

Risk Profile

The following risks have been identified through PGL's risk assessment process:

- a. Extreme Weather
- b. Injury from participation/physical exertion
- c. Fatigue/exhaustion/dehydration
- d. Injury due to incorrect set-up and operation
- e. Injury from falling objects from the platform
- f. Collision/entanglement with elements / structures / equipment/ people
- g. Entrapment of hair, fingers, loose clothing, etc. in element or operating structure
- h. Splinter injury from pole/fences.
- i. Injury from cables & cable clamps
- j. Tear/ de-gloving injuries from rings and other jewellery
- k. Danger of ground fall from
 - i. Intentional misuse of equipment and systems
 - ii. Incorrect attachment
 - iii. Poor fitting of harnesses
 - iv. Equipment Failure
- l. Rope burn injury
- m. Slips/Trips/low to ground falls
- n. Rapid deceleration on wire

Implementation of the following operating procedures reduces the residual risk to a level as low as reasonably practicable given the intended purpose of the activity.

Control Measures

Deployment Requirements

Instructor Qualifications:	Centre based training by Approved Ropes Trainer and assessment by PGL Approved Assessor
Instructor – Participant ratio:	1:15
Total group size:	15
Active participation:	2

1. Equipment Requirements

Per Flying Fox platform

3 x Dynamic safety rope (9.5mm-11mm UIAA Single Rope) Instructor and participant platform safety
cows tail
35 x Alloy triplock karabiners
11 x Steel triplock karabiners
8 x ISC Zippey handled trolleys
8 x Dynamic Rope (9.5mm-11mm UIAA Single Rope) system safety's that attach to wire
8 x Petzl connect adjust lanyards with positioning grommet

Landing area

1 x Long pole
1 x Rake
1 x Retrieval Rope and trolley
1 x Knife

2. Participant & Instructor equipment requirements

Per Instructor:

1 x Full body harness

Per Participant

1 x Full body harness

3. Specific Clothing Requirements

- Trousers or shorts that prevent harness contact onto skin
- Flat soled shoes or boots unable to slip off
- Long hair tied back and made safe
- Jewellery removed where possible or made safe.
- Top or t-shirt must be worn that covers the individual's shoulders
- Loose items removed from pockets
- Any items constituting a risk of entanglement removed

4. Session Preparation

- a. Instructor to carry out a routine visually inspection of the element and activity area, checking the integrity of the whole element (to include poles, wires, stairs, barriers and landing zone, as per Daily rope inspection Checks ACOP.
- b. Check for fallen branches or unsafe trees.
- c. Off Ground activities must not be operated in wind conditions above Force 5, (29-38kmh) or during any storm that breaches the 30/30 rule in respect of lightening.
- d. If the Instructor has any concerns about the integrity and safe use of the element and activity area, then they should raise this with the appropriate Senior Staff Member, prior to any activity taking place.
- e. All set-ups must be rigged in accordance with PGL Technical Advisor approved methods/policy.
- f. Instructors should prepare themselves for the session ahead by ensuring they are aware of relevant group information and have a broad session plan which can be finalised when meeting the group.
- g. Instructor to visually and physically check the runways and landing area for any debris or



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obstructions.

- h. Landing area must have sufficient and even distribution of woodchip to slow participants appropriately.

5. Session Instruction

- a. Participants must receive a session intro and safety briefing with demonstration of how to land as per the ACOP
- b. All participants must be aware of the designated waiting areas and areas they must avoid (under the dispatch platform, under the wires)
- c. Ensure that participants understand how the landing will take place, including a specific demonstration showing a safe running landing and the reasoning for it. Feet should be kept down to bring a complete stop prior to the end of the zip wire.
- d. Where necessary all accompanying adults are shown how to retrieve a participant who has returned toward the sag point on the wire when they are in reach.
- e. All staff operating on the platform must be safeguarded by attachment to a dynamic safety cowstail.
- f. Participants must have their harness verified as being correctly fitted and then attached to a platform dynamic safety cowstail before being attached to the trolley and backup safety.
- g. Participants are held at the bottom of the dispatch platform until they are called up by the instructor.
- h. All participants must be reminded of the process and safety techniques for landing before being dispatched, including not inverting.
- i. Participants must be suitably physically and cognitively able to stop themselves, if the Instructor deems them to be unable to do this they must not be allowed to participate for their own safety.
- j. The adjustable lanyard must be adjusted for each dispatch, to a length that supports the weight of the participant, whilst allowing them to hold the trolley handles with slightly bent arms, but not easily able to touch the Zip cable.
- k. There must be an effective communication and recognised signal between the launching instructor and accompanying adult to ensure the wire and landing area is 'all clear' before the participants are launched.
- l. The platform instructor must perform a final departure check of the safety chain for each participant before they dispatch them from the platform.
- m. Only when the dispatch Instructor has visually checked themselves; is satisfied that an 'all clear' & all final departure checks have been carried out and the participants have been reminded of the landing procedure, can they remove the cows tail safety to allow participant to dispatch.
- n. Only participants of 120kg or less are allowed on the zip wire.
- o. No one is to invert during their descent.
- p. Participants must put their feet down to slow themselves in the landing area
- q. Participants are to be instructed to remove their own trolleys and safety's after landing and accompanying adults to assist only where participants may struggle
- r. Participant should leave the landing area as soon as they are detached from the zipwire cable.
- s. Because woodchip is used as a 'decelerator' at the landing zone, this must be maintained at the required depth through landings.
- t. Participants will take part in raking the decelerating materiel as frequently as possible between landing to maintain the correct depth where relevant.



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- u. Participants should give the 'all clears' when they can, but the accompanying adult, may remain in the landing area, to assist with this.
- v. 'All clears' are called only when the area and runway is clear of all people and obstructions.
- w. Participants should return to the dispatch platform by the designated path only.
- x. When self-launching, **FDCs** should be carried out as normal procedures including clear communication to the landing zone.
- y. Instructors can self-launch if it adds value to the session and participant experience.
- z. When returning from the landing zone to the dispatch platform, participants must carry the ropes and zip trolley and safety over their shoulder to prevent tripping over.

6. Rescues

Unconscious

- a. To rescue an unconscious participant, requires a either a push down or physical lift of them to release them from the zip wire, this requires additional people. Therefore, in the first instance call for help – See ACOP
- b. If any point their airway management becomes critical, then a knife should be used to cut the attachment ropes – See ACOP

Retrieval Rescue

- a. To rescue a participant that has failed to land and has stopped further up the wire, the retrieval rope should be attached to the wire by a member of staff and a rescuer will recover them to the landing zone – See ACOP