

Risk assessment

Name of activity, event, and location	Low Zip wire (Leader Led) (Permanent Low Ropes Course) Willesley Scout Campsite (Including Covid 19 restrictions)	Date of risk assessment	26 th March 2021	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Peter Bailey
		Date of next review	26 th March 2022		

What hazard have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	How the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
Unauthorised use	Unauthorised trespassers and members.	Tower is locked and runner is locked to steel ring with gate locked shut at launch.	
Vandalism	Participants	Wire rope, braking system and anchors are checked at the start of each opening session by instructor.	
Slips, trips and falls	Participants	Soft woodland floor; Safety briefing by instructor including no use of equipment without instructor; Good Group control by leaders; Platforms to be cleared of tree debris before use.	
Contact between riders and spectators.	Participants & spectators	Full length of runway roped off and warning signs deployed. Leader in charge will have full view of course from launch platform	
Adverse weather conditions	Participants, instructors and spectators	Equipment not to be used during or 20 minutes after an electrical storm or there is an imminent threat of such conditions. Extra care in wet weather on platforms and other equipment becoming slippery. Instructors to dress suitably for weather conditions – including sun protection	
Entanglement	Participants	Long hair to be tied back and tucked in; neckers to be taken off. Riders instructed to hold button body and not touch wire rope when in motion Instructor checks wire rope at start of session.	
Human error, groups not listening to briefing	Participants	Full co-operation from group leaders for control and discipline. Session to be terminated if participants are acting in a dangerous or irresponsible manner.	
Descents	Participants	Check descent path is clear of obstructions or people before launch	

You can find more information in the Safety checklist for leaders and at scouts.org.uk/safety

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Injury from wire splinters	Participants	Riders instructed to hold button body and not touch wire rope when in motion Instructor checks wire rope at start of session and thoroughly each month.	
Swinging into trees	Participants	Trees cut back and monitored around zip wire regularly when in use.	
Riders coming to an abrupt stop and letting go	Participants	Weight limit of 70Kg imposed for all riders but increased to 110KG for training and inspection purposes by qualified instructors only.	
Covid 19 supervision	Leader in charge	Riders must be experienced in mounting button and are able to do so unsupervised, the leader in charge to stand on the ground close to the tower.	
Covid 19 Riders	Participant	Each rider must be able to dismount on own and be able to push the button back up to the top where the leader in charge will now be on the launch platform to receive the button and to wipe it down with an antibacterial wipe. Once this is completed then the leader leaves the tower and the next participant can then go. Leader and participants to wear face covering in accordance with national guidance.	

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