

# RISK ASSESSMENT

## Crate Climbing (Sheet 1 of 5)



Hazard	At Risk	Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Rating	Further Action
Transfer of infectious diseases such as COVID-19, Norovirus etc.	Everyone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PPE such as masks and visors available upon request. Cleaning kits containing sanitising spray, paper wipes and hand gel available upon request.</li> <li>Usage of above is voluntary unless infection rates are high when the Centre's procedures will require their use.</li> </ul>	3	Low - 2 High - 3	6 9	Adequately controlled
Fall from height	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sessions to be run in line with operating procedures by a qualified climbing instructor or somebody who has been assessed as competent to run the activity.</li> <li>Instructors to tail rope for inexperienced belayers and show the correct belaying technique.</li> <li>Instructor to remain in control of the dead rope when the climber is being lowered.</li> <li>Belayers who are lighter than the climber to be clipped to a weight bag.</li> <li>Instructor to check for correct fitting of all harnesses at start of session.</li> <li>Climber attached to the rope using a double figure of eight with stopper knot – a triple action carabiner can be used between the double figure of eight and the climber's harness.</li> <li>Anyone not attached to the belay system is only permitted to climb one crate high (to allow a little extra height when passing crates).</li> </ul>	3	1	3	Adequately controlled

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## Crate Climbing (Sheet 2 of 5)



Hazard	At Risk	Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Rating	Further Action
Structure failure	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any areas of concern to be reported to centre staff.</li> <li>Annual inspection undertaken by competent person of all metal work.</li> <li>The tree branch used for outdoor crate climbing is inspected by an arborist at the intervals recommended in the tree inspection report.</li> <li>Only 1 person to use an anchor point at any time.</li> <li>Quarterly recorded checks carried out by centre staff, any items of concern which can't be rectified in house are seen to by an external company.</li> </ul>	4	1	4	Adequately controlled
Entrapment / strangulation	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loose jewellery to be removed, long hair tied back and loose clothing to be secured.</li> <li>Neckerchiefs to be removed.</li> <li>Figure of eight and stopper knot tied neatly and close together to minimize a false loop which could become an entrapment hazard.</li> </ul>	1	4	4	Adequately controlled
Unauthorized use outside of sessions	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crates to be stacked neatly back in their pen at end of the session.</li> <li>Harnesses and ropes to be returned to storage at end of a session.</li> <li>Signs present in crate climbing area telling people not to climb without an instructor.</li> <li>Centre staff will challenge anyone messing around in the crate climbing area outside of sessions.</li> </ul>	3	2	6	Adequately controlled

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## Crate Climbing (Sheet 3 of 5)



Hazard	At Risk	Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Rating	Further Action
Poor weather	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the first sign of thunder and lightning, continue until the flash to bang is no less than 30 secs, at which point the activity stops immediately and all involved in the session are moved to a safe location away from the tree. The activity may continue 30 minutes after thunder is last heard.</li> <li>Ensure the group is wearing suitable clothing at the start of the session for the weather e.g. waterproofs / warm clothes.</li> <li>Sessions to be cancelled if high winds cause the crate tower to be unstable.</li> <li>Instructor to consider weather conditions, checking forecast if required, and has the final call on whether conditions are safe enough.</li> </ul>	1	4	4	Adequately controlled
Equipment / PPE failure	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructors to perform a pre use check on all climbing equipment being used</li> <li>Damaged or suspect equipment to be immediately quarantined in the quarantine box to stop it being mixed up with good equipment</li> <li>Equipment not to be taken from the quarantine box except for repair or destruction</li> <li>All equipment within manufacturers recommended lifespan</li> <li>All PPE inspected by a competent person at least every 6 months</li> </ul>	4	1	4	Adequately controlled

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## Crate Climbing (Sheet 4 of 5)



Hazard	At Risk	Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Rating	Further Action
Poor group behaviour	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A leader must stay with the group to manage the behaviour of people not currently involved in stacking or climbing.</li> <li>Strictly maximum group size of 10 per hour.</li> <li>Safety talk given at start of session about appropriate behaviour.</li> <li>Instructor to cancel session if groups behaviour causes a safety concern.</li> </ul>	2	2	4	Adequately controlled
Falling crates	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anyone near the tower must be wearing a correctly fitted helmet.</li> <li>Participants awaiting their turn and any other spectators must remain a safe distance from the fall zone of the crates.</li> <li>Instructors trained on the most likely direction the tower will fall but reminded that this is not guaranteed.</li> <li>Instructor to monitor tower stability and instruct people to move back when it looks like it is about to topple.</li> <li>Crates are not to be thrown for the climber – two people can lift the tower and slot in a new crate once the tower is too high to pass crates.</li> </ul>	2	3	6	Adequately controlled
Falling objects (other than crates)	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tree inspected by an arborist and dead wooded as required to reduce chance of branches falling.</li> <li>Participants instructed to empty their pockets before climbing.</li> <li>Anyone near the tower must be wearing a correctly fitted helmet.</li> </ul>	2	2	4	Adequately controlled

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## Crate Climbing (Sheet 5 of 5)



Hazard	At Risk	Control Measures	Severity	Likelihood	Rating	Further Action
Slips, trips and falls	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructor to check session area for obstacles before session starts and tidy up where needed.</li> <li>Spare equipment left out of the way of the session.</li> <li>Centre staff to keep area clear of leaves during autumn as part of normal leaf clearing duties.</li> </ul>	2	2	4	Adequately controlled
Instructor error	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructors to follow training and operating procedures at all times.</li> <li>Instructors to be given enough breaks throughout the day to avoid fatigue and concentration lapses.</li> <li>Newly qualified instructors are paired up with more experienced instructors for their first few sessions.</li> </ul>	4	1	4	Adequately controlled
Ankle injuries from landing on crate	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crates to be moved away from landing area before lowering the climber.</li> </ul>	3	1	3	Adequately controlled
Lack of confidence / freezing in place	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear instructions given by instructor on what the participant should do.</li> <li>Challenge by choice followed.</li> <li>Rescue procedures in place and instructors trained on what to do.</li> </ul>	2	3	6	Adequately controlled