

RISK ASSESSMENT OF: Rope Challenge

PREMISES

EQUIPMENT

VEHICLE

SYSTEM OF WORK

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RISK ASSESSMENT BY: H Crampton

DATE COMPLETED: 13/7/2023

DISCIPLINE LEAD SIGN OFF: Nick Croudace 28/7/2023

DATE FOR REVIEW: after competition for learning outcomes

Notes:

General risk assessment for challenge
 Specific venue risk assessments have been completed separately and must be read in conjunction with this risk assessment. Any additional hazards may be added as scenarios are developed

TASK	HAZARDS IDENTIFIED	WHO MAY BE HARMED AND HOW?	EXISTING CONTROLS	IS THE RISK ADEQUATELY CONTROLLED? (YES / NO)	ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES & COMMENTS	SECTION / PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Setting up of scenario - manoeuvring of props into position	Props, including dummies Manual handling, travel distances up narrow spiral staircases and raking ladders for some scenarios	Volunteers Assessors Impact injury from props falling Musculoskeletal injuries during manoeuvring of props up narrow spiral staircases for some scenarios. Long travel distances Damage to structure	Area will not be accessible to the public, and areas below activity will be barriered. Dynamic assessment of most appropriate way of handling props and manoeuvring them into position. Volunteers and assessors are expected to have a reasonable level of fitness. Discussions with Cathedral staff and English Heritage for Cathedral and Castle. Other sites have also been examined, including water tower and Exchequer Gate	Yes	Assessors and volunteers will be warned of necessity to climb spiral staircases in cathedral	UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead

			<p>Access to scenario areas in Cathedral and water tower involves long travel distances up spiral staircases that are narrow and uneven in places, lighting is in place, and landing/rooms provide rest stops in Cathedral.</p> <p>Cathedral fixed winch available for use</p>			
General	<p>Weather conditions for outside scenarios – temperature extremes and wind and rain</p> <p>Sun and heat</p>	<p>Participants and assessors/volunteers/those acting as casualties</p> <p>Hypothermia</p>	<p>All aware that part of the competition is outside and wear appropriate garments provided by their FRS.</p> <p>Assessors to be made aware of nature of venue so they bring appropriate garments</p> <p>‘Casualties’ briefed to be appropriately dressed for weather conditions and bring spare clothing due to the situation of being in one place for the length of the scenario.</p> <p>Shelter available prior to competition and afterwards</p>	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead

			<p>Hot drinks or cold drinks/water provided for assessors and volunteers</p> <p>'Casualties' given opportunity for a toilet break and drinks</p> <p>'Casualties' are checked on during scenario and are able to request assistance if required.</p> <p>'For real' term used for real incident/rescue.</p>			
	<p>Ancient and fragile surfaces, steep staircases</p>	<p>Participants</p> <p>'casualties'</p> <p>assessors</p> <p>volunteers</p> <p>falls down spiral staircases, damage to ancient buildings, potential to get lost in Cathedral</p>	<p>Discussions with Cathedral staff and English Heritage - Scenarios designed to avoid fragile surfaces. Will be included in safety briefs and pre-scenario checks</p> <p>Use of fixed winch in cathedral to haul equipment to limit handling via narrow spiral staircases</p> <p>Assessors supervising and will halt any unsafe practices</p> <p>Cathedral staff available to escort. Participants are in teams so would raise alarm if anyone missing. Rope lead/</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Captain's briefing will include access arrangements - narrow spiral staircases and need to avoid damaging surfaces</p> <p>Winch to be checked by LFRS rope lead</p>	<p>UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead</p>

			<p>assessor in charge of scenario will count</p> <p>volunteers/assessors in and out at end of day</p>			
General	Bird droppings	<p>Participants</p> <p>'casualties'</p> <p>Assessors</p> <p>Volunteers</p> <p>Contamination and illness by being in contact with bird droppings</p>	<p>Buildings checked prior to scenario being developed and prior to event starting. Any severe contamination risks discussed with Cathedral and English Heritage in order to get droppings removed if required.</p> <p>Safety brief includes hygiene requirements and not eating or drinking until after decontamination.</p> <p>'Casualties' and assessors given opportunity to decontaminate prior to eating and drinking</p>	Yes	<p>Generic challenge safety brief to be issued at captains briefing.</p> <p>A UKRO Rope Rescue assessor will complete and sign off a specific pre-scenario safety checklist before every evolution.</p>	UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead
Scenario	Strong winds, adverse rain impacts for outside scenarios	Participants and assessors/volunteers/those acting as casualties	All those working on the structure/building will be anchored utilising anchor points and safe systems of work – harness and lanyard	Yes	<p>Generic challenge safety brief to be issued at captains briefing.</p> <p>A UKRO Rope Rescue assessor will complete and sign off a</p>	UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead

	Edges become slippery or gusts of winds blow individuals off balance	Two line working Weather report to be obtained week prior to event		specific pre-scenario safety checklist before every evolution.	
Working at height	Participants - long travel distances - falls from height Unable to self-rescue	Dynamic assessment of most appropriate way of handling props and manoeuvring them into position. Participants are expected to have a reasonable level of fitness. Participants are all competent at safe working at height and will rig safe systems of work for their protection PPE including harness, ropes, lanyards checked prior to use Two line working. Buddy checks Set of rope rescue kit available so that assessors/volunteers can affect a rescue Use of term 'for real' if anyone gets into difficulties/injured. Safety briefing	Yes	Generic challenge safety brief to be issued at captains briefing. A UKRO Rope Rescue assessor will complete and sign off a specific pre-scenario safety checklist before every evolution.	UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead

		Assessors/volunteers	All assessors and volunteers are competent at working at height, will wear PPE and be able to clip into anchor points	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead
Loose equipment	Participants - Impact from loose equipment dropped and impacting on casualties or other team members		Any props will be secure and checked prior to use - pre-scenario checks carried out. Helmets worn as part of PPE. Teams work separately so do not work above each other. Rope Rescue Assessors supervising will stop any unsafe work	Yes	Generic challenge safety brief to be issued at captains briefing. A UKRO Rope Rescue assessor will complete and sign off a specific pre-scenario safety checklist before every evolution.	UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead
		Volunteers Assessors	Helmets worn, safe systems monitored, and any unsafe working will be stopped	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead
		Public/bystanders impact from props moving or falling equipment	Barriers in place to create exclusion zone Safety officers acting as stewards if required due to position, especially in cathedral	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead

Scenario	Use of structure/building	<p>Participants, assessors, volunteers, ‘casualties’</p> <p>Injuries to hands, lacerations, traps, impact from secondary hatch in Cathedral loft space</p>	<p>Participants are competent and experienced at working at height, PPE is suitable</p> <p>Buildings chosen have been inspected by competent person prior to event and risk assessment completed</p> <p>First aid/trauma kit is available. AED available in Cathedral loft space</p> <p>loft hatch secured once opened and secondary hatch secured open whilst in use.</p>	Yes	<p>Generic challenge safety brief to be issued at captains briefing.</p> <p>A UKRO Rope Rescue assessor will complete and sign off a specific pre-scenario safety checklist before every evolution.</p>	UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead
		<p>Rope getting damaged due to rough edges on structure</p>	<p>Participants are competent and appreciate the risks of rough edges to rope. Assessors are competent and will look out for potential hazards and stop the participants if adequate protection is not in place</p>	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead
	Handling of casualties and stretcher	<p>Participants, musculoskeletal injuries</p>	<p>Participants are competent at handling systems and declare themselves fit to compete at the start of the competition</p>	Yes	<p>Generic challenge safety brief to be issued at captains briefing.</p> <p>A UKRO Rope Rescue assessor will complete and sign off a</p>	UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead

		Injuries to 'casualties' through being dropped, serious impact injuries or injuries due to banging into structure	<p>when registering, and at each scenario start briefing</p> <p>Participants are competent and capable of effecting a rescue. Systems of work are monitored by assessors and any unsafe practices will be halted</p> <p>Drill dummies being used at Cathedral</p>		specific pre-scenario safety checklist before every evolution.	
	<p>Noise from other teams</p> <p>Noise from Cathedral bells</p>	<p>Participants hear wrong message/instructions leading to inappropriate actions and injuries</p> <p>Hearing damage or being startled by bells</p>	<p>Participants asked to bring radios</p> <p>Participants requested to pre-fix radio messages with call sign assigned to them</p> <p>Bells ring on hour, noise is short duration and can be managed through PPE</p>	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead
	Height	'Casualty' used in some scenarios	Casualties are SWAH qualified and wear PPE including helmets	Yes	Generic challenge safety brief to be issued at captains briefing.	UKRO Rope Lead & Lincs FRS Rope Lead

		<p>Fall from height, debris or loose equipment impacting on them</p>	<p>Suspended prior to participants arriving by competent assessor and confirmation given that they are comfortable prior to start of competition in work restraint.</p> <p>Contact maintained with casualty by assessors</p>		<p>A UKRO Rope Rescue assessor will complete and sign off a specific pre-scenario safety checklist before every evolution.</p>	
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