



Caving – Risk Assessment

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).

The Risk assessment is to identify hazards, value the risk and the potential harm and whom to. Have an action plan to prevent the risk and a final risk value.

Hazard	Who	Existing Risk Value	Action to prevent	New Risk Value
Slips, Trips & Falls	Participants Instructors Leaders	5*5=25 High	Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. No running in the compound. Helmets to be worn when inside the Caving system. Not allowed on top of caving system. Being aware of surroundings. Trip hazards to be made clear. Appropriate clothing and footwear to be worn.	2*5=10 Med
Failure of equipment	Participants Instructors Leaders	5*5=25 High	Equipment is tested and inspected at manufacturing. A weekly inspection is done by qualified/trained staff. Before/During use inspection done by instructor. PPE to be worn as appropriate.	2*5=10 Med
Failure of structure	Participants Instructors Leaders Spectators	5*5=25 High	Structure manufactured with steel bars and mesh to stop collapsing. A weekly inspection is done by qualified/trained staff. Before/During use inspection done by instructor. Helmets to be worn when inside the Caving system.	1*5=5 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.	4*1=4 Low
Weather	Participants Leaders Instructors	5*5=25 High	Activity not to be used in lightning weather. No running in the compound. Clear Briefing/Instructions, full understanding. Appropriate lighting when required.	1*5=5 Low
Environment	Participants Leaders Instructors	5*5=25 High	Floor covering appropriate for use. Any hazards on floor remove. Activity designed and built so little or no stagnant waters may occur.	1*1=1 Low
Covid-19 Instructor Contact	Participants Leaders Instructors	5*5=25 High	2m distance maintained for equipment fitting where possible. Where not possible, full medical face shield provided. Customer returns safety equipment straight to quarantine area If a rescue is required FULL PPE MUST BE WORN	5*2=10 Med

Covid-19 Equipment Contamination	Participants Leaders Instructors	5*5=25 High	Participants remove equipment and take straight to quarantine area Equipment quarantined for 72 hours (Petzl Guidance)	5*2=10 Med
Covid-19 Structural Contamination	Participants Leaders Instructors	5*5=25 High	Each activity is used on a rotational basis to allow 72 hours in between use.	5*2=10 Med
Covid-19 General Contact/Arrival	Participants Leaders Instructors	5*5=25 High	Hand Sanitiser, gloves and masks made available to participants and staff before and after activity 2m social distancing maintained Participant group size to be reduced	5*2=10 Med

Due to close nature of the activity for participants and for instructors performing a rescue, this activity is not be run during times of high covid risk (Tier 3 or 4)

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

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Position: Acting Operations Manager
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Qualification: Health and safety Level 2

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