

Wobble Pole Climb

Activity Area: Outdoor Tower
Minimum Staffing Level: 1 Instructor per group
Staff/Pupil Ratio: 1:12 (1:1 when climbing)
Staff Qualifications: In-house Training MIA assessed
Maximum Number of Participants: 15
Role of Accompanying Adult: Supervision of group at tower base

Hazard	Outcome/Injury	Persons at risk	Rating	Existing Controls
Fall from height	Death Serious injury	Instructors Participants,	4 - 1	Staff and participants clipped to safety line at start of climb. Correctly fitted helmets and harnesses worn by all participants and staff. Participant descent controlled by trained instructor via safety rope. Tower secured against unsupervised access.
Equipment failure	Death Serious injury	Instructors Participants	3 - 1	All equipment checked by instructors prior to use. Daily and weekly equipment checks carried out.
Objects falling from structure	Head or Bodily injury	Instructors Participants	3 - 2	Correctly fitted helmets must be worn within designated area. Base of tower and immediate area out of bounds to casual spectators.
Contact with pole during ascent or descent	Head injury, Back injury, Sprains, Cuts, Grazes, Bruises	Participants	3 - 2	Correctly fitted helmets worn while climbing. Correct technique described by trained instructors. Suitable clothing should be worn (including footwear) Long hair and loose clothing or items of jewellery safely tucked away.
Belay equipment	Cuts, crush injury, bruising	Instructors	3 - 3	Instructors trained in correct use of belay equipment. Belay equipment checked for defects prior to use.
Trip hazards (ground anchors)	Sprains, cuts, bruises	Instructors Participants	3 - 3	Ground anchors clearly marked.
Descent	Minor Injury	Participants	1 - 3	Participants instructed on how to descend the pole safely by pushing themselves away from the pole
Harnesses and helmet incorrectly fitted	Death Serious injury	Participants, Instructors Observers	3 - 1	Instructor to brief all participants on the correct fitting of harnesses and helmets prior to commencing the activity. Instructor to check each individual's harness and helmet immediately before they ascend the Pole
Structural failure	Death Serious injury	Instructors Participants Observers	4 - 1	Hand holds checked weekly. Climbing structures subject to inspection by an independent engineer.
Adverse weather conditions (outdoor walls)	Electrocution, Exposure	Instructors Participants Observers	3 - 1	Weather reports monitored. Activity stopped during electrical storms, high winds and heavy rain.
Unauthorised Access	Death Serious injury	All	3 - 1	Group Leader briefing, signage & controlled access. Area locked and secure when not in use.
Hyperthermia / Hypothermia	Serious injury	Instructors Participants	3 - 2	Appropriate clothing, time out of sun, fluid breaks.

Key

Rating: Likelihood (1 = Very High, 2 = High, 3 = Medium, 4 = Low) - Consequence (1 = Fatal 2 = Major Injury 3 = Minor Injury 4 = No Injury)