

MOBILE CLIMBING WALL RISK ASSESSMENT

Assessed by: Lauren Bean

Date of Assessment: 16/12/19

Date of Review: 14/12/20



Hazard	Risk	Persons at Risk	Initial Rating			Actions	Rating After
			Severity	Probability	Rating		
Equipment Failure (Harnesses, Carabiners, PPE, Auto-Belay)	Falling leading to Serious Injury, fractures, or possibly death.	Participants Instructors	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All PPE to be checked at the start of each day, prior to use by a trained staff member. Daily checks to be carried out on the wall by, or supervised by, a staff member trained on climbing. Maximum user weight of 18 stone for auto-belays 	4
Incorrect fitting of harness	Falling leading to Serious Injury, fractures, or possibly death.	Participants Instructors	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harnesses to be checked by a trained staff member prior to each climb. 	4
Falling objects	Head injury, bruising, cuts, grazes.	Participants Instructors Spectators	3	2	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants shoes must be secure Climbers to remove loose items from pockets and unsecured jewellery. No waiting participants or spectators in the climbing area. Only soft toys to be used for 'rescue' 	3
Contact with wall during climbing and lowering	Head injury, cuts, bruises, grazes.	Participants Instructors	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety brief given to all climbers. 	2
Climber becoming 'hooked' on holds	Choking, strangulation, serious injury or death.	Participants Instructors	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helmets should not, in usual circumstances, be worn while using solely the auto belay. Instructors must be vigilant Long hair tied back Loose clothing tucked away. Excess webbing on harness to be tucked away. Correct fitting of PPE Appropriate route setting 	4

The Outdoor Education Company (east) Limited – Mobile Climbing Wall Risk Assessment

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Climbers descending on to others	Bruises, cuts, head or body injury.	Participants Instructors Spectators	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No waiting climbers or spectators in the climbing area. Consider the use of barrier 	2
Traversing	Falling from a low height. Bruises, cuts, head or body injury.	Participants Instructors				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good briefing by instructor. Appropriate spotting, with regarding to size of climbers and those spotting. Instructor in good observational position. All hardware removed form harnesses. Floor area clear of obstructions. Auto belays/tracers kept out of the way. 	
Jewellery getting caught on rope/rock.	Injury to fingers	Participants	1	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants must be asked to take rings off prior to the start of the session/climb and other loose or dangly items tucked away or removed. 	4
Incorrect 'clipping in' (auto-belays)	Falling, serious injury, death, broken bones	Participants Instructors Spectators	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unqualified instructors to be supervised at all times. Carabiners to be doubled checked that they closed and clipped in correctly. Participants encouraged to check their own carabiner Instructors encouraged to 'buddy check' when working with others 	4
Lack of/poor supervision	Minor injury, Serious Injury, fractures, or death.	Participants Instructors	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor must be trained (and assessed where appropriate) to the minimum standards for the type of activity. NGB Qualifications checked 	4

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Additional metal work used for assisted climbing	Bruises, cuts, head injury.	Participants Instructors spectators	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helmets may be worn by instructors and helpers. • Participants may also wear a helmet and this should be encouraged when using a manual system in addition to the auto belay. 	2
Incorrect knot tying/ Use of inappropriate knots. (roped climbing)	Falling leading to Serious Injury, fractures, or death.	Participants Instructors	4	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All participants must be tied in using a figure of eight knot or Clipped in with a locking carabiner and figure eight on a bight only. • All belaying to be backed up by instructor. • Instructor and peer/buddy checks used 	4
Being pulled into the Wall whilst belaying. (roped climbing)	Causing falling climber	Participants Instructors	4	1	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are made aware of potential hazards and where appropriate taught to belay with the aid of a ground anchor. 	4
Hands or hair caught in a belay device. (Roped /Accessible)	Minor Injury	Participants Instructors	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students belaying must be shown the correct procedure for belaying and briefed on the potential hazard of getting their hand caught. Long hair should be tied back. 	3
Lighting/storms/ high winds	Burns, electrocution, serious injury or death	Participants Instructors Spectators	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit to be lowered in case of suspected electrical storm (if storm appears suddenly, all persons to leave area immediately - at least 15 metres away). • Unit not to be raised or lowered in winds above 20 mph. Unit not be used in winds above 30 mph. 	4

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Finger entrapment	Injury to fingers	Participants	3	2	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If participants attempt to use hangars hooks as (hand) holds they must be advised not to do so. Eye bolts removed from the bottom of the wall and replaced with cord/hold and new termination. 	3
Unsupervised access	Falling, cuts, bruises, serious injury, possibly death.	Public	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the wall is left in an insecure area, the climbing wall should be lowered, the lower section covered or supervision (not necessarily an instructor) provided to ensure nobody climbs. 	4
Structural Failure of the climbing wall	Serious injury or death	Participants Instructors Spectators	4	1	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily checks completed Annual checks completed 	4
Marquees	Head injury, bodily injury	Participants Instructors Spectators	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marquees to be staked or weighed down. Marquees not used in high winds with weights only Participants monitored to reduce the risk of pins being pulled 	3
Weather	Sunburn, heat exhaustion.	Staff+ Participants	3	2	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure a shaded area is available during hot weather Encourage the use of sun cream and sun hats. 	3