

Risk Assessment – Aerial Walkway

Baseline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Site Specific	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vulnerable Person	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Produced by:	Leigh Phillips		Date of issue:	05/01/2018	Review date:	01/01/2019	

Operating notes:

- Aerial Walkway should be understood to refer to activities within Kingswood whereby a participant is using the rope glider continuous wire rope trolley system. This activity is only delivered at Colomendy.
- This risk assessment does not cover Kingswood staff accessing the structure for routine inspection and maintenance. Please see the 'Work at Height inspections / maintenance' risk assessment.
- Structure and equipment must be managed as per the Kingswood Equipment Management Standards.
- 2 Activity Leader to 15 participants with 1 additional adult supervising group (max size 15)
- There should be a maximum of 1 active participant per element at any one time
- **Participants** - The Aerial Walkway activity should not be used by anyone that is/has:
 - Weight over 120kg (285lbs)
 - Pregnant (unless doctor's advice has been sought)
 - Any type of heart condition or heart-related issues (unless doctor's advice has been sought)
 - Any type of spinal injury or weak spine condition (unless doctor's advice has been sought)

Qualifications/ Competence:

- **Activity Leader** must be in-house assessed by an MIA or ERCA trainer, or have a relevant NGB qualification plus approval from the internal advisor; or be a Kingswood Ropes Trainer as approved by the internal technical advisor
- **Assistant Activity Leader** must be Ropes Assistant trained.
- **Nominated Chief Instructor** must hold a relevant NGB award and be approved by internal technical advisor.
- All Activity Leaders must have their first session observed and then every 6 weeks as per the observation standards.
- All Activity Leaders are required to maintain their skill level and must attend a rescue refresh every 3 months and after lengthy periods of shut down.

Risk – Benefit Statement:

There is a low 'real' risk of injury during Aerial Walkway but a high 'perceived' risk allowing a greater basis for learning.

Hazard Description and activities giving rise to risk	Who may be harmed	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Adverse weather – Lightning or High Winds	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff must follow the ROSPA 30/30 rule for lightning. If lightning occurs suddenly then the group should vacate the area immediately. As the facility is within a woodland environment then the activity should be cancelled during high winds to prevent falling branches becoming a risk. 	Low
Unauthorised access	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access points to roped activity structures must be secured against casual or unauthorised access when the equipment is not in use. All groups are briefed to stay off all activity equipment unless supervised by a Kingswood Activity Leader. 	Low`
Unsecure attachment to safety rope or Incorrectly fitted equipment	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helmets must be worn correctly as per the manufacturers guidelines by all persons within the designated area Where an activity specifies that a helmet must be worn, every effort must be made to get participants to wear one. However, this may present difficulties for those who wear a turban or other similar head covering. Participants in this activity who are wearing a full 'pagri' turban are exempt from wearing a helmet, as the turban should control sufficiently the risks that the helmet would otherwise guard against. This exemption does not apply to participants who are wearing a 'patka' or lighter cloth head covering, with or without a top-knot. These individuals must wear a helmet, and provision should be made for a private area where these participants can remove or adjust their patka in order to fit the helmet. Where a turban is worn in place of a helmet, special care must be taken to ensure that there is no risk of any loose cloth getting entangled in equipment or apparatus. Check participant PPE twice a) when fitting. b) before the climber is allowed to leave the ground. This final check should be visual for all group members to see. Check the participant has attached the Aerial Walkway trolley correctly before allowing them to leave the ground. This final check should be visual and verbal for all group members to observe. 	Low
Impact with ground or other obstacle	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check secure attachment before the participant leaves the first platform. Once attached the participant is unable to detach themselves without physically untying their knot. Participant lanyards should be kept as short as possible to minimize the distance of a fall. Brief the participants that if they are to slip from the obstacle they are likely to bump into the surrounding obstacles. 	Low

Hazard Description and activities giving rise to risk	Who may be harmed	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Entrapment	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief and check the participant has tucked away and secured any loose or baggy clothing. • Brief and check the participant has removed any large or dangly jewellery. • Brief and check the participant has tied back / secured long hair • The Activity Leader must check themselves for the above as well 	Low
Fall from height	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief the participants on the correct way to access the platform • Anyone operating at height must be suitably attached to a safety line. 	
Activity Leader double unclip (falling)	Activity Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must use the system as trained and negotiate the course in a controlled and safe manner. • To enable the Activity Leader to negotiate the course and bypass participants a fall arrest lanyard system is used 	
Panic & refusal / inability descend	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Activity Leader must be trained and assessed to carry out a “passive procedure” and lower participants to the ground where needed. • Where possible, stuck participants should be assisted back to a platform. • Where an individual is unable to be lowered to the ground the Activity Leader must execute the “Active Rescue” as trained. • The second Activity Leader must control the rest of the group and maintain communication with the rescuer throughout the process. 	Low