

Greasy Pole Risk Assessment

What are the hazards? What can cause harm?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing? What are you doing to control hazards and the chance of someone getting hurt?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk? By following this risk assessment, are the hazards & chances of someone being harmed adequately controlled?
Slips, trips and falls around the element		Brief group, suitable footwear closed toe footwear.	Trivial if controls are followed
Element failure & splinters from wood		Only 2 people allowed on the element at once. Pre-use check by Beaudesert Staff & Group Leader, Periodic Checks by Beaudesert Staff. Participants to wear closed toe footwear.	Tolerable if controls are followed
Slips, trips and falls whilst on the greasy pole		Due to the nature of the activity (play combat with pillow above water) participants will get bums and will fall off the element into water. Group leaders are responsible for first aid. Helmet to worn when on the element. No direct blows to face. Brief group on where they may start hitting each other with pillowcases.	Trivial if controls are followed
Head injuries from contact with equipment		Helmets provided. Steps are provided for accessing element.	Trivial if controls are followed
Drowning/shock from cold water/Dry Drowning		Group must be supervised by leaders at all times. Ensure space at side of pool to allow exit from water. Participant to be helped out of the water if required.	Trivial if controls are followed
Diseases due to contaminated water		Water chlorinated correctly by trained staff and check before activity commences. Participants to wash footwear before entering the pool.	Trivial if controls are followed
Extreme weather		Activity does not commence or it is stopped immediately and the area vacated	Trivial if controls are followed
Behavioural issues		Complete control is to be maintained by the group leader and the group briefed on dangers. Session will be stopped if behaviour may compromise safety.	Trivial if controls are followed
Falling off element to the ground or onto the element.		Hand rails are provided to access the element. Helmets are worn. Participants are briefed not to stand on the top of the element and to sit down onto the platform. Group leaders may feel it appropriate to spot some participants (like you would do with a small child on an adventure play-ground) as the height of the element is approx. 1.3M high.	Tolerable if controls are followed

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		Potential severity of harm		
		Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely Harmful
		1	2	3
Likelihood of harm occurring	Highly unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
	1	1	2	3
	Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
	2	2	4	6
	Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable
	3	3	6	9

Slightly harmful: Superficial injuries; minor cuts and bruises; eye irritation from dust, nuisance and irritation (e.g. headaches); ill-health leading to temporary discomfort.

Harmful: Lacerations; burns; concussion; serious sprains; minor fractures, deafness; dermatitis; asthma; work related upper limb disorders; ill-health leading to permanent minor disability.

Extremely harmful: Amputations; major fractures; poisonings; multiple injuries; fatal injuries, occupational cancer; other severely life shortening diseases; acute fatal diseases