

Risk Assessment: Jacobs Ladder

Reviewed: August 2021

Next Review Date: August 2022

Assessment undertaken by: Chris Martlew, Chief Instructor

L = LOW M = MEDIUM H = HIGH

| Hazards | Effects | Who might be effected | Risk | | Methods to Avoid/Reduce Risk |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------|------------|-------------|---|
| | | | Likelihood | Consequence | |
| Jacobs Ladder | | | | | Jacobs Ladder |
| Falling | Death, serious to minor injuries to the group or individuals. | All | L | H | <p>Clear safety brief given by trained instructors</p> <p>Climbers are to be attached to a safety rope at all times.</p> <p>There must be a minimum of 2 belayers on each rope at all times.</p> <p>Instructors are to check the fitting of harnesses and helmets</p> <p>It is critical to make sure tension in always maintained on the belay ropes.</p> <p>The instructor is to have a hands on approach while supervising the lower off - one climber at a time, keeping the speed under control.</p> <p>The instructor is to end the session if safety is compromised at any point.</p> |
| Belayers slipping | Back/neck injury, sprains, bruising, and cuts. Injury to climber. | Individual | M | L/H | <p>Clear safety brief given by instructor</p> <p>The instructor is to have a hands on approach supervising the lower off, one climber at a time – keeping the speed under control.</p> <p>Ensure belayers are focused.</p> <p>Check ground is clear of debris and not slippery.</p> <p>Belayer should be attached into the system, to limit movement.</p> <p>Tension should be maintained on the belay line at all times.</p> |
| Panic attack | Shock, bruising, asthma | Individual | L | M | <p>Participants must carry relevant medication</p> <p>The instructor is to ensure they have a first aid kit on session.</p> <p>All rescues must be carried out in accordance with site specific procedures</p> |

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| Jacobs Ladder | | | | | Jacobs Ladder |
| Damage unsuitable equipment | Death, serious to minor injury | All | L | H | Pre use equipment checks carried out by instructors Equipment fitted, supervised and frequently checked by instructors Unserviceable equipment is dealt with accordingly. Any rough parts on the wooden bars to be sanded to prevent any splinters. |
| Incorrectly fitted equipment | Death, serious to minor injury | All | L | H | Instructor training and observations |
| Tangled belay lines in trees | Unable to belay properly to prevent falls Death serious to minor injury | All | L | M/H | Frequent site observations Removal of overhanging branches |
| Insect bites | Stings, allergic reactions, anaphylactic shock | Individual | L | L/M/H | Have any personal medication available |
| Bird droppings | Illness, disease, (potential bird flu) | Individual | L | M | Keep equipment clean Wash hands after activities |