



Southampton University Mountaineering Club

Risk Assessment: Multipitch Climbing

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| Activity or Task | Multipitch Climbing |
| Assessor (Position) | Abigail Crooks (Safety and Skills) |
| Date | 09/09/2020 |

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| Activity Description | This risk assesment outlines the risks, as well as precautions to take to prevent them assosicated with climbs which require several different sections or pitches to complete. These sections of climbing are generated out by several anchor points. Multipitch climbing can be invoved with both traditional and sport climbs. |
| Additional Notes | The risk assesments for traditional and sports climbing are to be used in conjunction with this risk assesment when clmbing multipitch climbs. |

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| Checked by (Position) | |
| Date | |
| Checked by (Position) | |
| Date | |

Risk Assessment: Multipitch Climbing

| Hazard | Effect | Inherent Risk | | | Controls | Residual Risk | | |
|---|---|---------------|----------|--------|---|---------------|----------|------|
| | | Likelihood | Severity | Risk | | Likelihood | Severity | Risk |
| Building anchors which are not suitable for multipitch use. | Personal Injury (cuts, breaks, sprains, falls, death, concussions), Injury to others (cuts, breaks, sprains, falls death, concussions) | 3 | 4 | Medium | Lead climber must be confident in making and securing anchors before climbing begins. All anchors made must be capable of holding multidirectional falls. Lead climber must ensure there is space for a second to be secured by at least two pieces of the anchor while the lead climber themselves is still secured. | 2 | 3 | Low |
| Fatigue / exhaustion | Personal Injury (cuts, breaks, sprains, falls, death, concussions), Injury to others (cuts, breaks, sprains, falls death, concussions) | 3 | 3 | Medium | Climbers must ensure that the grades of all sections of multipitch is within their ability before climb. Climbers should bring suitable food and water for duration of climb. | 1 | 2 | Low |
| Weather/Benightment | Personal Injury (cuts, breaks, sprains, falls, death, concussions), Injury to others (cuts, breaks, sprains, falls death, concussions) | 4 | 2 | Low | Climbers should check conditions before climb as well as checking time of sunset. Climbers should consider these conditions alongside the estimated time of the climb. Extra layers / headtorch should be taken onto climb if appropriate. | 2 | 1 | Low |
| Escape from partway up route | Personal Injury (cuts, breaks, sprains, falls, death, concussions) | 3 | 4 | Medium | Lead climber should be confident in abseiling abilities before beginning climb. Climbers must also asses route before starting to climb to ensure they know of several escape routes if required. At least one climber in group should also be familiar with self rescue techniques. | 3 | 2 | Low |
| Dehydration | Personal Injury (cuts, breaks, sprains, falls, death, concussions) | 3 | 3 | Medium | Climbers must take suitable water onto multipitch climb, and ensure they are hydrated before climbing begins. | 1 | 2 | Low |
| Hypothermia | Shock | 3 | 4 | Medium | Climbers must ensure suitable clothing is taken onto a multipitch route for weather conditions. Weather conditions must be checked by climbers before climbing begins. If weather if too cold climbers must not be undertaken. | 1 | 3 | Low |

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|--------------------------------|---|---------------|----------|------|--|---------------|----------|------|
| | | Likelihood | Severity | Risk | | Likelihood | Severity | Risk |
| SARS-CoV-2 (Novel Coronavirus) | COVID-19 (Flu-like symptoms, death in those who are at risk, transmission to those at risk, transmission to those not at risk leading to an epidemic) | 5 | 3 | High | Climbers must use hand sanitiser before/after climbs. Climbers must ensure proper social distancing is maintained throughout event. If any person(s) show any symptoms of COVID-19 they must not attend event. Large number of members should not be bought on trip to ensure centre is not overcrowded. | 2 | 3 | Low |