

**RISK ASSESSMENT OF:** Rope Challenge

PREMISES

EQUIPMENT

VEHICLE

SYSTEM OF WORK

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RISK ASSESSMENT BY: H Crampton

DATE COMPLETED: 23/7/2024

DISCIPLINE LEAD SIGN OFF: N Croudace

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	Volunteers Assessors Impact injury from props falling Musculoskeletal injuries during manoeuvring of props	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.	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & H&IW FRS Rope Lead
General	Weather conditions for outside scenarios – temperature extremes and wind and rain	Participants and assessors/volunteers/those acting as casualties	All aware that part of the competition is outside and wear appropriate garments provided by their FRS.	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & H&IW FRS Rope Lead

	Sun and heat	Hypothermia	<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> <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>			
General	Bird droppings	Participants 'casualties'	Buildings checked prior to scenario being developed and prior to event starting.	Yes	Generic challenge safety brief to be issued at captains briefing.	UKRO Rope Lead & H&IW FRS Rope Lead

		<p>Assessors</p> <p>Volunteers</p> <p>Contamination and illness by being in contact with bird droppings</p>	<p>Any severe contamination risks discussed with building manager 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>		<p>A UKRO Rope Rescue assessor will complete and sign off a specific pre-scenario safety checklist before every evolution.</p>	
Scenario	Strong winds, adverse rain impacts for outside scenarios	<p>Participants and assessors/volunteers/those acting as casualties</p> <p>Edges become slippery or gusts of winds blow individuals off balance</p>	<p>All those working on the structure/building will be anchored utilising anchor points and safe systems of work – harness and lanyard</p> <p>Two line working</p> <p>Weather report to be obtained week prior to event</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 & H&IW FRS Rope Lead
	Working at height	<p>Participants</p> <p>- long travel distances</p>	<p>Dynamic assessment of most appropriate way of handling props and manoeuvring them into position. Participants are</p>	Yes	<p>Generic challenge safety brief to be issued at captains briefing.</p>	UKRO Rope Lead & H&IW FRS Rope Lead

		<p>- falls from height</p> <p>Unable to self-rescue</p>	<p>expected to have a reasonable level of fitness.</p> <p>Participants are all competent at safe working at height and will rig safe systems of work for their protection</p> <p>PPE including harness, ropes, lanyards checked prior to use</p> <p>Two line working. Buddy checks</p> <p>Set of rope rescue kit available so that assessors/volunteers can affect a rescue</p> <p>Use of term 'for real' if anyone gets into difficulties/injured. Safety briefing</p>		<p>A UKRO Rope Rescue assessor will complete and sign off a specific pre-scenario safety checklist before every evolution.</p>	
		Assessors/volunteers	<p>All assessors and volunteers are competent at working at height, will wear PPE and be able to clip into anchor points</p>	Yes		<p>UKRO Rope Lead &amp; H&amp;IW FRS Rope Lead</p>
	Loose equipment	<p>Participants</p> <p>- Impact from loose equipment dropped and</p>	<p>Any props will be secure and checked prior to use - pre-scenario checks carried out.</p>	Yes	<p>Generic challenge safety brief to be issued at captains briefing.</p>	<p>UKRO Rope Lead &amp; H&amp;IW FRS Rope Lead</p>

		impacting on casualties or other team members	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		A UKRO Rope Rescue assessor will complete and sign off a specific pre-scenario safety checklist before every evolution.	
		Volunteers Assessors	Helmets worn, safe systems monitored, and any unsafe working will be stopped	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & H&IW FRS Rope Lead
		Public/bystanders impact from props moving or falling equipment	Barriers in place to create exclusion zone	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & H&IW FRS Rope Lead
Scenario	Use of structure/building	Participants, assessors, volunteers, 'casualties'	Participants are competent and experienced at working at height, PPE is suitable  Buildings chosen have been inspected by competent person prior to event and risk assessment completed  First aid/trauma kit is available.	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 & H&IW FRS Rope Lead

		Rope getting damaged due to rough edges on structure	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	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & H&IW FRS Rope Lead
	Handling of casualties and stretcher	Participants, musculoskeletal injuries  Injuries to 'casualties' through being dropped, serious impact injuries or injuries due to banging into structure	Participants are competent at handling systems and declare themselves fit to compete at the start of the competition when registering, and at each scenario start briefing  Participants are competent and capable of effecting a rescue. Systems of work are monitored by assessors and any unsafe practices will be halted	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 & H&IW FRS Rope Lead
	Noise from other teams	Participants hear wrong message/instructions leading to inappropriate actions and injuries	Participants asked to bring radios  Participants requested to pre-fix radio messages with call sign assigned to them	Yes		UKRO Rope Lead & H&IW FRS Rope Lead

	Height	<p>'Casualty' used in some scenarios</p> <p>Fall from height, debris or loose equipment impacting on them</p>	<p>Casualties are SWAH qualified and wear PPE including helmets</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>	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 & H&IW FRS Rope Lead