

Risk Assessment – Crate Climbing

Last reviewed by Craig Peters on 09/06/2024

Hazard Identified & Risks from It?	Who is at Risk?	How are the risks controlled?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
Participant is dropped from height, risk of injury.	Climber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climber to be securely fastened to safety rope by harness. • All staff must be competent in the operation of the belaying system and how to lower the participant down safely. • Belay must be anchored to the ground to reduce the risk of person belaying leaving the ground. • Person belaying must not be distracted during belaying. 	
Person hit by falling crates, risk of injury.	Belayer, Helpers & Spectators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricted climbing area to be marked out around the climber. • Nobody to enter the climbing area unless they are belaying or passing crates to the climber. • Everyone within the climbing area must wear a helmet. • Climber will be instructed to kick crate stack away from belayer and helpers when they fall. 	
Climber impact with tree, risk of injury.	Climber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climber to be wearing a helmet at all times. • Rope to be positioned so that climber cannot swing into the main tree trunk. 	
Choking by neckie / name badge, risk of injury.	Climber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff must check that climber has removed their name badge and neckie before they start climbing. 	

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Hair entanglement in pulley, risk of injury.	Climber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climbers with long hair to tie it back or tuck it under clothing before starting to climb. 	
Items dropped from climbers pockets, risk of injury.	Belayer & People Passing Crates to Climber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climber to empty their pockets of all items or check pocket zips are closed before starting to climb. 	
Dehydration and Heat Exhaustion	Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to check that young people bring a full water bottle with them to the activity. • Staff to monitor young people throughout the activity and advise anyone who is overheating to rest in the shade and drink water. • Water container to be available at each base for participants to re-fill water bottles. 	
Sunburn	Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If weather is sunny, or forecast to be sunny, staff to check that young people are wearing sun cream. 	
Cold and Hypothermia	Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If weather is wet or forecast to rain, staff to check that young people have brought a waterproof jacket to the activity. • Staff to check the young people are suitably clothed for the weather conditions, e.g. have jumpers / jackets with them. • Shelter to be available at the activity location, e.g. event shelter. 	