



Jacobs Ladder – 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 Spectators | 5*5=25 High | Helmets to be worn always inside the compound. Be made aware of any steps or objects on the ground. Shoe laces to be tied up. Appropriate Footwear to be worn inside compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. No running in the compound. | 2*4=8 Med |
| Slips, Trips & Falls | Participants Instructors Leaders Spectators | 5*5=25 High | Helmets to be worn always inside the compound. Be made aware of any steps. Shoe laces to be tied up. Appropriate Footwear to be worn inside compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. No running in the compound. Participants leave the ground attached to safety devices/Top rope systems. Under supervision of qualified/trained personnel only. Keeping activity area clear when in use. 6ft Fenced area for compound. Back up knots on belay systems where appropriate | 2*5=10 Med |
| Failure of equipment | Participants Instructors Leaders | 5*5=25 High | Equipment is tested and inspected at manufacturing/Purchase. A 6-monthly inspection by qualified inspectors. A bi-weekly inspection is done by qualified/trained staff. Before/During use inspection done by instructor. | 1*5=5 Low |
| Failure of structure | Participants Instructors Leaders Spectators | 5*5=25 High | Annually structure inspection by external accessors or qualified persons. 3 Monthly inspection on structure by qualified staff. Bi-Weekly visual inspection from ground level by qualified/trained staff. Before/During use inspection done by instructor. 6ft Fenced area for compound. | 1*5=5 Low |
| Entanglement | Participants | 5*5=25 High | Ensure all Long hair is tied up/back as appropriate. Non-loose clothing to be worn. Helmets to be worn always inside the compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. (not to put any body parts though elements.) | 2*5=10 Med |
| Falling objects | Participants Instructors Leaders Spectators | 5*5=25 High | Helmets to be worn always inside the compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. 6ft Fenced area for compound. Keeping activity area clear. Arborists report on trees in the surrounding areas every 2 years | 2*4=8 Med |
| Behavioural Problems | Participants | 5*5=25 | Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. | 2*5=10 |

| | | | | |
|--|--|----------------|--|---------------|
| | Instructors Leaders | High | Yellow/red card system. Ratio's 12:1 maximum. Group leader must be present to control group behaviour. Site behavioural policy. | 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. No running in the compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. Appropriate lighting when required. Instructors aware of/trained to deal with inclement weather | 1*5=5 Low |
| Environment | Participants Leaders Instructors | 5*5=25 High | Being aware of surroundings. Floor covering to be made safe by raking the activity and removing objects that may cause any hazards. Activity is built on a slope to maintain good drainage. | 1*5=5 Low |
| Covid-19 Instructor Contact (Positive) | Participants Leaders Instructors | 5*5=25 High | 1m distance if instructed Where not possible, face masks to be worn | 5*2=10 Med |
| Covid-19 General Contact/Arrival | Participants Leaders Instructors | 5*5=25 High | Removed | |

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

Written by: Stuart Whythe

Reviewed by: Stuart Whythe

Position: Deputy Centre Manager / Programmes Manager

Date: 1/2025

Qualifications: ERCA Qualified Traditional High Ropes Instructor

ERCA Qualified site specific Rescue

RoSPA Operational Inspector

Health and safety Level 2

Written risk assessments CPD

| 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 |

| | | 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 |

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