



Bouldering wall – Risk Assessment

The document shows the risk assessment ratings for each identified hazard. The score for the likelihood of its happening is multiplied by the score of the severity of the injury.

(For example, likelihood 2 multiplied by Severity 5 = 10 medium).

This Risk assessment identifies the risk control methods that have been put into place to reduce either the Severity or Likelihood of an accident.

Hazard	Who	Existing Risk Value	Action to prevent	New Risk Value
Slips, Trips & Falls (Ground height)	Participants Instructors Leaders	5*5=25 High	Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. Be made aware of any steps or objects on the ground. Shoe laces to be tied up. Appropriate Footwear to be worn inside compound. No running in the compound. Soft ground areas (woodchip)	2*5=10 Med
Slips, Trips & Falls (off floor)	Participants Instructors Leaders Spectators	5*5=25 High	Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. Be made aware of any steps. Shoe laces to be tied up. Appropriate Footwear to be worn inside compound. No running in the compound. Participants leave the ground must be spotted at all times, under supervision of a leader. 6 participants maximum to be on the wall at any one time. 6ft Fenced area for compound. Soft ground areas (woodchip) Participants explained not to jump for holds (dynamic moves) The spotting techniques are explained on the leader instructions. Use of more than 2 spotters where necessary. Leader to spot where necessary.	2*5=10 Med
Failure of equipment	Participants Instructors Leaders	5*5=25 High	A bi-weekly inspection is done by qualified/trained staff. Maximum of 1 participant on each hold at one time. Before use inspection done by staff.	1*5=5 Low
Failure of structure	Participants Instructors Leaders Spectators	5*5=25 High	A bi-weekly visual inspection by qualified/trained staff. Before use inspection done by staff. 6ft Fenced area for compound. Maximum of 1 participant on each hold at one time.	1*5=5 Low
Entanglement	Participants Leaders Spectators	5*5=25 High	Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. Ensure all Long hair is tied up/back as appropriate. Non-loose clothing to be worn. Participants leave the ground must be spotted at all times, under supervision of a leader. All Participants/Leaders/Spectators are informed not to climb over wall.	1*5=5 Low
Entrapment	Participants Instructors Leaders Spectators	5*5=25 High	All Participants/Leaders/Spectators/Instructors to be made aware to keep fingers away from gate and frame. Group management.	1*5=5 Low
Falling objects	Participants	5*5=25	Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding.	1*5=5

	Instructors Leaders Spectators	High	6ft Fenced area for compound. Arborists report on surrounding trees. Participants leave the ground must be spotted at all times, under supervision of a leader.	Low
Behavioural Problems	Participants Instructors Leaders	5*5=25 High	Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. Yellow/red card system. Ratio's 12:1 maximum. Group leader must be present to control group behaviour. Site behavioural policy.	2*5=10 Med
Wildlife	Participants Instructors Leaders	5*5=25 High	No food permitted in the compound. Compound checked before/during use. Allergies (controlled by group leader) Pest control where appropriate.	1*5=5 Low
Weather	Participants Leaders Instructors	5*5=25 High	Activity not to be used in lightning weather. Activity not to be used in strong winds. Recommend not to be used during heavy rains. (leader to advise suitability) No running in the compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. Appropriate lighting when required.	2*5=10 Med
Environment	Participants Leaders Instructors	5*5=25 High	Floor covering to be made safe, and clear of any hazards.	1*5=5 Low
Covid-19 Instructor Contact (Positive)	Participants Leaders Instructors	5x5=25 High	1m distance for instructing Where not possible, face mask to be worn	5*2=10 Med
Covid-19 General Contact/Arrival			Removed	

This risk assessment is written in accordance with the operating process and procedures.

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Reviewed by: Stuart Whyte

Position: Deputy Centre Manager / Programmes Manager

Date: 01/2025

Qualifications: ERCA Qualified Traditional Instructor / site rescue

BTEC Health & Safety Level 2

Risk Assessment CPD

CWI Trained

Disclaimer: Supervisor leaders must make sure rules are always abided by. Injury due to neglect of the rules is down to the supervisor.

Likelihood of Occurrence	Severity of Harm
0 = Never	0 = No Harm
1 = Unlikely	1 = Bumps & Bruises
2 = Possible	2 = Small Cuts & Lacerations
3 = A chance	3 = Broken/Fracture of Bones
4 = Likely	4 = Loss of limb
5 = Certain	5 = Fatality

Levels of Acceptance	
1-6 Low	= Acceptable
7-10 Medium	= Monitor
11-12 medium	= Re-evaluate
13-25 High	= Not acceptable

		Severity				
		*	1	2	3	4
Likelihood	1	1	2	3	4	5
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	5	5	10	15	20	25