

Jacobs Ladder

Location

This activity takes place on a purpose-built structure at a height of 12 metres.

Equipment

A full body climbing harness is provided and fitted by the instructor. Helmets are provided and fitting is demonstrated. Other equipment may be used by the instructor as required.

Health & Hygiene

The activity takes place outside and is subject to the prevailing weather conditions. No special personal equipment is required other than normal clothing for the conditions. Footwear should be sensible for the activity and the conditions. The activity may take place in most weather conditions and the decision to start or stop a session is made with consideration given to the age, preparedness for the activity and experience of the group. The activity will not take place if there is the likelihood of lightning, heavy rain or high winds over 30mph.

Hazard	Hazard Effect	Action Recommended
Unauthorised access to course.	Unsupervised persons on course falling from elements.	Restrict access by use of ladders covers, fencing and warning signs.
Slips, trips, falls	Slight to severe injury. (Bleeds, breaks, bruising.	Sensible outdoor shoes advised. Ensure before session that may require lighting that high ropes outside lights are in a good working condition. All participants to be told to check where they are walking (to avoid ground anchors etc.)
Course structure vandalised or damaged: severe storms/winds.	Course unsafe for use.	Course inaugural inspection by ERCA Type A to EN 15567 Part 1 Annual inspection by ERCA inspector. Before session instructors to check that all aspects of course: elements and components are in working order.
Unqualified Staff.	Course not used correctly. PPE not fitted correctly.	Staff should be suitably qualified and experienced before they are allowed to operate the course.
Extreme weather conditions.	Electrocution, unsafe passage on elements.	Adventure Constructions should not be used during electrical storms heavy rain or wind conditions of more than 30 mph.
Participants falling or slipping from height or elements.	Slight to severe injury. (Bleeds, breaks, bruising.	All participants to be connected to the course PPE whilst off ground. Staff to fully brief participants on how to use equipment.
Objects falling from above.	Slight to severe injury. (Bleeds, breaks, bruising.	All participants to remove objects from pockets, loose jewellery, all PPE to be CE approved and fitted correctly.
Inappropriate clothing or footwear.	Participants unable to negotiate course friction or other injuries caused by PPE or elements of course.	Instructors to ensure that Participant is wearing appropriate clothing and footwear, open toed shoes are not allowed.
Incapacity of Participants.	Participants unable to complete course, unnecessary trauma, rescues required.	Relevant medical conditions are made available to instructors. Instructors to assess Participants before allowing access to course.
Snagging of Jewellery or other personal property.	Entrapment injuries.	Instructors to advise Participants to remove all loose jewellery.
Snagging of hair.	Entrapment injuries.	Instructors to ensure participants tie back long hair.

Last updated 3 November 2023

Next review date 3 November 2024

Sam Fenton Deputy Manager

Eaton Vale Scout and Guide Activity Centre

Risk Assessment



Chewing gum or other food whilst on the course.	Choking.	Instructors to advise Participants not to chew gum or eat whilst on the course.
Badly fitted PPE.	PPE is not suitable for participant.	Small or large people will not be able to use the course those weighing over 120Kgs should not be allowed to access the course.
New or Wet lines or PPE.	Equipment slippery or stiff.	Instructors to handle new or wet equipment cautiously.
Bumping elements	Slight to severe injury. (Bleeds, breaks, bruising).	Slow controlled decent. No sudden drops or quick descent.