

Risk Assessment Activity – Power Fan Jump

Pioneer Centre	Assessed by: James Kniffen		Assessed/ Reviewed:	Next Review Date
			11/01/2023 08/01/2025 12/12/2025	12/12/2026
Reviewed by:	Assist Chief: Max Bishop	Dec2025		
Reviewed by:	Senior Instructors: Andrew Evrard, Joseph Page, Steph McMenemy, Kieren Plant & Ronan Halpenny Lead Instructors: Rebecca Arms			
Overview: Power Fan Jump was purpose built by JM Adventures (approved contractor) December 2019. The Power Fan Jump is 13-meter jump and is suitable for participants between 20kg and 120kg. Trained staff do a check at the beginning of the day, when used, to ensure all equipment and elements are in good working order. There is annual independent inspection by High Times Ltd. The power fan unit will be sent off, to the manufacturer for full service, every two years or 250,000 jumps whichever occurs first. A quarterly inspection of the structure is carried out by trained staff and recorded. All the equipment inspection procedures are established and overseen by the Chief instructor who has the Winter Mountaineering and Climbing Instructor (WMCI). Staff are in-house trained and assessed. Preferred Staff to Client ratio 1:12 and a maximum of 1:16 under supervision (under instruction 1:1 instructor to client doing the Power Fan). All instructors are first aid trained and emergency procedures are in place in case of a major accident.				
Hazards	Groups of People at Risk from the Hazards Identified	Probability	Control Measures – Reduces the severity and lowers the probability to acceptable levels	
		Severity		
		Risk Category		
Structural Failure	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Very unlikely	Power Fan Jump structure was built by approved contractors and external annual inspections are carried out. Quarterly structural checks are done and any issues reported to senior staff immediately and action taken as necessary.	
		Fatal		
		Medium		
Falling objects	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Helmets are worn by anyone in the area when activities are being delivered or maintenance is being done and guests briefed on how to stand if objects fall to protect themselves and guests advised to remove things from pockets or have them stored safely in pockets.	
		Major		
		Medium		
Unauthorized access to the Power fan Jump	Instructors, staff, guest/participants and general public	Unlikely	When not being used on session the staples are removed and stored in safe locked place. Also, the belay drope is clipped into a tracer line that is then clipped above the removable staples, preventing access. When not in use at	
		Fatal		
		High		

			all staples are stored in a locked place and belay line on its tracer cord is clipped above removeable stables. The area is fenced off and sign posted "Activity Area" keep out.
Slips, trips and falls	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Maintenance of the site is done by the activities team and maintenance team. Instructors visually check the area upon arrival. General brief and group management is provided by the instructor to ensure activities are run safely.
		Minor	
		Medium	
Climbing up the structure/pole without being clipped into the belay line / Drope	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	An instructor is present during the session and the instructor clips the participant into the belay line/drope and checks the harness and helmet before allowing the participant to climb up the pole to the jumping platform. When not in use staples are stored in a safe locked place preventing access.
		Fatal	
		High	
Power Fan Unit jamming and/or locking up	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Very Unlikely	Daily inspection before use is done which is detailed in operating procedures. Belay/drope is always used with an energy absorber to prevent shock loading of a participant if a jam were to occur. There is an access belay line (set up at the beginning of the day) to rescue the suspended person down.
		Major	
		Medium	
Equipment failure / malfunction	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Only participants weighing over 20kg and under 120kg can do the jump. PPE and other equipment are visually checked before use, and a further bimonthly check takes place and is recorded to ensure the equipment is in good working order. Any suspect equipment is immediately taken out of use and replaced and reported to senior staff. Daily inspections for the Powerfan unit are carried out which are detailed in operating procedures. The drope / belay line is to never be knotted.
		Major	
		Medium	
Physiological effects	Guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructors are aware of the group's needs and medical issues. Challenge by choice brief is given and instructors will respect participants' choices and be sensitive and adapt to their reactions to the activity they are invited to participate in.
		Major	
		Medium	
Stress / Panic Attack	Guest/participants	Likely	Challenge by choice brief is given and instructors will respect participants' choices. Instructors will err on the side of caution if participants start to panic or have strong emotional reaction to the activity the instructors will react quickly to ensure the level of stress is brought back down to an acceptable level. This should help ensure the activity runs well for all those involved.
		Major / trauma	
		High	
Medical issues – pregnancy, heart complaint, spinal injury or weak spine or medical conditions that could be exacerbated by the jump.	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Instructor brief participants making them aware that no one should be jumping if they have any issues that could be exacerbated by the jump.
		Major	
		High	

Frozen/stuck participant	Guest/participants	Likely	Instructors are trained in rescue procedures and will look to build up participants by using a variety of techniques including shorter jumps, coming alongside and offering reassurance, getting participants to down climb, etc.
		Major	
		High	
Landing wrong when reaching the ground	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	<p>Instructor to give a clear brief on how to land (feet together and bend legs) and to not to try to stop themselves if they start go any direction upon landing. There are crashmats that are positioned to help provide a safe landing.</p> <p>For coming off earlier (not the top platform) participants are shown how to come around so as to have their back to the mats and release with their feet together and have their heels/feet hit the mat and then allow themselves to fall into the matting on their backs or another side.</p>
		Minor	
		Medium	
Swinging back into the pole	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructors to brief on how to step off from the platform – not jumping. When winds reach 35/40mph or stronger the session will stop till the wind dies down or the session is cancelled. Helmets and harnesses are worn by participants and checked before setting off up the pole.
		Major	
		Medium	
Loose clothing getting caught on elements and causing injury	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructors to ensure loose clothing is removed/zipped up before participants are sent off to climb and stepping off.
		Minor	
		Low	
Long hair getting caught on elements and causing injury	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Instructors to ensure participants tie their hair back.
		Minor	
		Low	
Slack in belay line /drope	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	<p>Instructors' brief participants to keep the belay line / drope taut and are told not to pull down on the belay line / drope which would introduce slack into the system and could cause a shock load to the body of the participant.</p> <p>Instructor to do a demonstration to emphasize how important it is not to have slack in the drope.</p>
		Major	
		High	
Belay line / Drope being damaged or cut	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Very Unlikely	Instructors to ensure participants jump at the appropriate places avoiding the belay line / drope running across the platform edge. When planned to be used an inspection is done to ensure drope is in good working order.
		Fatal	
		Medium	
Grabbing hold of platform rail or anything else when stepping off	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Likely	Instructors to brief on how to step off and the importance of committing to it and not holding on to rail or platform. There will be no sitting on the edge and sliding off the platform.
		Major	
		High	
		Very Likely	

Belay line/drope caught around platform (potential swing and shock load)	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Major	The instructor leading the session will monitor the progress of the climbing participant and instruct them to stop and pull the belay line/drope around the platform if catching on the platform. Once sorted the instructor gives the go ahead to continue to climb to the platform. The issue is pointed out in the demo/briefing at the start of the session to help prevent it.
		High	
Human error-incorrect clipping of the belay line to the harness	Instructors, staff and guest/participants	Unlikely	Staff are appropriately trained and monitored, and final checks done by the instructor running the session before sending someone up the pole.
		Fatal	
		High	