants start the course from the tower, they must be connected to a safety line until they are attached to the rope controlled by the belayer below, the slack has been taken in and both the participant and the belayer have indicated that they are ready.</p> <p>3.a Teach correct belay technique, emphasising the distance of the hands from the belay device.</p> <p>3.b Warn participants to be aware of one another as they negotiate the course.</p> <p>4.a See 1.b & c above.</p> <p>4.b Ensure participants do not hold on to the live rope as they are lowered.</p> <p>5.a Climber and instructors to both check all karabiners prior to committing weight to rope.</p> <p>5.b All karabiners that are used with a belay device are to be "Belay Master" style, thus ensuring that the gates will not work loose. Italian Hitch to be used with an HMS karabiner.</p> <p>5.c Teach correct belay method to all new belayers. Ensure that all current belayers use exactly the same method so that no bad habits can be picked up by new belayers whilst observing others.</p> <p>5.d Novice belayers must be tailed for a minimum of six monitored sessions, or until deemed competent and awarded with the OYC belayers award.</p> <p>5.e Use grounds anchors for a semi-direct belay. Alternatively join a second participant to the belayer with a sling to act as an anchor.</p> <p>6.a Harnesses are to be fitted (whenever practically possible) by members of the same gender. Final inspection of harness is to be carried out by the session leader.</p> <p>6.b Teach spotting techniques that minimise the risk for inappropriate physical contact.</p>
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