



Risk Assessment For Ride The Hill

Assessing risks is simple in principle. It involves identifying hazards or examining what in a particular situation could cause harm or damage and then assessing the likelihood that harm will actually be experienced by a specified population and what the consequences would be (i.e. the risk). The overall objective is to obtain a view on how to manage the risk or to compare the risk with other risks. At a conceptual level, it has proved useful to make a distinction between an assessment of the risks (the evaluation of the likelihood of harm and its consequences for populations or individuals as described above) and risk control (the prioritisation of risks and the introduction of measures that might be put in place to reduce, if not prevent, the harm from occurring). This stems from the belief that an assessment of risks by and large can be scientific and objective but risk control less so because it integrates the results of an assessment of risks with other critical inputs.

(www.hse.gov.uk/risk)

Step 1.

Identify the Hazards

Step 2.

Identify "Who may be harmed?"

- Course User - People who are taking part in the High Wire Activity Course
- Employees - Full time, seasonal and freelance instructors, and any head office staff.
- Public - The general public who are not actually taking part in the course (spectators or forest users).
- Contractors - People working for a company or individual contracted by Go Ape to work on or around the course, etc.

Step 3.

Evaluate the Risk.

Likelihood?	
Very Low	Definitely will not happen
Low	Unlikely to happen
Medium	Moderate chance of accident happening
High	Quite likely to happen
Very high	Likelihood will happen

Consequences?	
Very Low	Injury very insignificant
Low	Injury fairly minor
Medium	Injury would stop casualty continuing with task / activity
High	Serious injury requiring medical assistance(i.e. broken bones / deep cuts)
Very High	Very serious injury / possible fatality

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Step 4.

Existing Control Measures. These are the measure we have put in place to keep the risk to an acceptable level. The Residual Risk (RR) is the level of risk that remains after putting all the control measures into practice.

Residual Risk	
Very Low	Minimal risk, control more than necessary
Low	Control measures satisfactory
Medium	Control measures adequate
High	Control measures require constant supervision
Very High	Control measures inadequate. Stop activity.

Step 5.

The Review Process. Go Ape risk assessments will be reviewed when it is suspected that the assessment is no longer valid or there has been a significant change. In addition they will be thoroughly reviewed annually.

Ride The Hill's risk assessments are written in compliance with the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations and in accordance with HSE's 5 Steps to Risk Assessment. The assessments are reviewed when it is suspected that the assessments are no longer valid or there has been a significant change. They are also reviewed annually. Ride The Hill recognises that risk assessments are fundamental in ensuring a safely run Adventure Course. By continuous and dynamic assessment of risk by all Ride The Hill staff, adhering to the Ride The Hill operational and training manual, risks are reduced to a reasonable level. To carry out daily risk management all staff must be able to fully understand the Risk Assessment procedure as detailed above.

This risk assessment looks at the risk of falls and injury whilst on the slopes within the Ride The Hill Mountainboard centre and groups the control measures into various categories (see "existing control measures in table below).The assessment refers to the Ride The Hill operations and training manual. If you identify any additional foreseeable risks or have any ideas on how this Risk Assessment can be improved, or identify further control measures please provide feedback to info@ridethehill.com . Thank you.

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Admission Controls
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum age of 8 years of age for learning ability to use ski lift and riding areas safely. Age confirmed on Risk Acknowledgement Disclaimer • All riders over the age of 16 to sign a Risk Acknowledgement disclaimer for themselves agreeing to understand the sport involves an element of risk and could result in injury. Children under the age of 16 need a responsible parent or guardian to sign the Risk acknowledgement Disclaimer for them agreeing to the above information. • Anyone who is deemed to be under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances will not be allowed to take part in activities at Ride The Hill. • Anyone who has an existing physical injury is urged to notify the instructors / staff members at the centre and must understand that in signing the disclaimer they understand the risks. • All riders using own equipment must be aware of how to use their equipment. Staff to check that the participants safety equipment is up to spec and meets standards and the board is safe. • All riders must wear Knee Pads, Elbow Pads, Wrist Guards and an up to spec Helmet. • Leashes or fixed bindings must be warned. Staff / Instructors to check. • Footwear and clothing must be sturdy and safe. Entry will be refused to people wearing unsuitable footwear including sandals and flip-flops.

Main Building							
Where?	Hazard?	LHD	CON	Who might be harmed?	Existing Control Measures	Further Control Measures	RR (Residual Risk)
Front Door	Slips & Trips	Medium	Low	All Parties	Visible colour door to indicate building entry. Ramp up to floor level.	Potential high visibility paint	Low
Floor in shop	Slips & Trips	Medium	Low	All Parties	To minimise slipping, we have painted the floor with slip resistant floor paint, this is regularly carried out once the paint starts wearing through.	N/A	Very Low
Step down to retail area	Slips & Trips	Medium	Low	All Parties	Step is painted in high visibility orange paint to indicate a step	Potential "Mind The Step" Signage	Low
Step up to retail area	Slips & Trips	Medium	Low	All Parties	Step is painted in high visibility orange paint to indicate a step	Potential "Mind The Step" Signage	Low
Lighting and Electrics	Electrical Shock	Low	High	All parties	Ensure all electrical repairs and work is carried out by qualified electricians. All work has certification on site.	N/A	Low

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Signing In Desks	Edges and Knocks	Low	Low	All Parties	We must make sure that all the edges around the desk are rounded and smoothed off, to minimise the risk should anyone come into contact with it.	N/A	Very Low
Rubbish & Recycling Bins	Diseases and Infections	Low	High	All Parties	Bins are regularly checked for sharp edges, which are rounded if discovered, and they are routinely bleached and cleaned, to make sure that all bacteria's are destroyed.	Build surrounds around bins	Low
Pen Pot	Chewing / Choking / Poking / Impaling	Low	High	All Parties	Pens are stored up on the top of the main desk, staying well out of the way from small children and infants, minimising the chance that they can be picked up and chewed upon.	N/A	Very Low
Hot Water Kettles	Burns / Scalding	Medium	High	Staff Only	Staff only to use the kitchen area. Kettle is kept in the kitchen area with a staff only sign at the entrance. Anyone ignoring this is breaking the location rules and could be asked to leave	N/A	Low
Gravelled Area	Slips & Trips	Medium	Low	All Parties	Gravel is raked regularly and any foreign objects are removed	N/A	Low
Boards and equipment left in padding up area	Slips & Trips	Medium	Medium	All Parties	Pads are returned to bins for storage and boards are stored out of the way when not being used.	N/A	Medium

Toilet Area							
Where?	Hazard?	LHD	CON	Who might be harmed?	Existing Control Measures	Further Control Measures	RR (Residual Risk)

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Trees around entrance	Snags / Scratches	Low	Low	All Parties	Keep trees trimmed back out of the way. If tree does decline it will need to be removed.	N/A	Very Low
Toilet Steps	Trips & Slips	Medium	Low	All Parties	Steps are painted and maintained regularly, ensuring stability.	N/A	Low
Main Door	Obstructions & Impacts	Low	Low	All Parties	Door is wedged or tied back to ensure the door doesn't slam closed in heavy winds.	N/A	Low
Mirror / Wall Hung Objects	Fall / Crush	Low	Low	All Parties	All wall mounted objects are securely attached to the wall ensuring that there is no way that they can fall on anyone.	N/A	Very Low
Sanitary Waste	Disease / Infections	Low	Low	Females Only	Separate sanitary facilities are available for sanitary waste.	N/A	Low
Floor	Slips & Trips	Medium	Low	All Parties	To minimise slipping, we have painted the floor with slip resistant floor paint, this is regularly carried out once the paint starts wearing through.	N/A	Low

Picnic Area							
Where?	Hazard?	LHD	CON	Who might be harmed?	Existing Control Measures	Further Control Measures	RR (Residual Risk)
Trees around picnic and seating areas.	Snags / Scratches	Low	Low	All Parties	Keep trees trimmed back out of the way. If tree does decline it will need to be removed.	N/A	Very Low
Fences	Cuts / Snags / Scratches	Low	Medium	All Parties	We ensure longer grass is left at the bottom of the fence for increased visibility. We also only use straight wire, with no barbed edges anywhere around our public areas.	N/A	Low

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Pathways to and from cabin / toilets	Slips / Trips	Medium	Low	All Parties	Path is made from reclaimed hardcore, meaning it will not wear or erode, stopping holes from forming.	N/A	Low
Roof of covered area	Knocks / Bangs to the head	Medium	Medium	All Parties	Signage for low level roof	N/A	Medium
Barbeque	Burns	Medium	High	All Parties	Barbeque is maintained regularly and cleaned. Also only responsible adults are allowed to use the barbeque.	N/A	Low
Benches	Cuts and Impaling	Low	Low	All parties	Make sure benches are tightened and sturdy. All screws are to be countersunk into the bench, to stop protrusions and reduce the risk of people suffering injuries from them.	N/A	Low

Riding Area							
Where?	Hazard?	LHD	CON	Who might be harmed?	Existing Control Measures	Further Control Measures	RR (Residual Risk)
All slopes	Stones to fall on / litter.	Medium	Medium	All Riders	Daily and weekly litter picks of riding areas. All obstructions are removed and course is checked for any dangers.	N/A	Low
Nursery Slope	Collision	Medium	Medium	All Riders	Ensure that lessons are well structured and that only one student is riding at a time to save collisions. Also ensure all higher speed riders keep a safe distance. Riding dangerously is an infringement of the location rules and is a "ban-able" offence.	More signage	Low

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Plum Hill	Cuts / Impaling / Snags	Medium	Medium	All Riders	All wooden features including rails / jumps are checked and maintained by centre maintenance. They are logged and when are deemed to be unsafe / unstable they are decommissioned and rebuilt.	N/A	Medium
Blue Slope	Speed Related Accidents	High	Medium	All Riders	Full Tuition given, including supervised descents of this slope, all riders will be proficient enough after the lesson to ride the slope on their own. Any accidents are normally down to riders "failing to ride within their ability". Slopes are colour coded, to give an idea of the difficulty involved. Signage throughout centre reminding riders of the slopes ability.	N/A	Low
Red Slope	Speed Related Accidents	High	Medium	All Riders	Accidents on this slope are mainly down to riders having passed the lesson, and moving on from an easy slope, to the more difficult one without sufficient practice. We repeatedly inform riders in lessons of the dangers of a slope that is too hard. Slopes are colour coded, like in all ski resorts, to give an idea of the difficulty involved.	N/A	Low
Freestyle Areas	Falls	High	Medium	All Riders	We ensure participants are aware of how important it is to ride within their ability. Signage around centre to ride within your ability.	N/A	Low
Freestyle Areas	Cuts / Impaling / Snags / Collision	Medium	Medium	All Riders	All metal parts are covered with foam to cushion any collisions. Ramps and landings are kept in	N/A	Low

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					good condition, are maintained and are logged.		
Slope style	Speed Related Accidents	High	Medium	All Riders	Accidents on this slope are mainly down to riders having passed the lesson, moving on from an easy slope, to the more advanced areas without sufficient practice. We do repeatedly inform riders in lessons of the dangers of a slope that is beyond their capability.	Slope Patrol	Medium
Race Tracks	Speed Related Accidents	High	Medium	All Riders	Accidents on this slope are mainly down to riders having passed the lesson, moving on from an easy slope, to the more advanced areas without sufficient practice. We do repeatedly inform riders in lessons of the dangers of a slope that is beyond their capability.	Slope Patrol	Medium
Foam Pit	Falls / Bad Landings	Medium	High	All riders	Foam is regularly removed to ensure no sharp objects are in the foam pit. When busy, constant supervision is to be placed at the foam pit. Ensuring that riders are aware of the dangers in using the foam pit and that they have a natural progression to using the foam pit.	Slope Patrol	Medium
All Slopes	Collisions	Medium	High	General Public	No free walking in riding areas and dogs to be kept on a leash. Signage is placed around to centre.	N/A	Low
All slopes	Collisions by board.	Low	Medium	All Parties	Ride The Hill ensures that every rider uses fixed bindings or a recognised coil leash. (See Admission Controls). Rider and	N/A	Low

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					location rules are clearly in placed around the centre.		
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Ski Lift							
Where?	Hazard?	LHD	CON	Who might be harmed?	Existing Control Measures	Further Control Measures	RR (Residual Risk)
Ski Lift Entrance	Collisions / Exposure to moving parts	Medium	Medium	Riders / Staff	Entrance access is clearly defined with fencing, gates, and signage. Prohibited areas also clearly marked. Verbal safety briefing given to staff and public riders in every lesson / training session.	N/A	Medium
Ski Lift General Usage	Falling / Exposure to moving parts / Knocks / Collisions	Medium	Medium	Riders / Staff	Riding competence confirmed by instructors before permitted to use lift. Staff fully trained in lift usage, and also how to instruct public on usage and safety. Lift is always monitored visually by a member of staff, either at bottom station, or slope patrol.	N/A	Medium
Ski Lift	Falling off of ski lift	High	Low	Riders / Staff	Riders trained by staff, to move away from lift slope as soon as possible. Enough space left between riders to ensure rider has plenty of time to move from the area. Staff fully trained on emergency stop procedures.	N/A	Low
Ski Lift	Equipment Failure	Very Low	Medium	Riders / Staff	Machinery checks carried out and logged. Daily, weekly and monthly checks, such as oil levels, cable and handle quality, and electrical control switches regularly checked. If problem discovered, lift fully closed until rectified.	N/A	Low

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Ski Lift	Natural Hazards	Low	Low	Riders / Staff	Groundwork checked daily. Riding surface checked for irregularities, obstacles removed, vegetation at sides kept short for ease of visual monitoring. Weather and rodent damage rectified.	N/A	Low
Ski Lift	Electrics	Low	Very High	Staff / Riders	No access is permitted to anyone to go near or touch power source / control panel. Only qualified 3 Phase electricians.	N/A	Very Low
Ski Lift	Safety Cut off Devices	Low	High	Staff / Riders	All kill cords, power on / off buttons, and emergency stop switches to be checked daily by centre managers	N/A	Low