

## Risk assessment and Management 2024

## Clip lines / Sea level traversing

**Description.**

Clip-Lines are via-feratta style lines that are put in place to protect movement across rock / steep ground. Generally horizontal, using a mixture of in-situ (pegs / bolts) and traditional rock protection to create a tensioned line that participants can clip onto to safeguard their movement. Often this takes place above the sea (sea level traversing) or above a river and can include tyrolean traverses (tensioned line positioned above a zawn / river to transport participants from one rock feature to another).

**Managing Risk Statement.** Supervisors will hold the appropriate qualification for this activity (see [Minimum Qualifications document](#)). The quality and safety of sessions will be regularly reviewed with any outcomes being fed into the RA and policies. Inherent within this activity is the possibility of getting wet, tired and exposed to ambient weather conditions( see [Weather Policy](#))

**Benefits.** Adventure Activities provide a range of benefits (see [Education and Learning policy](#))

The Hazard, what is causing a risk?	Who might be affected	How we manage the risk
Anchor failure	Instructors & All Participants	All protection to be multi directional where possible – awareness of direction of load before and after the protection.  Distances between protection to be appropriate so If a single piece fails it is backed up by another with minimal slack.  One person per rope span between anchors.
Clip line not in a position to safeguard participant		Line positioned appropriately (high) relative to holds to minimise fall distance – keep feet low and line chest / chin height.

Risk assessment conducted by: E3Adventures Ltd

Date Conducted: 1/2/2024

Signed: Bryn Beach

Review Date: Jan 2025

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Participant unable to pull themselves up / along the tensioned line.		'cows tails' to be checked for length against participants arms to ensure ability of self rescue if needed.
Falls while waiting		All participants kept away from edges until attached to safety line.  Descents managed appropriately
Rope burns		Participants instructed to 'keep feet low' in relation to line to minimise slack in cows tails.  Vertical lines / up or down to be briefed appropriately and a top rope may be used to assist.
Drowning		Good clear instructions, group management and instructor vigilance.  Where cliplines take place near water PFD / Bas to be used.

### Specific assessments

Porth Ruffydd / The Range

Island circuit is a good introduction, it is probably more exciting with water in it. Travelling East from Island circuit is also a good introduction that requires a calm sea. At LW this is possible with some rope work but also spotting, at HW much more rope work. With a rough sea the Island Circuit will often work, but plenty of spray will be about. The High line bolts will also work, staying well away from the other sea level options is best though. The Big Tyrolean and diagonal climb out will work with most sea states. Having a clip line through the Chuff cave is a LW and calm sea option. (from TA)

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<p><b>The Range</b></p>	<p>Chuff cave - A steep step at the end of a traverse on to the top / finish. Highly consequential fall into chuff cave if participants unclip early!!</p> <p>Drowning</p>	<p>The finish to the clip line must be positioned away from the edge and participants briefed that they stay attached to the line until they get to the end.</p> <p>BAs to be worn by all. Instructor to wear BA when setting up. Must self protect as setting lines. Gear on a bandolier in-case of fall into water.</p>
<p><b>Lledder gorge clip-line</b></p>	<p>Approach – steep loose</p> <p>In-situ rope</p> <p>Drowning</p>	<p>The approach must be managed as there is a steep drop down to the river. Appropriate group management needed on approach / exit.</p> <p>The in-situ ropes may be used but the rope / protection / attachment to the rock must be thoroughly checked first by the instructor.</p> <p>BAs to be worn by all. Instructor to wear BA when setting up. Must self protect as setting up cliplines. Gear on a bandolier so it can be jettisoned incase of a fall into water.</p>
<p><b>Ogwen falls tyrolean</b></p>	<p>60m rope needed to double up and cross the falls. Or 2 x 50m if available.</p> <p>Correct tension</p>	<p>Due to the tensioning system and takeoff and landing areas a 60m rope is needed (doubled over).</p> <p>First person to test tension to have a backline to control speed.</p>

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	Hitting bum on take off	Participants need to be positioned on the edge to ensure they don't hit the ground on take off.
	Drowning	BAs to be worn by all crossing the water on a Cliquine / Tyrolean.
<b>ALL TYROLEANS</b>	Natural protection / rock protection / in-situ gear	<p>Due to the high forces generated when setting up and using a tyrolean – the protection used must be appropriate.</p> <p>Rope protection used where <b>any</b> rope / sling is in contact with rock.</p> <p>Only 2 people to tighten to ensure not over tight.</p> <p>Tension applied with truckers hitch - only re tightened once.</p> <p>Participants instructed not to touch rope. Instructor to ensure hands are clear before setting off.</p> <p>Instructor to set participants off. Competent adult to assist at the end.</p>

## Operating Procedures

### Before

- Check medical / consent forms.
- Instructor to be familiar with E3Adventures activity RA – specifically any site specific notes.
- Check the weather forecast – does your plan still work.
- Check if there any venue restrictions (bird ban / road closures / rockfall)
- Instructor to ensure correct kit is available for the venue / group.
- Instructor to inspect all kit to ensure it is usable.
- If residential course ensure the group know where to go / park etc.

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During

- Clear briefing to highlight risks, safety measures and expectations.
- Any assistants / staff to be briefed on their role.
- Session delivered within instructors NGB remit / inhouse training / experience and accounting for the weather / group ability.

After

- Return kit. (rinse if used at seaside)
- Inform E3 of any damages or loss.
- Inform course leader of any issues with group / venue to assist with planning for future.
- Ensure course leader fills in day book.



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