Bradley Wood Activity Centre
Challenge Valley 2026 - Risk Assessment 016

Document History			
Written / Revised By	**Date**	**Notes**	**Review Date**
Jo Davies-Robertson	April 2023	/	-
Amy Parry	March 2024	Reviewed, revised to incorporate new layout including changes to SOPs	March 2025
Alice Chapman/ David Gill	March 2025	Reviewed and revised to incorporate changes to SOPs	March 2026
Alice Chapman	March 2026	Reviewed and revised to incorporate new layout, including any changes to SOPs.	March 2027

Hazard & Associated Risk	**Persons at Risk**			**Control Measures**	**Additional Precautions**	**Probability**	**Impact**	**Score**	**Risk**
	Young	**Staff**	**Visitors**						
Non-Compliance with Scout POR - Causing any personal injury to user, other users and spectators	P	P	P	- All rules are in accordance with Scout POR as activity is classed as a High Ropes Activity - Regular consultation with County Activity Lead on any changes from POR - Instructors must hold a site-specific qualification in running Challenge Valley. There must be at least 2 Qualified Instructors, unless specifically stated by Lead Technical Advisor (LTA).		1	3	3	Minor
Falling Objects – Causing head injury, other injuries or damage to personal items	P	P	P	- Procedures in place to check equipment before use and action taken if any issues are discovered - Correct footwear must be worn, secure to foot and closed toe - Participants to remove loose objects from their pockets and securely tie their shoelaces - Safety helmets to be worn at all times within the area -Trees regularly inspected as per tree management procedure - Spectators to remain at least 2m away from the activity	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	3	1	3	Minor
Falls from Apparatus - Causing personal injury	P	P		- Properly fitted harness is connected to the safety cable by a trolly and two carabiners - Participants told they must only remove one “clip” (either one carabiner or the trolly) at a time, the removed “clip” must be properly reattached to the safety cable before another “clip” is removed. **Always at least 2 points of contact.** - Instructor to closely monitor change over points and end of course	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	1	3	3	Minor

				-All participants must complete the training section until the instructor is confident in their ability -If a participant fully unclips during the training section they must start from the beginning - Instructors are attached to the course safety cable with cowstails, if they are required on the elements/platforms - No-one to walk underneath activity elements					
Failure of Equipment - Leading to personal injury to user or staff - Causing abrasions, bruises, cuts, and bumped heads	P	P		- Procedures in place to check equipment before use and action taken if any issues are discovered - Annual safety inspection carried out by external company - Appropriate equipment (harnesses) for group selected by instructor - The activity area will be checked monthly for any damage and the fences integrity. Inspections will be logged - Clear safety briefing delivered by Qualified Instructor to include correct use of equipment - Helmets worn by all participants - All equipment should be UIAA approved and carry the relevant CE marking. -All equipment must be within the manufacturer's lifetime - The maximum weight is 120kg	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	2	2	4	Moderate
Uneven Ground / Disorderly Behaviour – Resulting in trips and slips	P	P	P	- Procedures in place to check activity area before use and action taken if any issues are discovered -Clear safety briefing delivered by Qualified Instructor to include no running in the activity area - Close supervision by the Instructors and Group Leader - Correct footwear to be worn – secure to foot and closed toe - Spectators should remain seated/away from activity elements - Persons failing to follow rules will be asked to leave the activity area -The activity area will be checked monthly for any damage and the fences integrity. Inspections will be logged.	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	3	2	6	Moderate

Adverse Weather: storms, high wind and heavy rain etc – resulting in injury or damage	P	P	P	- Procedures in place to check equipment and activity area before use and action taken if any issues are discovered - Activity session may have to cancelled due any adverse weather, where operation can become dangerous. This it at the discretion of the duty manager - Wear appropriately warm weatherproof clothing - Weather conditions assessed before start of activity	-Instructor is empowered to stop the session themselves if they deem the weather to have an unsafe impact - Follow 'severe weather' procedure in the site's *Emergency and Disaster Recovery Plan* if required	1	4	4	Moderate
Hazards Arising from the Actions of Group Members - i.e. overcrowding and disorderly behaviour.	P	P	P	- Clear safety briefing delivered by Qualified Instructor will set expectations for Challenge Valley, how to use equipment and will make sure rules are followed - Activity to be supervised at all times by Qualified Instructors, who will make sure rules are followed - Group Leader/Teacher will provide supervision and correct ratios - Persons failing to follow rules will be asked to leave Challenge Valley - Participants should be 10 ½ (Scout age) years old minimum	- During events where there is no set group, Instructors are to ensure waiting participants are out of the way of the activity elements	2	2	4	Moderate
Collisions - Causing injury to participants	P	P		- Clear safety briefing delivered by Qualified Instructor will cover only one participant on any element and 2 participants on a platform at any one time - Participants to check ahead that the element is clear for them to enter - Activity to be supervised at all times by Qualified Instructors, who will make sure rules are followed - Helmets worn by all participants	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	1	2	2	Minor
Participant Becoming 'Stuck' - Lack of confidence /	P	P		- Clear safety briefing delivered by Qualified Instructor and practice course section carried out so participants are aware what is to be expected of them - Supervision and support from Qualified Instructors		1	2	2	Minor

freezing on equipment				- Rescue procedures in place					
Loose Clothing and Jewellery - Becoming entangled or a strangulation risk	P	P		Safety Briefing includes: - Zip up jackets - Told to remove neckers, took in hoody tassels - Dangly jewellery and rings should be removed - Rescue procedures in place	- First Aid kit must be available in the activity area -Instructor holds current Scout First Aid qualification (or higher)	1	4	4	Moderate
Tree Safety (if using a tree as the anchor structure) - Failure of the tree	P	P	P	- Only trees approved by the LTA (Lead Technical Advisor) for this activity will be used for this purpose - Annual safety inspection carried out by external company on all safety equipment, including anchors - Trees are checked as per site tree management plan		1	4	4	Moderate
Unauthorized use of the Zip Line (During a Session) - Leading to participants becoming stuck on the zip line or bottom platform	P	P		- Clear instruction from staff on how to unclip from the end of Challenge Valley course, step off the end platform to the right (away from start of Zip Line) and walk along the path back to the start of the course - If a Zip Line session is running concurrently, the instructor at the top of Zip could oversee this final unclipping point - If no Zip Line session is running, close supervision is required at this point by the Challenge Valley instructors/group leader. -If any unauthorised use of the Zip Line occurs, Duty Manager must be informed ASAP	-Participants can be removed from the Challenge Valley course before the end portion near the start of the Zip Line, if deemed necessary	1	3	3	Minor
Unauthorized Use - causing theft, vandalism or foreign objects in activity area	P	P	P	- Equipment removed after session, stored in locked building - Gates to Challenge Valley are locked when not in use - “Do not use” signs are visible around the course - 6ft boundary fence around activity area - The Qualified Instructor is responsible for counting all items in and out to ensure none are left behind.		1	3	3	Minor

				- Procedures in place to check equipment and activity area before use and action taken if any issues are discovered - The activity area will be checked monthly for any damage and the fences integrity. Inspections will be logged - Normal site security procedures in place					