

**CYC Forest Edge  
High Ropes – Risk Management Plan**

<b>School:</b>	<b>Year Level:</b>
<b>Supervising teachers / staff:</b>	<b>Dates:</b>
<b>Program / Excursion:</b>	<b>Location:</b>

For an explanation of risk management terminology and to ensure you understand how the rating / grading system is determined please ensure you have read the **CYC Activity Risk Profile** document.

The **High Ropes** Risk Management Plan contains the specific risks, control measures and grading's for this activity, as well as the grading's of all general risks relevant for all CYC activities. Please refer to the **General Activity Hazards – Risk Management Plan** for a list of general risks and control measures relevant for all CYC activities.

Risk Description	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating		
		Likelihood	Consequence	Control Effectiveness
<b>Slip-Trip-Fall</b> 1. Climber falling from the High Ropes course from height	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-activity briefing completed by instructor</li> <li>The climber is to be attached with two auto locking carabiners</li> <li>Participants are instructed not to hang upside down in the harness</li> <li>All participants must wear a full body harness to prevent falls if inversion occurs. PPE is checked by the instructor prior to being connected to the rope</li> <li>Participants are instructed to hold onto the rope in front of them whilst being lowered and not touch the carabiners</li> </ul>	Rare	Major	Satisfactory
2. Belayer skill level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Qualified site staff are required to supervise all High Ropes sessions</li> <li>Belay training completed by qualified instructor (if participants or group leaders are belaying)</li> <li>Only qualified site staff or trained group members who have been assessed as a competent belayer by a qualified site staff member may belay</li> <li>If students are belaying there must have at least one back up belayer</li> <li>Students are given time to practice belaying whilst being carefully monitored</li> <li>Instructors are to directly observe belaying by students</li> </ul>	Unlikely	Moderate	Satisfactory
3. Injury to belayer caused by falling or losing balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Belayer must be alert and concentrating at all times</li> <li>If heavy participant is climbing, belayer may need someone to anchor them down</li> </ul>	Unlikely	Minor	Satisfactory
4. Wet / windy conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High Ropes should not be used in extremely wet conditions</li> <li>Where strong winds affecting the course reach 40+ kms the activity should be stopped</li> </ul>	Unlikely	Minor	Satisfactory
5. Inappropriate use after hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants are instructed to only use the High Ropes Course during a supervised activity session (this is not a free time activity)</li> <li>Warning signs are clearly displayed throughout the course</li> <li>When not in use the course is not accessible ie. Self-Belay Ladder access hatch is locked, ropes and ladder are secured or removed</li> </ul>	Rare	Major	Satisfactory

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<p><b>Entanglement</b> Hair, jewellery, clothes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long hair to be tied back in a low style for activities so the helmet may be fitted correctly</li> <li>• There should be no loose jewellery, scarves or objects worn that may become entangled</li> <li>• Jackets to be zipped, buttoned up or taken off</li> </ul>	Possible	Minor	Satisfactory
<p><b>Striking</b> 1. Falling object causing injury to belayer, instructor or bystanders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boundary is identified to all participants</li> <li>• Belay teams should be wearing helmets</li> <li>• Climbers should remove any loose objects from their pockets</li> <li>• Firmly fitting footwear must be worn with laces, buckles, velcro, etc. fastened securely</li> <li>• Belay teams to be alert and concentrating at all times</li> </ul>	Unlikely	Minor	Satisfactory
<p>2. Climber hitting ground or swinging into belayer/waiting participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only roped climbing is allowed on the High Ropes Course</li> <li>• Belayer/s communicate with climber and maintain a safe descent speed</li> <li>• Bystanders should be watching from designated area and are not permitted under the fall zone</li> </ul>	Rare	Moderate	Satisfactory
<p><b>Friction</b> 1. Harness chaffing due to inappropriate clothing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants are made aware of appropriate clothing upon arrival</li> <li>• Participants are asked to change clothing if inappropriate for the activity</li> </ul>	Possible	Minor	Satisfactory
<p>2. Rope burn to belayer or backup belayer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belayer/s must follow instructions provided and control the speed of descent with appropriate braking technique</li> </ul>	Unlikely	Minor	Satisfactory
<p><b>Equipment Failure</b> Injury caused by failure of;  Harness, helmet, rope, belay device, carabiners etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A check of personal equipment (harness, helmet) is completed prior to connecting climber</li> <li>• Carabiner and belay device connection is checked immediately prior to climbing</li> <li>• Regular equipment checks are completed and recorded, and equipment usage is logged</li> <li>• Equipment is used, maintained, stored and replaced in accordance with manufacturer guidelines</li> <li>• Program staff are trained to recognize worn or faulty equipment</li> <li>• Equipment belonging to participants must not be used</li> </ul>	Rare	Major	Satisfactory
<p><b>Structure Failure</b> Resulting in a fall/injury to the participant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A visual inspection of the High Ropes is completed by qualified site staff prior to use</li> <li>• Thorough periodic in-house maintenance checks are completed by trained program staff</li> <li>• Annual activity checks are completed by qualified professionals</li> <li>• If structure is unsafe the activity is not to be undertaken until the issue has been rectified</li> </ul>	Rare	Catastrophic	Satisfactory

**Risk Rating – High Ropes**

All identified risks are recorded in the Risk Matrix according to the Likelihood and Consequence ratings. The purpose of this matrix is to provide a snapshot of all identified risks and establish the level of risk associated to determine if further treatment is required.

X		Likelihood					
		Almost Certain	Likely	Possible	Unlikely	Rare	
Consequence	Catastrophic	80	64	48	32	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure Failure</li> <li>• Environmental Exposure 4</li> <li>• Environmental Hazard 3</li> </ul>
	Major	40	32	24	16	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Hazard 1</li> <li>• People – Instructor 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>• Inappropriate use after hours</li> <li>• People – Group Leader 2</li> <li>• Equipment Failure</li> <li>• Slip-Trip-Fall 1 &amp; 5</li> </ul>
	Moderate	20	16	12	8	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People – Participant behaviour</li> <li>• Striking 2</li> <li>• Environmental Exposure 3</li> </ul>
	Minor	10	8	6	4	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entanglement</li> <li>• Friction 1</li> <li>• Slip-Trip-Fall (General)</li> <li>• Environmental Exposure 1</li> <li>• Environmental Hazard 2</li> <li>• People – participant ability</li> <li>• Slip-Trip-Fall 3 &amp; 4</li> <li>• Striking 1</li> <li>• Friction 2</li> <li>• Entanglement</li> <li>• Cutting / Scratching</li> <li>• Striking</li> <li>• People – Group Leader 1</li> </ul>
	Insignificant	5	4	3	2	1	

NB: All risks in **bold** are **High Ropes** specific risks. All other risks are from the General Activity Hazards RMP and are therefore relevant for all activities.

For grading risks, scores obtained from the risk matrix are assigned grades as follows;

HIGH 20 – 80	MEDIUM 10 – 16	LOW 1 – 8
Unacceptable risk which requires immediate action to reduce or remove the hazard. <b>Senior management must be notified.</b> <b>Item should be TAKEN OFF LINE until risk reduced.</b>	Conditionally acceptable, requires short term controls and continuous monitoring.	Acceptable risk, however monitoring required ensuring risk does not escalate. Review in 12 months or if situation changes.

RMP REVIEWED BY: A Paterson

DATE: 30 / 04 / 2018

NEXT REVIEW DUE: April 2023