

Zip Wire Risk Assessment

Activity: Zip Wire Activity Session

What are the hazards?

- Working at height
- Trips, slips and falls
- Proximity to water
- Participants at height
- Equipment failure
- Unauthorised use
- Human error
- Vehicle related injuries
- Branches etc. falling

Who is at risk?

Staff, participants and members of the public

What are the risks?	Existing safety measures/controls	Likelihood	Risk Rating
Instructor accessing, Clients at height. Human error, Unauthorised use and Vandalism all leading to falls from height, equipment failure etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All instructors assessed by an external assessor and are familiar with emergency procedures. • Annual updates. • All zip wire staff are first aid trained. • All equipment is checked regularly in line with Avon Tyrrell's safety checking schedule. • All equipment will be visually checked prior to session commencement. • Annual inspection by professional outside company. • All equipment fitted to individual participants and checked prior to ascent including harnesses and helmets. • Safety systems in use for all aspects of the zip wire experience from ascent to descent. • Instructors will get their PPE checked by another qualified instructor before accessing. • Instructor safety is via Cabloc, cows tails and Grillon • Two instructors on all sessions with the instructor running the platform fully trained and assessed in rescue techniques. • First aid kit and radio at the activity base. • All equipment suited to the purpose and all PPE CE marked. • All equipment removed or secured when the activity base is not in use. • Ladder locked away when not in use. 	LOW	LOW

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access staples start approximately nine feet up the tree, so access is extremely difficult without the ladder. • Staff monitored on formal observation sessions and also during informal walkabouts. • Feedback given by appropriately qualified senior staff • Staff trained internally on how to access the wire safely 		
Proximity to water Hypothermia, drowning and Weils disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overwater rescues are highly unlikely but all instructors are trained to perform these and safety equipment to complete this rescue must be kept at the activity base when this activity is in use. • Life rings and warning signs around the edge of the lake • Survival blankets kept in all first aid kits. • Group leaders must be present on every session and they must remain in charge of group control and discipline. • Groups given a thorough briefing prior to the activity and possible dangers pointed out. • Hand washing encouraged at the end of the session. 	LOW	LOW
Vehicle related injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-operation in-group control by group leaders. • Access to the lake is restricted • Speed restriction posted 	LOW	LOW
Cuts from wires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloves are available from the workshop and there are trolleys for descending the wire for inspection or rescue purposes. • Participants are attached in such a way that they hang well beneath the wire. 	LOW	LOW
Entrapment in the ropes or hitting the landing platform at speed resulting in impact injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before participants are released from the belay system and pole a shout of "clear" must be made to the bottom instructor who is responsible for checking that the brakes are correctly set. Only once this command has been reciprocated is the person able to leave the pole and descend the zip wire. • All instructors assessed external assessor and are familiar with emergency procedures. 	LOW	LOW
Rope burn.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloves to be available for instructors accessing/inspecting • Instructor control and awareness. 	LOW	LOW

