

# RISK ASSESSMENT FOR JUNGLE PARC UK LTD

FALLS FROM HEIGHT FROM THE HIGH ROPES COURSE

Reviewed by Chris Reynolds H&S contractor- April 2017

Next Review: April 2018

## Introduction:

The European Standard “Sports and recreational facilities – Ropes courses” comes in two parts: EN 15567 Part 1 (Construction and safety requirements) and EN 15567 Part 2 (Operation requirements). This came into force as both a European and National (BSi) Standard from March 2009. This, along with some of the issues under the AAIAAC recommendations, are the basis of our Risk Assessment.

Assessing risks is simple in principle. It involves identifying hazards or examining what in a particular situation could cause harm or damage and then assessing the likelihood that harm will actually be experienced by a specified population and what the consequences would be (i.e. the risk). The overall objective is to obtain a view on how to manage the risk or to compare the risk with other risks. At a conceptual level, it has proved useful to make a distinction between an assessment of the risks (the evaluation of the likelihood of harm and its consequences for populations or individuals as described above) and risk control (the prioritisation of risks and the introduction of measures that might be put in place to reduce, if not prevent, the harm from occurring). This stems from the belief that an assessment of risks by and large can be scientific and objective but risk control less so because it integrates the results of an assessment of risks with other critical inputs.

[www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/meetings/ilgra/minrpt1a.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/meetings/ilgra/minrpt1a.htm)

Jungle Parc UK Ltd risk assessments are written in compliance with the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations and the assessments are reviewed when it is suspected that the assessments are no longer valid or there has been a significant change. They will be reviewed annually. Jungle Parc recognizes that risk assessments are fundamental in ensuring a safely run High Wire Activity Course. By continuous systematic and 2 dynamic assessment of risk by all Jungle Parc staff, adhering to the operational and safety procedures and policies and continuous training and assessment, risks are reduced to an acceptable level.

## Step 1: Identify the hazards

### Step 2 Identify 'who may be harmed'

Course User	People who are taking part in Jungle Parc,
Employees	Full time, seasonal
Public	The general public who are not taking part in the course

### Step 3. Evaluate the Risk.

#### LIKELIHOOD

Very low	Definitely will not happen
Low	Unlikely to happen
Medium	Moderate chance of accident happening
High	Quite likely to happen
Very high	Likelihood will happen

#### CONSEQUENCE

Very low	Injury very insignificant i.e. splinters
Low Injury	fairly minor i.e. minor cut, grazes, bruising
Medium	Injury would stop casualty continuing with task.
High	Serious injury requiring medical assistance i.e. broken bones
Very high	Very serious injury or possible fatality

**Step 4. Existing Control Measures:** These are the measures we have put in place to keep the risk to an acceptable level. The Residual Risk (RR) is the level of risk that remains after putting all the control measures into practice.

#### **RESIDUAL RISK (RR)**

<b>Very low</b>	Minimal risk, control measure more than necessary
<b>Low</b>	Control measures satisfactory Medium Control measures adequate
<b>High</b>	Control measure requires constant supervision. Re-assess situation
<b>Very high</b>	Control measures inadequate. Stop activity

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SER	HAZARD	LHD	CON	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED	EXISTING CONTROL MEASURES	FURTHER CONTROL MEASURES	RR
101	<p>Falling onto the ground or onto another person or onto another part of the course or another object due to:</p> <p>Unclipping from life line then slipping, jumping or falling either unintentionally or intentionally.</p> <p>Clipping onto the Life line incorrectly</p> <p>PPE Failure, Incorrect fitting etc</p> <p>Tree Failure</p> <p>Slips &amp; Trips</p> <p>All of the above hazards coul happen when opening or closing the course, operating the course, customers on the course, carrying out inspections or repairs on the course</p>	Low	Very high	<p>Employees</p> <p>Participants</p> <p>Contractors</p> <p>People watching the course (observers)</p> <p>Trespassers</p>	<p><b>Please see detailed control measures listed below 101 - 108</b></p> <p>Admission Controls</p> <p>Provision of Information</p> <p>Supervision</p> <p>Training</p> <p>Couse inspections</p> <p>PPE safe &amp; suitbale</p> <p>Opertional management</p> <p>Tree Control</p>	Nothing needed at present	low

### 101 ADMISSION CONTROL

Minimum age of 10 years recommended (Xplorer Course), due to learning ability for attaching to safety system (AFNOR standard). Age confirmed on Risk Acknowledgement and Disclaimer (RAD) also highlighted in booking terms and condition on site and online.

Minimum age of 4 years for Adventurer Course, in recognition of children's motor skills development and due to height of safety life line, continuous belay course.

Minimum heights 1.35m Xplorer & 1.05m Adventurer (wearing footwear) due to course construction and ability to attach to safety cable due to height. Construction documents. Height markers installed at all courses. Instructors carry out check if unsure.

Maximum weight of 20.5 stone / 130 kg due to load limits of course (Jacobs and Altus load testing advice). Scales provided at sites. Information provided to customers on booking confirmation documents, Disclaimer and website (also if harness does not fit the customer they will not be allowed on the course)

Anyone who is deemed to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs is not permitted access onto the course.

Pregnancy- anyone who is or think they may be pregnant are not permitted onto the course

Physical Injuries, participants must make staff aware of any physical injury before taking part in the course before filling in their risk disclaimer

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Clothing and footwear- participants will not be allowed on the course with open toed footwear and will not be allowed on with long dresses (this can cause entanglement etc) sensible footwear and clothing must be worn.

Mental/Disability issues, staff must be made fully aware of any disability or mental issues before participants fill out a risk disclaimer, staff will assess situation before allowing participants onto the course if safety is thought to be of concern.

Not being able to complete the training session after 2 attempts, if participants still cannot complete the training course safety after 2 attempts they will not be allowed on the course.

Not complying with safety rules, any participant unable to follow the safety rules will not be allowed onto the high ropes after their training session or if they are seen to unclip during their session they will be brought down immediately after 1 warning. (see staff training manual)

## 102 Provision of Information

Provision of information and training to course participants to ensure they and any children under their supervision are safe on the course; This information is provided in several different ways, on our website, Jungle Parc booking terms and conditions, when on site at the course (both visual rules and regs, within the Risk acknowledgment and during the training sessions carried out by staff) all of this information includes the risks involved when carrying out Jungle Parc ensuring people are aware of supervision ratios, PPE, Course signs, zip line procedures and the main safety procedure of always staying attached to the Life line at all times.

- Rules and Regulations are available for people in different languages English, French, Spanish, German, Polish & Welsh
- Participants who are 14 years or older are made fully aware they are personally responsible for ensuring they are connected to the life line at all times.
- Participants who are supervising children are made fully aware they are responsible for making sure the children are attached to the Life line at all times.
- Safety signage on the course reminding people to stay attached to the life line at all times
- Safety signage on the course alerting participants of the 'easy' and difficult' options including signage to stay attached to the life line at all times.
- Participants made fully aware that after completing a safety training they will not be supervised by an instructor and are personally responsible for their own safety and the safety of those under their supervision.
- All activities to be encountered on the course will be included in the training session, signage will alert the participants when on the course of how to complete the more trickier activities (e.g zip line/tarzan swing)
- All incidents are recorded and reviewed on a regular basis so lessons can be learnt and changes can be made where appropriate.

## 103 Supervision Ratios

Supervision by instructors to comply with the EN standards on levels 1, 2 & 3 supervision (see training manual for more detailed description)

Participating adults maintain supervise of children in their care and ensure the children understand the rules and regulations

Supervision ratios are as follows: Xplorer Course 1 adult (over 18) can supervise 2 children between the ages of 10-14 (changed in 2014 after EN regs change), children must be a minimum age of 10 and a minimum height of 1.35m, children 14+ are allowed on the course without an adult supervising however they must be signed in by an adult to ensure the adult has made sure the child fully understands the rules and regulation and has carried out the appropriate training session before starting the course.

Supervising Adults must stay next to the child at all times and only 1 platform either before or behind

Adventurer Course: Children must have a min height of 1.05m and min age of 4, 1 adult can supervise up to 5 children.

Staff supervision to follow EN regulations:

Staff regularly patrol under the course when participants are on the activities to ensure they are following the rules and completing the course safely and not in any difficulty.

Only competent instructors are allowed to carry out safety trainings, regular peer reviews are carried out to make sure instructors are including all essential safety information and can handle groups in busy situations, these are recorded in the 'peer review' reports and covered in the training manual.

## 104 Training

### Instructor Training:

All instructors must be competent at working on the course

- Instructor training: Instructors must be competent at working on the course and have completed all required training demonstrating they are competent, as stated by an assessment procedure laid down in the TM. Individual training records are maintained by the Site Manager.
- Instructors must be competent at delivering the Safety Talk to course participants in order to be able to do so.
- Instructors safety briefing Assessments by competent person ensure instructors are including all the correct critical safety information in the safety training.
- Training then assessment of course users to ensure they are safe to complete the course and understand that they must remain attached at all times.
- On site training session to ensure participant receive critical information, starting participants off at ground level and slowly gaining height. Course users read safety Rules at office in a calm environment (not under pressure) and complete risk acknowledgment disclaimer. Course users trained in how to use PPE and attach to the safety

system (at ground level) whilst wearing PPE.) Course users are monitored while completing the next 5 elements and must be within instructor's field of view so any mistakes can be identified and rectified.

- A minimum of one qualified rescue trained person (Manager or Instructor) is available whenever there is anyone (employee or course user) at height. A rescue bag is available, maintained with the correct equipment and checked regularly.
- Instructors are trained in the correct fitting and basic inspection of PPE to ensure they are safe for course participants and they cannot fall out of the harness and the harness is in good order and will not break. Training Manual.
- Site Managers undergo a 1 day PPE inspection course so they are competent to inspect PPE.
- All Managers and instructors are trained in the correct use of ladders for access and egress from the course to ensure they do not fall whilst climbing a ladder.
- Duty Managers undergo further training to ensure they are competent to operate the course when the Site Manager is not at site.

### **105 Course design, Inspections & Checks**

Courses are designed and constructed in compliance with EN Standard, including choice of materials, loads, support systems, marking, inspection and maintenance and documentation. Inaugural and annual inspection check.

- The course is designed so that the entry levels of all course can be safely locked away during closed hours so people cannot access the ladder and climb up onto the course.
- The course is designed so that the safety system that course users attach to is easily identifiable, by being colour coded red. This includes placing a red plastic wire at each end of a crossing.
- Before a course is inaugurated, it is to be inspected by an appropriately qualified Type A inspection body.
- Pre-use course checks and routine visual inspections are carried out by instructor when opening up the course to ensure the course is safe to use and no overnight damage has occurred. This is completed from the base of the zip wire where possible so any overnight vandalism can be checked.
- Periodic site operational checks (2 monthly) are carried out and recorded by the Site Manager or a competent person appointed by the Site Manager. The course check reports are regularly reviewed by the Directors.
- Annual periodical inspection of the course, including the zip lines, ladder, all anchor points and points used for rescues, by a competent person / company. A qualified inspector carries out this inspection, and a report is submitted (Verti Alps)
- Records of inspections and examinations, maintenance, testing and certificates of conformity are maintained. Daily Reports carried out before opening.

- Following high winds, snow and lightning the course must be checked thoroughly for any damage, initially from the ground and then on the course, prior to opening the course to participants. Hazards Caused by Cold Weather. Advice to Duty Managers on Damage to Courses.
- Wire rope is inspected for breaks during course checks.
- Hauling systems and bracing wires are either inaccessible to participants or clearly identified as not being a safe connection point. Bracing wires have a device that prevents misuse or uncontrolled descent (e.g. either out of reach so customers cannot attach with their PPE).

## 106 PPE

Effective procurement and management system, using reputable suppliers to ensure all PPE is of the correct standard (CE marked, etc) and design and has correct information provided for use and is therefore safe and appropriate for its intended use.

- All equipment must be / is used correctly as directed by manufacturers' guidelines. A copy of each new batch of PPE's manufacturing guidelines is to be kept on the PPE file.
- PPE must be / is assembled correctly and correct procedures are included in the Training Manual & PPE File
- When moving away from a stable platform, when crossing / using a dynamic obstacle, the PPE system of attachment to the safety system has a back up so if one element of the PPE is attached incorrectly, there is always a backup (e.g. Swing ).
- All PPE is checked for faults prior to first use (from the manufacturer)
- PPE inspections are carried out and recorded every few months by the Site Manager or a trained person appointed by the Site Manager. The equipment reports are regularly reviewed by the AM. Where PPE is thought to be defective it is placed in the quarantine box until examined by a qualified PPE inspector. Faulty PPE is returned to the supplier for repair or replaced.
- PPE is visually checked prior to and after each use by instructors. This includes harnesses and rescue equipment, which is inspected by a trained instructor.
- PPE is stored in a dry, clean area, away from any chemicals. PPE is cleaned and dried as detailed in the manufacturers' guidelines.
- All PPE is documented and logged by the Site Manager, including inspection and maintenance records. These records are checked periodically during the site audit by VERTI ALPS

- The Site Managers ensure that all instructors are trained in the correct fitting of PPE, its operation and its operating limits, inspection of the PPE and record the training on the individual staff.
- If a course user removes their harness for a rest break or toilet break, they must be checked for correct fitting prior to the course user returning onto the course.
- Patrolling instructors carry out visual checks to ensure that PPE is still fitted correctly and has not slipped or moved so that it is unsafe.
- Full body harnesses are fitted to course users who: have little or no hip definition whereby a normal sit harness may slip off their hips; are top heavy and may invert in a sit harness (this includes course users with large bellies, chests or slim hips)
- Only PPE approved by Jungle Parc can be used on our courses no personal PPE must not be / is not used

## 107 Operations systems and controls of the Course

- Courses are operated in compliance with EN Standard Part 2 to include documentation, participant information, safety instruction, equipment, supervision, inspection and maintenance and emergency plans and where not written mitigation is to be provided. EN Part 2.
- The system for clipping onto the safety system throughout the course has a backup (except when making a changeover on a stable platform), so that a “junction” can be passed without completely unclipping. Therefore two lanyards are used. Likewise in rescues there is a backup safety system.
- Operating restrictions of 1 customer per platform and 1 customer per obstacle to ensure elements are not overloaded and there is not overcrowding but to allow for correct supervision. Patrolling instructor check.
- In lightning, high winds, heavy ice and snow, the course is evacuated and closed. Emergency Evacuation Procedures.
- Whilst on the course, the use of mobile phones as telephones is not permitted as this can lead to distraction and unclipping from the course. Mobile phones can be used to take photographs but must be / are secured to the user to prevent them falling. Cameras must be / are also secured. Lanyards available.
- When the course is “closed”, the ladders allowing access onto the course are lifted up onto the platforms and locked so that trespassers cannot access the course. Moveable activities are also fully locked to avoid trespassers gaining entry to other areas of the course if they have managed to climb onto a platform.
- Any tasks being undertaken apart from the normal day to day running of the course (opening, closing) must be / are carried out by a minimum of two people; this includes any work involving moving obstacles or moving off the normal route of the course (platforms and wires) including changing the Tarzan net.
- There is to be no racing around the course due to the possibility of mistakes and shortcuts being made at changeovers. A challenge can be introduced whereby people are fully attached to the safety system and then are timed from leaving one platform to arriving at another (but no manipulation of the karabiners is required).
- First aid supplies are available and there is a minimum of 1 First Aid qualified member of staff on duty each day.
- Emergency evacuation procedure are produced by Site Managers for each course and included in the training (training manual) to ensure safe course evacuation should it be required.

## 108 Trees

- Prior to a new course opening all trees that form part of the course and the surrounding areas are inspected for stability and disease by an independent qualified arboriculture expert and a report submitted.
- All trees are inspected annually by an independent qualified arboriculture expert and a written report of these inspections is to be kept.
- System for monitoring trees where a potential problem has been identified by the arboriculturalist, including a photographic record where necessary. Tree Monitoring and Reporting.
- Measures are taken to protect tree roots from compaction (e.g. using woodchip or fencing off).