

Risk assessment and Management 2025	Cipline at DLP
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Description.

Rope courses / adventure courses / challenge courses are man made structures either on poles or on trees. These may be stand alone elements or part of a course but are generally 'obstacles' at height that are protected by a bottom rope system. This clipline is different and uses a cable safety circuit and cowstails to protect the participant.

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](#))

Participants and Instructors to wear helmets, harnesses, cowstails.

Instructor has Safety bag (group shelter, first aid kit, water, appropriate clothing and footwear), **Rescue bag** (rope, karabiners, pulleys, knife).

The Hazard, what is causing a risk?	Who might be affected	How we manage the risk
Falls from height Un attaching, at change over or being on traverse cable.	Instructors & All Participants/Group Leaders Participant / Group Leader	All equipment suitable for the element (sit harness, cowstails, helmets). Kit checked by instructor prior to anyone leaving the floor (safety chain). Helmets worn if there is a risk of hitting head or falling objects Autonomy for group using cowstails, this is described, practiced and trained, protocol all the way. Not necessarily appropriate activity for all groups / individuals. Instructor vigilance and line of sight, communication to avoid double unclip happening.

Risk assessment conducted by: E3Adventures Ltd	Date Conducted: 2/2/2026
Signed: Bryn Beach	Review Date: February 2027
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Poorly fitted harness	Participant / Group Leader	No problem limiting number of participants on element, half or third of group, if necessary to keep line of sight.
Falling off the platform at start/end	Participant / Group Leader	Body harness available for customers requiring them. This is managed, adult support and control, 1 on/off at a time, don't unclip off cable until adult is present. Easy staples for access. Adult helper to be happy with this job and shown how to do this by instructor.
Personal Injury		
Rope burn	Participant	Participant instructed not to wrap wrists around cowstails or pull up on them, they can hold for support. Again be careful with the hanging vines (insitu ropes).
Trapping fingers between cable and cowstails	Participant	Briefed and reminded numerous times, to avoid holding the cowstails cable. The insitu ropes, plastic coated cables, staples are the hand holds.
Lower limb injury (falling off bashing shin/knee/ankles).	Participant	Correct length cowstails for certain height of participant, either an overhand knot or a figure of eight.
Shoulders upper body (jarring)		Ensure sensible behaviour and movement on element, maximum 2 people on any section if, necessary 1 person per section.
Equipment		
		Ensure karabiners are not being dragged heavily along the cable. It is a clip line not a zip

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Damage to the Cowstail karabiners (including sticky karabiners). Damage to cables.		line! Instructor to check karabiners and share knowledge of potential 'sticky/stiff' gates and inspect further. Cables inspected periodically by AC and signed off annually by ??? company.
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Fundamental differences with Cipline as opposed to other High Ropes at DLP

The clip line is an activity that we give autonomy for safety and independence to the group / individuals, this is essential. A decision needs to be made about the group / individuals ability to be sensible (with close supervision) and understand the activity and safety system in place.

In essence it is the opposite to almost all of the elements 'please don't touch any of the metal', with this brings potential problems.

1. Their ability and understanding of what to do – we make sure they are good enough to take on this activity by having a thorough system / mantra in place. We explain, demo, watch them perform several times before participating on the element. Some groups / individuals possibly can't handle this trust / understanding due to age, mental capacity or physical ability. Potentially this can be accessible with some extra 1:1 help.
2. Other activities in the future – participants have become aware and are able to use the twist lock karabiners and now behave in a way that they think it is acceptable and fine to operate metal devices. We can mitigate confusion by not using twist lock karabiners anywhere else on site and continuing to explain boundaries and expectations (including following up on non-listening) when running each element.
3. It can feel very busy and hard for instructors to 'see' all participants. Scanning and a lot of activity in front of you a kin to a pool lifeguard, there are higher risk areas, visual and verbal clues to be re-enforced. Line of sight of every participant is important – changeovers, hands on cowstail cables, behaviour, struggling etc. Limiting numbers on element is absolutely fine group of 6 or 4 (half the group, teamwork / peer observation). Every other HR element at DLP it is either 1, 2 or 3 on a climb at a time, so some teamwork partnership watching from the group is more than fine.

Preparation and training is key to avoid most issues. Knowledge of group / individuals train, practice, test, reinforce, line of sight and instructor having authority.

Solving problems keep it simple :

- a. Instructions / briefing – 'help yourself' and top tips how to.
- b. Nearby participant – 'can your friend help you' and instructions how to.

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- c. Adult / Instructor help – holding hands, cowstails giving psychological and physical support.

If the resolution is escalating to c. then communication with everyone to stop moving stay clipped in as instructor goes out to help / rescue.

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.

During

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

After

- Return kit.
- Inform E3 of any damages or loss.
- Inform course leader of any issues with group / venue to assist with planning for future.

Emergency Action Plan

Refer to the general overall Critical Incident Plan - below

The initial stages of a critical incident : At the activity - problem solving, experience and leadership can pre-empt issues, however in the event of something catastrophic happening - badly wounded / unconscious / other medical emergency.

Safety of Instructor and rest of group is paramount.

Get to casualty safely.

Rescue from danger.

Perform first aid.

Call 999 follow instructions on emergency card (this can happen sooner).

Call Course Director – AC (after emergency services are contacted).

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Instructor Incapacitated

Ensure that the teacher/visiting staff knows where your copy of the 'Instructor Incapacitated' and 'Critical Incident Plan' are.

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INSTRUCTOR INCAPACITATED

In the case of an incident / accident the E3Adventures staff will follow the 'critical incident plan' (see over). However in the situation where they are incapacitated this crib sheet will help you manage the situation until help arrives.

Group Safety

- **Look after yourself**, do not put yourself in danger.
- **Look after the group**, make sure they are out of danger. In this scenario the group may be worried, you might need to tell them where to go/sit and not move so they do not put themselves in danger.
- If necessary **move the casualty** out of any further danger.

First Aid

- Perform **first aid** (do what you can)
 - If it is bleeding - stop it bleeding (direct pressure)
 - If it is broken - don't move it
 - If they are unconscious - put them in the safe airway position (below)
 - If they are not breathing and you feel you can start CPR



Call for Help

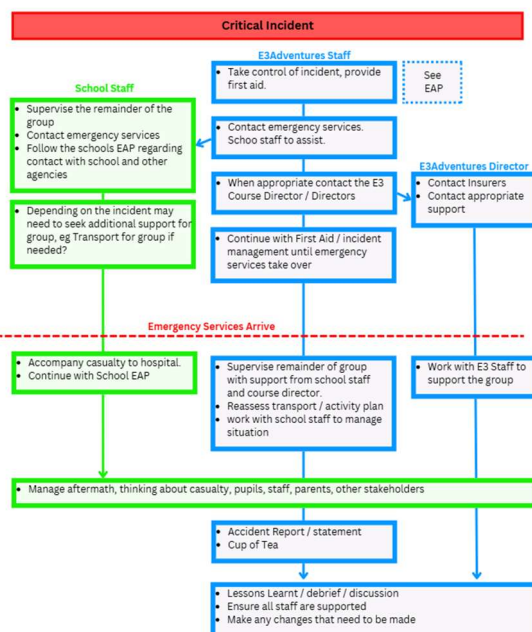
- You can Phone **999 / 112** using your phone or the instructors phone
- If there are other groups near by you can **shout for help**
- You can contact other staff via the **WhatsApp group**
 - Location
 - What Happened / Who is hurt / what has been done
 - The group



Critical Incident Plan

CRITICAL INCIDENT PLAN

The below 'Critical Incident' plan gives useful process to follow in the case of a critical incident. However any incident is likely to have its own unique features and it will be up to the E3Adventures staff with the support of the Group staff to manage an incident in the way that produces the best outcomes.



Clipline Set up / Cowstails at DLP

The equipment provided and the structures at DLP supports the below set up and this is the preferred configuration. However equipment changes and group needs may suggest the need for a different, (appropriate and safe) set up.

Clipline rescue of unconscious casualty at DLP

As part of the EAP, this will be a serious event. Safety bag with rope, karabiners and pulleys will be taken to the element.

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