

## Crate Climbing Risk Assessment

Control measures need to be **low**; if the level of risk is **medium** or higher the activity is not to be run as it is unsafe. This document is for the use of Lutanda Recreation and Conference Centres only and has been written and designed to ensure the activity is run in the safest possible way.

The ratio for this activity is 1:17 – 1 instructor to 17 participants + 1 responsible adult for groups under the age of 18.

The age required to participate is 8 years and up.

**1 The Participants** are the people climbing crates, passing crates and on the belay rope.

Hazard	Level of risk	Control measure	Level of risk
Falling from Harness	Extreme	All participants will be shown how to correctly fit the Harnesses prior to activity commencement. The activity facilitator will check individual harnesses before the participant climbs the crates. All harnesses are checked regularly for any faults or fatigue and will be replaced if evidence of either is present.	Low
Head injury from falling, hitting crates	High	The participants are to wear the safety helmet provided to them which must be fitted correctly. The instructor will check it is correctly fitted prior to them climbing up the crates.	Low
Pregnancy / injuries	Extreme	Pregnant women are not allowed to participate in this activity. People suffering from back and neck pain are advised not to participate as it may aggravate or worsen the injury. Also people suffering broken bones or recovering from surgery are advised to not participate as it may cause further injury.	High
Falling while climbing up	High	The climber is to start on top of 2 pre stacked crates being spotted by the crate passers, if the person is 80kg or heavier start on 3-4 crates. As the person climbs the be-layers are to take up the slack, tension is to remain on the rope at all times.	Low
People passing crates getting hit by person climbing	Extreme	The person climbing is be-layed with the rope vertical so as to prevent swing when they fall or step off, this will also prevent them from hitting the crate passers.	Low
People passing crates getting hit by falling crates	High	The crate passers are to wear safety helmets and stand 3meters from the crate pile when looking unstable. Each crate is made of plastic and only weighs 1 kilogram	Low
Injury while being lowered	High	The be-layers are to lower the participant at a slow pace as they approach the ground to avoid injury from a fast impact. Refer to above 'Falling while climbing'.	Low
Rope burn while be-laying	High	The belay rope will be attached to the harness of the belayer so the rope wont slide trough there hands. If using a belay device they will be shown how to use the devise so they will not burn there hands.	Low
Hands being caught in the belay device	Extreme	The instructor is to be adequately trained before showing any one else how to belay and be signed to industry standard. They will be shown how to belay and made aware that there hands are not to come within 10cm of the belay device while holding the ropes with a participant attached. If a person is not capable they will not be allowed to belay. If a person is not comfortable with be-laying they will not be forced to do so.	Low

Tangle of harness / clothing being caught	High	Harness ends should be tucked away neat, tidy and out of the way to stop them from being caught. Loose jewellery that may cause injury must be removed. Enclosed sturdy shoes must be worn.	Low
Vertigo / trauma	High	No participant will be forced to participate beyond their readiness. In the event of a participant going beyond their comfort zone and getting stuck, they can be lowered to the ground with out any danger.	Low
Not being able to follow instructions	Extreme	Participants under the age of 8 years old are not allowed to participate in this activity. Participants with learning disabilities or mental disorders will be given one on one instruction from the instructor and these participants must be accompanied by a carer. If the participant is found to not be cooperating or following safety procedures they will be refused to participate by the instructor.	Low
Incorrect setup of equipment	Extreme	Setup to be performed by competent site specific instructor. Before and during each session the instructor will check the equipment.	Low

**2 Instructor/Guide** is the Lutanda Recreation and Conference Centre staff member running the activity.

Hazard	Level of risk	Control measure	Level of risk
Interference from observers	Extreme	The participants will be advised that they are not to interfere with the instructor or participants while the activity is running; also they are not to touch or play with the ropes under any circumstance. They also must stay well clear of the be-layers when operating the activity.	Low
Hands being caught in the belay device	Extreme	The instructor is to be adequately trained and signed off before they are to run the activity unsupervised. Their hands are not to come within 10cm of the belay device while holding the ropes with a participant attached.	Low
Losing control of group.	Extreme	If there are any signs of miss behavior or mob mentality the instructor will stop the activity to regain control. If control cannot be maintained the activity will be closed down.	Low
Rope burn	High	The instructor is to use the belay device correctly while belaying the participants so they wont get rope burn.	Low
Participants acting in an unsafe manner, Losing control of group.	Extreme	If participants continue to act in an unsafe manner after 2 warnings the instructor has the authority to close the activity down. If the instructor feels that control is being lost they will be forced to stop the activity to regain control. If control cannot be maintained the activity will be closed down.	Low
Lack of training	Extreme	No instructor will be left to facilitate the activity without being adequately trained and signed off.	Low
Unaware of the client's needs	High	The instructor is to be notified of clients with behavioral difficulties, learning disabilities, or physical disabilities. An instructor trained in the above stated client needs must be present during the running of the activity.	Low

**3 Others/Observers** are the clients waiting a turn / observing.

Hazard	Level of risk	Control measure	Level of risk
Not knowing where to wait or stand, Being hit with crates	High	Participants will be advised by their instructor on where and where not to go during the operation of the activity. They are not to come within 5 meters of the be-layers and the person climbing the crates	Low
Joining in on the activity after the induction/safety briefing	Extreme	No one will be allowed to participate in the activity if they were not present during the activity induction. If a person/s arrive while the activity is being run the instructor will show them the appropriate place to view the activity where they are out of danger. They participant will have to go through the induction and safety briefing before they start the activity if they were late.	Low
Not knowing what to do	Medium	All participants will be given a safety briefing about the activity before they are allowed to participate.	Low
Observers interfering with participants / instructor	Extreme	Any person/s watching are asked to wait in the area designated by the instructor. Those observing are not allowed to play any ball games so as not to distract the participants. If the observers are interfering with the activity the instructor will be forced to shut the activity down.	Low

**4 Equipment** is the structure and safety equipment used during the operation of the activity.

Hazard	Level of risk	Control measure	Level of risk
Improper use of equipment	Extreme	This activity is only to be run by a qualified Lutanda Recreation and Conference Centre staff member.	Low
Incorrect use and application / lack of knowledge of equipment	Extreme	This activity is only to be run by a qualified Lutanda Recreation and Conference Centre staff member. Staff are required to go through an in-depth training period with the activity coordinator where they will need to be signed off to industry standard on all safety aspects before being able to run the activity unassisted.	Low
Damaged / broken equipment	Extreme	All equipment is checked off by the instructor at setup of the activity and during the operation. There is also a general inspection carried out every 2 months, and an annual inspection carried out by a qualified rigger. If the equipment is found to be faulty or damaged the activity will not operate until the problem can be rectified.	Low
Using equipment unattended	Extreme	This activity is only to be run by a qualified Lutanda Recreation and Conference Centre staff member. When unattended, the harnesses are stored out of sight from the activity so as to prevent anyone from using the equipment unattended.	Low
Incorrect storage of equipment	High	All equipment is to be stored in the tower box in its correct place. If the equipment is found to be incorrectly stored it is to be thoroughly checked before it can be used again.	Low

**5 Environment** is the activity's impact on the terrain and environment concerning people.

<b>Hazard</b>	<b>Level of risk</b>	<b>Control measure</b>	<b>Level of risk</b>
Heat exhaustion in summer	Extreme	All participants are advised to wear light summer clothing in hot weather and take water bottles with them. They are advised to wait in the shaded areas.	Low
Storms lightning / hailstones	Extreme	In the event of lightning or hailstones the activity will be shut down by the instructor.	Low
Wet and cold weather	Extream	All particapant are advised to have a rain jaecket and worm cloths. If climbing they can take worm gear off if they want to. If they are belaying or waiting they will have there worm gear on.	Low
Hypothermia	Extream	If the particapant are getting to cold the activity will stop and they will go inside to worm up.	Low