

Sportily Activity Risk Assessment Form

ACTIVITIES: Mobile Climbing Wall sessions	SCOPE: 01/01/2025 – 31/12/2025	VENUE(S): School, community and church venues across the network, including at Tom Roberts Adventure Centre
ASSESSED BY: Chris Priddy	DATE OF ASSESSMENT: 13/01/2025	REVIEW DATE: 01/01/2026
ACTIVITY/SESSION LEADER: Sportily trained Climbing Wall Session Leader		This risk assessment is supported by <u>Sportily Activity Health and Safety Checklist</u> .

RISK IDENTIFIED What could go wrong?	PERSONS AT RISK	L	S	INITIAL RISK (LxS)	CONTROLS REQUIRED e.g. eliminate, reduce, isolate, training, instruction, equipment	ACTION BY	L	S	MANAGED RISK (LxS)
Injury to climbing participants due to slipping when arriving back on the floor, from bumping against the wall and its holds whilst ascending, descending or having slipped whilst climbing	Participants	4	3	12	Climbing participants to use Auto-Belay Devices and to not wear helmets when doing so (straps can get caught on holds whilst the ABD continues to release the climbing cable. When operating on a hard surface, soft landing mats should be considered. Climbing participants encouraged to ascend slowly and be coaching in thinking about where to take holds for feet and hands.	Participants	2	2	4
Refusal to come down resulting in panic and potential injury or psychological stress	Participants	3	2	6	First time climbers asked to climb to the bottom of stage 2, then have a practise descent before being allowed to climb higher. This builds confidence in the ABD operation. If necessary, Session Leader can climb up an adjoining climbing face to support the climber in descending successfully.	Participants	2	1	2
Injury during set up / take down from falling objects or instructor falling from height	Session Leader, Session Assistant(s), other leaders, anyone close to the wall	3	4	12	Sportily Climbing Wall setup and pack down instructions to be followed for all set up's and pack down's. All Session Leaders to have received appropriate training to enable the safe setup and pack down of the Climbing Wall All Session Leaders and Session Assistants to wear helmets at all times during setup and any spectators within the coned area during the session. Everyone else to be asked to stand outside of the coned area. All Session Leaders, Session Assistants and Participants encouraged to remove or check the security of items such as keys and mobile phones before climbing. Any 'gear' that is passed to/from ground to platform to be tied on and raised / lowered. Use belay device to raise/lower Auto-belay devices (ABD) & other heavy kit.	Session Leader and Session Assistants	2	4	8

					Anyone climbing to a height from which injury could result is to be belayed. Anyone working at the top to be tied or clipped into 2 secure anchors (e.g. a sling to a top anchor and ABD). Session Leader to be vigilant to the equipment being moved and the people movements within the vicinity of the Climbing Wall during set up and pack down.				
Hand Injury from set up, pack down or vehicle related (towing)	Session Leader, Session Assistant(s), drivers (towing)	3	3	9	Work Gloves to be worn during set up & pack down's. Risks to be covered in Session Leader training session. No one is to stand near the tow ball whilst the vehicle is reversing.	Session Leader and Session Assistants	2	3	6
Team exposed to direct sunlight or hot conditions for long periods during sessions	Session Leader, Session Assistant(s),	3	3	9	Team to take appropriate shade (e.g. gazebo, cool drinks, and to wear a hat or helmet at all times as required). Regular breaks to be taken and rotation of staff to utilise shade generated by tower.	Session Leader, Session Assistant(s),	1	3	3
Monotony of same task and long hours without a break resulting in loss of concentration and safety tasks not being completed as required throughout the session	Session Leader, Session Assistant(s),	2	3	9	Team to switch roles within the group – e.g. booking in and harnessing up / managing the climbers on the wall, supervising different wall section. Appropriate breaks are essential. If a minimum team of 3 is working the wall on a long booking, the team will need to stop climbing for 15 minutes break mid-morning and afternoon and 45 minute lunch break. If a short booking (2 hours), a 20 minute break should be included.	Session Leader, Session Assistant(s),	1	3	3
Risk of serious injury to other road users or pedestrians when towing the Climbing Wall	Driver, other staff, general public	2	5	10	<i>The Climbing Wall is a heavy towable item weighting 2,000kg, were it to become detached from the vehicle during towing, or if it were driven without due care and attention, it could cause serious injury to people and damage to property.</i> Drivers are responsible for ensuring that the Climbing Wall is securely connected to the towing vehicle. The emergency brake cable <u>must</u> be attached to the tow bar correctly. The Mobile Climbing Wall should only be towed by those with towing experience, in accordance with the Sportily Health and Safety Policy. Drivers must have category B+E on their license. Drivers must check their vehicle's capability to tow the unit given its 2,000 kg weight. Drivers must drive with extra care and attention giving additional space to other road users and allowing significant additional braking distance. Drivers must not have consumed any alcohol (including 0.05% products) before towing the Climbing Wall.	Driver, other staff, general public	1	4	4