

RISK ASSESSMENT: Pinsent Crate Stacking

Completed by: Pinsent Activities Team

Version 01.1

Date 28/04/2025

Next Review Date: 30/02/2026

Creation Date: 30/11/2023



What is the Hazard?	Who may be harmed?	How might people be harmed?	Risk Rating			Control Measures in Place	Remaining Risk		
			Probability	Severity	Risk		Probability	Severity	Risk
Falling From a Height	Participants	Bruises, contusions and death (impact with ground / structure)	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All instructors are trained and are Scout permit holders. All instructors are periodically monitored to ensure compliance with procedures. All participants are provided with, and require to wear, a suitable climbing harness. The instructor explains how to fit the harness correctly and participants are checked before ascent that the harness is fitted correctly. At all times whilst off the ground the participant must be connected to a safety rope using a suitable climbing knot. The instructor monitors the group to make sure no one climbs before the instructor has checked their equipment and the safety rope. The group is shown how to belay using bell ringing technique, depending on the groups level and competency. (Scouts, Explorers and adults (over 18s) only) Beavers and Cubs are belayed by an instructor or competent supervised person. Grigri's are used as the belay device and are connected to a ground anchor and the belayers harness. Safety knots are put into the rope by the instructor, at intervals as an extra safety back up when participants are belaying using bell ringing. The instructor monitors the group whilst they are belaying. The instructor is responsible for lowering a participant from the activity. Static rope is used to prevent participants from landing on stacked crates. Gate to be locked shut when not in use. 	1	5	5
Slips, Trips and Falls	All	Cuts, bruises and grazes	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants warned about potential hazards as appropriate. All participants warned to be careful of crates on the floor. All participants must be wearing sensible footwear (closed-toe shoes). Instructor to ensure area is clean and tidy before and after use. 	1	1	1

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Objects Falling From a Height	All	Bruises, cuts, lacerations, Head injuries.	5	4	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everybody in the area must wear a helmet. Signe in place to indicate this. All structural elements are physically checked and recorded during 3 monthly inspections, as well as visually from the ground at the start of a session. All participants are to remove everything from their pockets before they put on their climbing harness. Footwear must be appropriate and securely fastened. Participants are instructed to move away from the stack of crates when not placing a crate for the participants that are ascending. Cates are not to be raised up until participant on stack has 'stepped up' Persons not taking part in activity to wait outside of fenced area. 	2	4	8
Exposure / Hypothermia and Sunburn	All	Sunburnt skin, high temperature, dehydration	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructors and participants must have suitable clothing for the weather conditions and activity. Both instructors and participants to drink plenty of water when hot. Sun cream applied when needed. In extreme temperatures, session may be cancelled / postponed 	2	2	4
Adverse Weather	All	Cuts, grazes, impact with ground due to lack of concentration, struck by lightning	2	5	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the first sign of thunder and lightning the activity stops immediately. The activity may continue 30 minutes after thunder is last heard. If there are high winds then the activity will stop and anybody off the ground will be safely lowered down and the activity cancelled. If it rains then the activity will stop and anybody off the ground will be safely lowered down and the activity cancelled. 	1	3	3
Unfamiliar equipment	All	Equipment failure.	1	5	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only equipment owned by the activities team to be used by participants when being instructed by an Activity Team member. 	1	1	1

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Group Behaviour	Participant	Loss of control of the group, participants being distracted/ not listening.	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group leaders are to ensure that the group is under control at all times. Instructor is to stop the session if participant's behaviour becomes dangerous. If necessary participants will be asked to leave the fenced area. 	1	3	3
Unauthorised Access	All	Accessing the activity at height without PPE or qualified supervision	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The access gate to be locked when the activity is not in use. Area surrounded by 2.1Mtr high fence Only authorized persons have a code for lock box to access key for he fenced area. Access point to have sign stating 'No Access to Unauthorised Persons.' 	1	5	5
Entrapment	All	Caught in rope or equipment	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loose jewellery to be removed. Long hair tied back. Loose clothing to be secured or removed. Any items around the neck to be removed. Scarfs/neckers etc. 	1	3	3
Equipment Failure	All	Cuts, bruises, Impact with ground.	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All equipment is thoroughly checked and recorded in March each year. All equipment is visually checked by the instructor prior to being used. Items deemed to be faulty are removed from use immediately, logged and placed in the quarantine bin, and reported to the District Activity Manager. All structures are checked annually by a competent person. Equipment must be replaced at the end of its life period (minimum every 10 years) Equipment must be quarantined and checked after any accidents/damage 	1	4	4
Human Error	All	Instructor complacency and/or loss of focus could result in putting everyone at risk.	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All instructors are trained by a ropes course trainer and hold a scout permit. All instructors are regularly monitored to ensure procedures are complied with. All instructors are aware of where risk assessments and operating procedures are stored. Where possible, instructors to only work the same session twice in one day. 	1	4	4

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Strangulation	Participant	Rope around the neck, items round the neck getting caught.	3	5	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure correct belay technique is used to avoid slack rope. Loose items of clothing (e.g. Necker's) are removed. Instructor to ensure figure of 8 knot is tied correctly, incorporating both chest and sit harnesses. Keep crate pullup rope away from climber. 	1	5	5
Strains, Sprains and Other Injuries	Participants	Strains and sprains	4	2	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructors monitor the group to make sure they are participating in the activity in the correct way. A first aider from the participant group must be in attendance. The activity Barn has a first aid kit in it, just inside the main door. Instructors should take breaks between sessions 	1	2	2
Structure Failure	All	Crushing injuries. Impact with ground.	3	5	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visual inspections of structure carried out during set up and logged on MO check sheet. Detailed 3 monthly structure checks carried out and recorded. Areas of concerns to be inspected by technical expert. Structure to be closed until these have been checked/rectified. Annual inspection undertaken by competent person. 	1	4	4
Impact with Crates	All	Cuts, bruises and grazes.	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants told to move away after passing up crate. Helmets are to be worn at all times. Crates are to be passed up when participants cannot reach any longer by the use of rope. Participants belaying are safe distance away. Only instructors to lower participants. Fence height increased to 3.5Mtrs next to Tomahawk area. 	1	4	4
Unauthorised use of equipment	All	Death	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All equipment to be stored in the Activity Barn when not in use. 	1	1	1
Wet equipment	All	Cuts, bruises impact with ground.	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any wet equipment must not be used All wet equipment to be dried naturally. Ropes to be hung out not bunched. All wet equipment to be thoroughly checked before use. 	1	4	4

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Level	Likelihood Factor	Severity Description
1	Very Unlikely	Insignificant – No injury or No First Aid required.
2	Unlikely	Minor – Minor injuries requiring first aid such as cuts, grazes, bruising.
3	Fairly Likely	Moderate – Injuries resulting in up to three days' absence from work.
4	Likely	Major – Injuries resulting in a week or more absence from work, for example broken bones, deep cut etc.
5	Very Likely	Catastrophic – Amputations or Death.

Remaining Risk Level	Description
1-5	Very low, minimal risk, control measures more than adequate
5-10	Low, control measures satisfactory
10-15	Medium, control measures adequate
15-20	High, control measures need further consideration
20-25	Very high, intolerable, stop Job

CRATE STACKING ACTIVITY RISK ASSESSMENT – Approval for use

The following signatures approve the undertaking of Crate Stacking on the Crate Stacking area at Pinsent subject to the application of the risk control measures in the risk assessment above.

Signatures

Pinsent Activities Manager:

<i>C G Floyd</i>	C G Floyd	28 April 2025
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District Safety Lead:

<i>David Ashby</i>	D Ashby	09/06/2025
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Change History

Version	Date	Changes made
01	30 November 2023	Creation of Risk Assessment.
01.1	19 Feb 2025	General tidy up, added Unauthorised use and wet equipment. Fence height to Tomahawk area.