

# Risk Assessment Activity – Giant Swing

<b>Pioneer Centre</b>	<b>Assessed by: James Kniffen</b>	<b>Assessed/ Reviewed:</b>	<b>Next Review Date</b>
		10/01/2023	10/01/2025
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Assist Chief: Max Bishop	10/01/2024	
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Senior Instructors: Andrew Evrard, Joseph Page & Kieran Miles Lead Instructors: Kieren Plant, Ronan Halpenny & Ruth Gibson		

**Overview:** Giant Swing was purpose built by JM Adventures (approved contractor) March 2020. The Giant Swing is 11-meter giant swing and is suitable for participants between 20kg and 120kg. Trained staff do a check at the beginning of the day, when used, to ensure all equipment and elements are in good working order. There is annual independent inspection by High Times Ltd. A quarterly inspection of the structure is carried out by trained staff and recorded. All the equipment inspection procedures are established and overseen by the Chief instructor who is a qualified Winter Mountaineering and Climbing Instructor (WMCI). Staff are in-house trained and assessed. Preferred Staff to Client ratio 1:12 and a maximum of 1:16 under supervision (under instruction 1:1 / 2:1 ; 1:2 / 2:2 or 1:3 / 2:3 instructor to client for doing the Giant Swing).

<b>Hazards</b>	<b>Groups of People at Risk from the Hazards Identified</b>	<b>Probability</b>	<b>Control Measures – Reduces the severity and lowers the probability to acceptable levels</b>
		<b>Severity</b>	
		<b>Risk Category</b>	
Structural Failure	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Very unlikely	Giant Swing structure was built by approved contractors and external annual inspections are carried out. Quarterly structural checks are carried out. Structure built of a suitable material.
		Fatal	
		Medium	
Falling objects	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Helmets are worn by anyone in the area when activities are being delivered or maintenance is being done and guests briefed on how to stand if objects fall to protect themselves. The guests advised to remove things from pockets or have them stored safely in zipped pockets. Safe areas clearly marked with a physical barrier (fence) for the swing path is in place.
		Major	
		Medium	
Unauthorized access to the Giant Swing	Instructors, staff, guest/participants and general public	Unlikely	When not being used on session the ladders are removed and padlocked away. Also, elements required to use the swing are packed away or removed.
		Fatal	
		Medium	
Slips, trips and falls		Likely	

	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Minor Medium	Maintenance of site is carried out by the activities and maintenance team. Instructors visually check the area upon arrival. General brief and group management is provided by instructors to ensure play is safe. Gravel base suitable for activity. Solid and stable platform for accessing the swing bar.
Swinging on the bar or climbing access poles without being clipped into the bar or secured with belay	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely Fatal High	A trained instructor is present during the session and is the only person to clip the participants into the bar and who secures a secondary safety connection. The instructor checks the harness and helmet before participants are connected to the swing bar. When not in use ladders and swing stored away by securing them to a fixed-point using locks and tightened maillons.
Pulley/hoist system locking up/jamming	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Very Unlikely Major Medium	Daily visual inspection before use is done to ensure smooth running of the pulley/hoisting system. Safe securing of the pulling rope system enables access to unjam or unlock pulley system.
Finger caught in pulley	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely Major Medium	Staff are trained on safe practice and will make clear to participants how to handle and use the rope pulley system and monitor and correct use to prevent finger being caught in the pulley system.
Over raising swing which could lead to incorrect use and injury (damage elements, equipment that could lead to other issues and compromise safety)	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely Major High	Staff are trained on max height for raising participants. They will monitor the hoisting team and progress of the swing. If raised too high staff can lower swing to the right height.
Equipment failure / malfunction	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely Major Medium	PPE and other equipment visually check before use and a further monthly check takes place to ensure the equipment is in good working order. Any suspect equipment is immediately taken out of use and possibly replaced if deemed damaged or worn too access by a competent person. Quarterly inspections of the structure and its elements are carried out and recorded and an annual independent inspection is carried out and issues raised followed up on and remedied.
Physiological effects	Guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructors are aware of the group's needs and medical issues. Challenge by choice brief is given and instructors will respect participants choices and be sensitive to participates reactions to the activity they are invited to participate in. Control on when to release is left with participants and stopping the swing and then slowly lowering can be done by instructors if needed due to participants changing their minds about doing the swing.
Stress / Panic Attack	Guest/participants	Unlikely	

		Major or traumatizing	Challenge by choice brief is given and instructors will respect participants choices. Instructors will air on the side of caution if participants start to panic or have strong emotional reaction to the activity the instructors will react quickly to ensure the level of stress is brought back down to acceptable level. This should help ensure the activity runs well for all those involved.
		Medium	
Medical issues – pregnant, heart complaint, spinal injury or weak spine or medical conditions that could be exacerbated by the swing	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Instructors check medical sheets to see if any participants should not participate in the swing due to sitting in a harness (exacerbate medical conditions).
		Major	
		Medium	
Long Hair/Loose Clothing caught in elements of the activity and causing harm	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructors to ensure participants tie their hair back and loose clothing removed or zipped up before participants start the activity.
		Major	
		Medium	
Obstacle, including platform or participants swing path / area	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Instructors to brief on where to stand and highlight areas that participants are not allowed to go. The area is clearly marked with a safety fence. Activity is stopped if public/guests or participants access swing path when swing is being operated e.g. people on the swing. Platform is moved out of the swing path prior to commencing the pulley system. Participants are not allowed to touch or hold pulley system until instructor has safely clipped in participants and moved platform.
		Major	
		High	
Human error- in correct clipping of the harness to bar	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Staff appropriately trained and monitored, and two points of connection are used to help ensure participants are clipped in before being hoisted up to height.
		Fatal	
		High	
Swing equipment straps and connector hitting participants	Guest/participants	Likely	For adults the swing will be operated with two on the outsides of the swing bar, leaving the middle space clear (slings and connector path of travel when release, this is due to the weight of adults and has not happened for lighter participants i.e. kids).
		Major	
		High	
	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	

Weather hazards – including lightening, and strong winds		Major	All participants are briefed on proper clothing for the current weather conditions. Instructors are issues appropriate PPE waterproof jacket, warm layers, and gloves to use for activity delivery.
		High	The swing will not be used, or sessions cancelled in the event of thunder & lightning (activities can resume 30mins after last thunder sound was heard) and/or winds gusts above 40/45mph (senior staff may reassess and end sessions below this level or may let continue if direction is suitable and hazards are managed). Also, further control measures under the Adverse Weather Risk Assessment are to help with environmental hazards.