

# Brenin Adventures



## Problem Solving – Operational procedures

### Staffing & Ratios

Appropriate qualifications:

- In house induction

Ratio – as appropriate to course, aims & objectives of session, and age / ability of group

### Weather limitations

It is possible to operate in all conditions.

Instructors must be aware that wet weather brings increased risk of slips. Both the ground and equipment become slippery in / after wet weather. In wet and/or cold weather ropes are more difficult to hold. Strong winds also have an impact on balance and will affect any built structures

### Venues

Any suitable area, after assessment of site specific risks

### Participant equipment

Participants should be equipped with:

- Helmet [for sessions using large spars]
- Appropriate clothing [depending on venue, activity and weather conditions]
- Appropriate footwear [depending on venue, activity and weather conditions]

### General Procedures

Before the start of any session, instructors must be fully aware of any medical conditions that may affect participation, and any specific requirements of the group.

The instructor should check equipment to ensure that it is in good repair. Where any equipment requires attention it should be marked with hazard tape and not used until they have been repaired / replaced.

Helmets [where used] must be checked immediately before the group starts the course.

Ensure you brief the group fully. Your briefing must include;

- Activity description / goals
- Safety rules
- Check all equipment is correctly fitted
- Check supporting adult understands role

Group control is very important. The supporting adult needs to understand the site specific risks and their role & responsibilities.

In many cases timed exercises pose a specific risk in that they encourage shortcuts and a lack of care. The level of challenge can be increased, which reduces the speed of travel and increase the care taken.

Problem Solving exercises should be used to encourage teamwork & trust and reduce the exclusion of individuals from any tasks set.

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It is important to teach basic concepts & skills to allow groups to successfully complete tasks.

Where appropriate, instructors should teach safe lifting techniques and ensure that equipment is moved carefully to reduce the risk of injury.

It is essential that all built structures are checked by the instructor before they are used for any activity, and that elevated structures are properly balanced and anchored.

Structures will need to be dynamically risk assessed as their construction progresses.

**The risk assessment must be reviewed on arrival on site to take into account prevailing conditions and recent changes, and monitored throughout the activity session.**

Risk factor	Control
Hypothermia / exposure	Appropriate clothing Modification of session to account for air temperature and group ability
Falls	Group management & control Course maintenance Course selection appropriate to age / size / ability Modification of challenge in/after wet weather Suitable footwear Spotting
Lifting	Group coached in lifting techniques Supervision Instructor support
Slips & trips	Course maintenance Briefing & group control Course selection appropriate to age / size / ability Suitable footwear
Rope burns	Briefing & group control Long trousers and sleeves
Entrapment of items	Course maintenance No loose clothing Jewellery removed / taped over Hair tied back
Hit by falling / flying objects	Monitoring / dynamic risk assessment of built structures & activities Elevated structures balanced / anchored Awareness of wind strength & direction Helmets as appropriate
Equipment failure	Course maintenance

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	Over-engineering of elements Elements checked before each use
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