

## APPENDIX L

### RISK ASSESSMENT – HIGH ZIP WIRE (Permanent High Ropes Course)

#### What are the hazards?

- Unauthorized Use
- Vandalism
- Slips, Trips and Falls
- Falls from height
- Items falling from height
- Becoming trapped at height
- Adverse weather conditions
- Human error, inappropriate use of equipment.
- Ladders slipping
- Slipping on foot wires
- Swinging into trees
- Pre-existing medical conditions
- Contact with hawser and/or braking mechanism

#### Who is at risk?

Instructors, participants and spectators

Risks	Controls
Slips, trips and falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Soft woodland floor</li><li>○ Safety briefings including no running and no use of equipment without an instructor</li><li>○ Good group control from instructors and group leaders</li><li>○ First aid support</li><li>○ Platforms to be cleared of tree debris before use</li></ul>
Contact between riders and spectators or casual users of the woods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Landing zones fenced off</li><li>○ Demountable barriers and warning signs where riders' legs likely to be less than 2.25m above ground level</li><li>○ Supervisor will have full view of course from launch platform</li></ul>
Falling from height from faulty equipment and unauthorized use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Launch tower locked shut, top and bottom, when not in use</li><li>○ Loose equipment packed away and stored in as secure location when not in use</li><li>○ All elements and PPE checked as per maintenance schedule</li><li>○ Annual inspection by external body</li><li>○ Equipment replaced as necessary – either through checks or through manufacturers guidelines.</li></ul>
Items falling from height	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Regular dead wooding and annual tree inspection</li><li>○ Participants asked to remove loose items from their pockets</li><li>○ Upper platforms kept clear of tree debris and loose equipment</li></ul>

Adverse weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Equipment not be used during or 20 minutes after electrical storms, or if there is an imminent threat of such conditions.</li> <li>○ Extra care to be taken in wet weather as platforms and equipment will become slippery</li> <li>○ Supervisors and participants to dress for the weather – including sun protection</li> </ul>
Training – inexperienced staff accessing. Inexperienced staff running sessions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Compliance with local training and permit protocols.</li> <li>○ Compliance with Scout Association rules</li> <li>○ Compliance with Girlguiding UK rules</li> <li>○ For further information about the training and assessment periods for this activity please see the activity training folder.</li> </ul>
Human error by supervisor – misuse of equipment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All supervisors trained in the proper use of PPE, including belay devices etc. Frequent peer monitoring</li> </ul>
Incorrect use of ladders leading to falls from height or to ladders falling on people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All supervisors trained in the safe use of ladders</li> <li>○ All ladders are suitable for the tasks.</li> <li>○ Ladders are secured top and bottom</li> </ul>
Inversions compromising the security of the harness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chest harnesses available if experience, confidence or physiology of riders dictates.</li> <li>○ Supervisors to use discretion</li> </ul>
Entanglement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Long hair to be tied</li> <li>○ Loose clothing to be secured or removed as appropriate</li> </ul>
Human error – groups not listening to briefings and taking in vital information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Full co-operation from group leaders in group control and discipline</li> <li>○ Session to be suspended if participants are acting in a dangerous or irresponsible manner.</li> </ul>
Limited understanding due to additional support needs or language barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This should be confirmed with groups prior to the session commencing.</li> <li>○ Advanced notification and high level supervision (provided by the group's own staff) required for all groups with substantial support needs</li> <li>○ For less substantial support needs, the level of supervision should be agreed before the session commences.</li> </ul>
Descents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ensure the previous rider has cleared the landing area before commencing descent</li> <li>○ Check decent path is clear of obstructions or people</li> <li>○</li> </ul>
Cuts from wire splinters in the wire rope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Participants briefed not to hold onto the wire ropes</li> <li>○ Wire ropes inspected thoroughly every month</li> </ul>
Swinging into trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All elements are designed to avoid contact</li> </ul>

