


# Activity Risk Assessment

Activity	Nightline				
Address of premises	Hesley Wood Activity Centre, White Lane, Chapelton, S35 2YH				
Author of this risk assessment	Megan Hughes				
Issue Date	20/08/2024				
Review	This document is reviewed annually. We can review it sooner if needed.				
Reviewed by	Alyssa Jordan	Date	06/12/2024	Changes?	Yes, see review page
Reviewed by	Luke Joseph / Alyssa Jordan	Date	05/12/2025	Changes?	No
Checked by Operations Director	 Andy Moore	Date	17/12/2025		

Explanation of Risk Rating: Risk Rating = Probability x Severity			Probability			Rating	Actions resulting from Risk Rating
			Unlikely 1	Likely 2	Certain 3		
Severity	1	Minor injury or damage	1	2	3	1-3	<b>Low Risk:</b> Carry on, ensuring controls are in place. No further controls required.
	2	Major injury or damage	2	4	6	4-6	<b>Medium Risk:</b> Implement extra controls if practical to reduce risk to low. Monitor risk level to ensure no increase.
	3	Severe injury or damage, Serious illness or death.	3	6	9	7-9	<b>High Risk:</b> Stop activity immediately. Implement further controls to reduce risk if possible. Find alternative method.

The Hesley Management Team will monitor and review the controls to reduce risk in accordance with South Yorkshire Scouts Health & Safety Policy.

**The information contained within this Risk Assessment should be taken as the minimum requirement and is not to be considered exhaustive.**

What is the hazard? How might people be harmed?	Risk Level (with existing control measures)			Who is at risk?	What are the control measures?
	Probability	Severity	Rating		
Instructor i.e. Instructor Error.	1	2	2	Participants	All instructors must complete in-house training and assessment before running the Nightline independently. Ongoing quality checks are conducted to ensure session standards are maintained.
Hazards arising from the actions of group members. i.e. Overcrowding Disorderly Behaviour.	2	2	4	All involved	<p>To prevent overcrowding and ensure safe supervision:</p> <p>One Hour Sessions: maximum group size of 12 participants with 2 observers is set for one-hour sessions.</p> <p>90 Minute Sessions: group size may increase to 15 participants, provided additional observers are available to maintain effective oversight and participant safety throughout.</p> <p>On event the Nightline compound should not exceed 30 people with the recommended number of 1 person per obstacle at any time.</p> <p>The Group Leader must be present during sessions.</p> <p>If a group member's behaviour becomes dangerous the instructor must follow the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for Disorderly Behaviour.</p> <p>The Group Leader needs to be present during sessions.</p> <p>If a group member's behaviour becomes dangerous follow the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for Disorderly Behaviour.</p>
Equipment Failure.	1	2	2	Participants	Only Hesley Wood equipment to be used on Nightline sessions. Equipment is inspected and logged in accordance with its current inspection policy.

Structure failure.	1	3	3	All involved	<p>All obstacles are constructed by competent and experienced individuals and signed off by a person with expertise in the relevant building standards.</p> <p>All structures are inspected monthly for any movement or issues that could pose a risk to participants, with additional passive pre-use checks conducted before each session.</p>
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What is the hazard? How might people be harmed?	Risk Level (with existing control measures)			Who is at risk?	What are the control measures?
	Probability	Severity	Rating		
Weather: Thunderstorms and heavy rain.	1	2	2	All Involved	Session may have to be cancelled or delayed due to thunderstorms, high winds or heavy rain, where operation can become dangerous.  See weather policy for more details.
Hypo/Hyperthermia and exposure.	1	2	2	All Involved	Group leader to ensure participants have appropriate clothing for the prevailing conditions and to monitor participants during the session.
Unauthorised Access.	1	2	2	Intruders	Nightline area is fenced off.  Gate to be locked when not in use.  "No Unauthorised Entry" signs in place.
Medical conditions that could affect the activity.	1	2	2	Participants	Instructor should be made aware of any medical conditions or mobility problems which affect any member of the group.
Entanglement	2	2	4	Participants	Ensure hair is tied back and out of the way.  Ensure loose clothing, jewellery or neckers are tucked in or where possible removed.
General slip trip and falls in nightline compound.	2	2	4	All Involved	Ensure the ground is free of debris and provides adequate cushioning (e.g., compact soil)  See general site risk assessment.

Rope burn.	2	1	2	Participants	<p>Brief participants to go slow throughout the course and if their hands start hurting to stop and take a break.</p> <p>Inform participants to not hold the rope too tight.</p>
Colliding with other Participants.	2	1	2	Participants	<p>Instructor to ensure everyone has enough space.</p> <p>No overtaking to happen without instructor guidance.</p>
<p>Participating in nightline: standard risks.</p> <p>Participant banging head,</p> <p>Person falling off obstacle,</p> <p>Crawling.</p>	2	2	4	Participants	<p><b>Helmets:</b> Require participants to wear helmets for protection against head injuries.</p> <p><b>Obstacle Design:</b> Ensure all obstacles have smooth, rounded edges and no sharp or protruding elements.</p> <p><b>Supervision:</b> Ensure instructors or spotters are stationed at higher-risk obstacles to assist and catch participants if necessary.</p> <p><b>Obstacle that involves moving parts:</b> Allow only one participant at a time on high-risk obstacles to prevent collisions or overcrowding.</p> <p><b>Ground Inspections:</b> Any space where crawling is necessary - inspect spaces for sharp objects, debris, or uneven surfaces that could cause injury. Ensure ground around the obstacles is clear of debris or obstructions to minimize fall severity.</p>
<p>Participating in obstacle course: additional risks for individual obstacles.</p>	2	2	4	Participants	<p><b>Stacked Tyres –</b> Tripping or collision with tyres. Tyres secured to prevent unexpected shifts. Participants guided to move slowly and follow the rope carefully.</p> <p><b>Over and Under Bars -</b> Head or body collisions with bars. Participants told to feel around if participants are at risk of falling over the bar, warned to keep head low as needed.</p>

			<p><b>Spider Web</b> - Entanglement or collisions with structure. Participants told to feel around. If participants are at risk of colliding with the bottom of the web, instructor to be close by to assist as needed.</p> <p><b>Slide</b> - Falls. Participants told to sit down before going on to sloped part of the slide.</p> <p><b>Cargo Net</b> – Entanglement. Participants to stay low and move cautiously under the net. If need instructor/group leader can help by lifting the net. If participants head gets stuck instructor to pause the session to free participant.</p> <p><b>Tunnel</b> – Head bumps. Warn participants of the risk of bumping their head on the entrance of the tunnel. Additional reminders to be given if necessary.</p> <p><b>Wobbly Bridge</b> – Loss of balance. Only one participant allowed on the bridge at a time.</p> <p><b>Hanging Tubes</b> – Collison. Tubes spaced to allow participants to move through without entanglement. Participants instructed to feel for tubes and move them aside if needed.</p> <p><b>Through Tyre</b> – Falls and head bumps. Participants to feel around for the step up, instructor to warn if participants look like they would fall over.</p> <p><b>Rolling Barrels</b> – Falls. Recommend getting one leg through then bring rest of the body through. Smaller participants helped through as needed.</p> <p><b>Walk the Plank</b> - Loss of balance. Use of guide rope as handle rail, participants warned of narrowness if needed.</p>
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**Related Risk Documents**

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Nightline, Review Log – Nightline, EAP for Overcrowding, EAP for Disorderly Behaviour, EAP for Structural Failure, Weather Policy and Inspection and Replacement policy

**Review Log**

Reviewed by	Date of review	Reason for review	Changes made	Actions required	If actions have been completed insert date completed
Alyssa Jordan	06/12/2024	Standardise and quality control. With addition of individual obstacles risk and controls	Page numbers added to improve document navigation. Common risks that apply across obstacle activities are now highlighted under green heading. Session-specific risks are placed under blue heading. Language throughout document simplified for accessibility.	Reissue RA to all instructors that run the nightline.	20/12/2024
Alyssa Jordan	01/12/25	Standardise and quality control. With addition of individual obstacles risk and controls	None	None	

See Review Log – Nightline for previous reviews and changes

Version 2 publication date: 05/12/2025