

Leeds University Union

Risk Assessment

Name of Group		LUUSS		Date of Assessment	06/07/2010	
Hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you doing already?	What further action is necessary?			
			Action required	By whom	when	Done
<p>Ascending and descending ropes using single rope technique (SRT)</p>	<p>A person ascending or descending may fall from height. There is also a risk of trapping, hair and or clothing in equipment.</p>	<p>Once people have an appropriate person watching them, they will show how to check that their equipment is safely fastened, warned about potential finger trapping and told about the potential to trap hair, hair should be tied back. A knife/ scissors will be available to cut hair should it become trapped. Participants will be shown all necessary safety checks, first for</p>	<p>Experienced members of the club should be aware of the amount of experience of other members participating in the activity. A log book should be kept detailing the experience of each participant.</p>	<p>Members of the committee</p>	<p>Training practices and club trips throughout the year.</p>	

Carried out by

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Review Date

20 Feb 2010

JAMES HARDING (am) 1

Lack of supervision	A person may fall from height or may experience a minor personal injury	<p>the actions they are undertaking (descender locks and use of cowstails to check rigging of descender etc.) – lifeline will be available if requested and will be supervised by an experienced person.</p> <p>Those that have not used the equipment before must seek assistance first, then only continue under the guidance of a competent person.</p> <p>All activities that require the use of equipment whether ladder climbing or SRT should be supervised by someone proficient in their use.</p>	Novice trips not to be in groups larger than 5 if ladders or SRT is being used	All	Ongoing	
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<p>Tripping over ropes and equipment</p>	<p>A person may experience a minor injury.</p>	<p>All present should be made aware of the risk and equipment kept stored away as much as possible</p>				
<p>Dropping equipment leading to injury when it hits someone.</p>	<p>Major head injury or minor injury to people below cover on rope.</p>	<p>Helmets to be worn and people not to stand around under people without due care and attention.</p>				
<p>Ladder and life line failure. 1. Ladder failure 2. Lifeline failure or lifeliner failing to arrest fall.</p>	<p>Fall from height</p>	<p>1. Ladders should be securely belayed 2. Lifeline should be belayed securely to above the ladder, lifeliner must pay attention at all times Lifeline must pay full attention at all times and if</p>				

				<p>directly belaying then may need anchoring (if there is a significant weight difference) all present mustn't distract the lifeliner.</p>				
				<p>Leaders to be aware of all levels of ability in group. Be prepared to assist and remove someone from the rope. Sit harness syndrome can lead to death. There will always be at least one person able to carry out a mid-rope rescue should the need arise.</p>				
				<p>Can occur at any time due to nature of activity. Injury, cold, sit harness syndrome.</p>				
Fatigue/ exhaustion								
Personal equipment				<p>Failure of cows tails, harness etc. Could</p>				
				<p>Users are responsible for the equipments</p>				

	lead to serious injury or death.	<p>maintenance to ensure its safe. Correct storage and replacement where necessary. Adequate training to be able to identify faulty equipment. Use of ULSA website for information. Also see SRT and ladder equipment failure.</p>				
weather	<p>Wet weather could cause flooding underground and may lead to people becoming trapped or in worst case scenario, drowning.</p>	<p>Weather forecast must be checked prior to descending a cave and the appropriate action decided upon depending on the flooding characteristics of the cave.</p>				
<p>SRT Equipment failure</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rope 2. Anchor 3. Harness 	<p>Fall from height which could result in injury or death</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ropes should be inspected regularly for damage and put out of use 				

<p>4. Jammers + descenders</p> <p>5. Safety links (cows tails etc.)</p>					

immediately if deemed to be unsafe and then replaced.

2. Anchors should be inspected at least every semester and replaced if there are signs of damage.

Anchors should be used in pairs to allow for redundancy.

3. Harnesses should be cleaned and inspected after every trip and replaced if damaged

4. Jammers and descenders

					use has been infrequent and are still in good condition.				
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