

Specific Safety Procedures – Jacobs Ladder

JL11 Description:

JL1.1 Vertical ascent of a giant ladder with wooden rungs spaced 1m apart.

JL2 Learning Outcome:

JL2.1 The learning outcome may include aspects of personal and social development, Team work, cooperation, trust, responsibility, communication and target setting.

JL3 Facilitator:

JL3.1 Have been assessed and passed out by a suitably experienced person.

JL3.2 Adequate group management and programme skills to work safely and effectively with the particular client group.

JL4 Facility Knowledge:

JL4.1 Knowledge of various techniques and methods of ascending Jacobs ladder cooperatively.

JL4.2 Facilitator should position them self in a position where they can closely observe all belayers and climbers. (Between bottom anchor points.) Do not get sucked into the ladder with your back to the belayers.

JL4.3 No solo climbing or sitting on ladder.

JL5 Client Requirements:

JL5.1 A clear understanding of the aims of the activity session.

JL5.2 Receive a clear brief detailing belay techniques and safe participation whilst climbing. The climbers should be discouraged from holding onto the main support cables and wire rope grips identified as a potential hazard.

JL5.3 Receive a clear brief detailing safe descent from the Jacobs ladder using feet and hands to brace off the wooden rungs whilst lowering.

JL6 Equipment:

JL6.1 Equipment must be counted, returned and usage recorded after the session.

JL6.2 All use of ropes must be logged.

JL7 Ratios:

JL7.1 Maximum of one facilitator to ten participants. (1:10)

JL8 Weather:

JL8.1 The implications of the weather on the proposed activity should be taken into consideration e.g. wet and slippery wood, risk of exposure, strong winds etc.

Risk Assessment – Jacobs Ladder

Hazards Identify significant hazards which could cause harm:

1. Facilitator.
2. Facility.
3. Participants.
4. Equipment.
5. Ratio.
6. Weather.

How

How will people be exposed to hazard?

1. Lack of knowledge of safety procedures / increase risk of injury.
2. Lack of knowledge of facility / failure to communicate hazards.
3. Group behaviour and approach / increase risk to climber.
4. Equipment malfunction or misuse / increase risk to climber.
5. Staff member unable to manage group / increase risk to climber.
6. Improper clothing/ exposure, low morale increase risk to climber.

Risk

Evaluate risks arising from each hazard (High, Medium, low)

1. High.
2. Medium.
3. Medium.
4. High.
5. Medium.
6. Medium

Action

Prescribed risk management strategies to remove hazard or reduce risk

1. Qualification and pass out system. (L3, JL3)

2. Knowledge of facility and hazards. (L4.1, JL4)
3. Group Safety briefing. (L5.4 L5.6, L5.7, JL5)
4. Equipment Checks. (L6.1, L6.2, L6.5, JL6)
5. Effective group management. (L3.3, L3.4, JL7)
6. Ensure suitable clothing is worn. (L5.5, JL8)

Monitor

How are risk management strategies monitored?

1. Qualifications checked /facilitator pass out system.
2. Staff meetings and amendments to safety document clipboard.
3. Client Feedback / co-tutor / observation
4. Inspections and equipment checks, Tick box.
5. Near-miss and Incident forms.
6. Weather forecast supplied.

Review

Review date of this assessment: