



# Risk Assessment

## – Low Zip Wire (Low Ropes Course)

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### **What are the hazards?**

- *Unauthorized Use*
- *Vandalism*
- *Slips, Trips and Falls*
- *Adverse weather conditions*
- *Human error, inappropriate use of equipment.*
- *Swinging into trees*

### **Who is at risk?**

*Instructors, participants and spectators*

<b>Risks</b>	<b>Controls</b>
<i>Slips, trips and falls</i>	<i>o Soft woodland floor o First aid support o Platform and access steps to be cleared of tree debris before use o Zip wire run to be cleared of obstructions before use</i>
<i>Contact between riders and spectators or casual users of the woods</i>	<i>o Full length of runway roped off and warning signs deployed</i>
<i>Adverse weather</i>	<i>o Equipment not be used during or 20 minutes after electrical storms, or if there is an imminent threat of such conditions. o Extra care to be taken in wet weather as platforms and equipment will become slippery o Supervisors and participants to dress for the weather – including sun protection</i>
<i>Entanglement</i>	<i>o Long hair to be tied o Loose clothing to be secured or removed as appropriate</i>

### **Ashby and Coalville District Scout Council**

**District Commissioner: Amanda Makemson:**

46 Kenmore Crescent, Coalville, Leicestershire, LE67 4RQ

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**Charity Number: 521717**



<i>Human error – groups not listening to briefings and taking in vital information.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>o Full co-operation from group leaders in group control and discipline</i></li> <li><i>o Session to be suspended if participants are acting in a dangerous or irresponsible manner.</i></li> </ul>
<i>Limited understanding due to additional support needs or language barriers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>o This should be confirmed with groups prior to the session commencing.</i></li> <li><i>o Advanced notification and high level supervision (provided by the group's own staff) required for all groups with substantial support needs</i></li> <li><i>o For less substantial support needs, the level of supervision should be agreed before the session commences.</i></li> </ul>
<i>Descents</i>	<i>o Check descent path is clear of obstructions or people before launch</i>
<i>Cuts from wire splinters in the wire rope</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>o Visual check prior to use</i></li> <li><i>o Participants briefed not to hold onto the wire ropes</i></li> <li><i>o Wire ropes inspected thoroughly every month</i></li> </ul>
<i>Swinging into trees</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>o All elements are designed to avoid contact</i></li> <li><i>o Check for fallen / misaligned trees before use</i></li> <li><i>o Periodic check for protruding limbs (see routine maintenance schedules)</i></li> </ul>
<i>Unauthorised use</i>	<i>o Traveller to be secured to launch tower with bicycle lock or similar when not in use</i>
<i>Riders coming to an abrupt halt and letting go</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>o A weight limit of 70kg imposed for all riders.</i></li> <li><i>o NB: limit raised to 110kg for training and inspection purposes by qualified instructors</i></li> </ul>

### Version Control

<b>Issue no.</b>	<b>Prepared by</b>	<b>Checked by</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Observations</b>
1	David Grose	Joby Maw Davis	24/9/12	
2	James Banks	David Grose	14/5/13	A new weight limit imposed; minor changes

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