SUBJECT: Stumped/Forest Finders Risk Assessment **RISK ASSESSMENT REF: Stumped/2026/V1**
WRITTEN BY: Operations Team/ Health and Safety Team
REVIEWED BY: Dave Daborn, December 2025
REVIEW DATE: December 2026

Risk Matrix								
Risk rating guidance	Likelihood (L)	5	5	10	15	20	25	Likelihood (L) x Severity (S) = Risk Rating (RR).
		4	4	8	12	16	20	
		3	3	6	9	12	15	
		2	2	4	6	8	10	
		1	1	2	3	4	5	
			1	2	3	4	5	
			Severity (S)					

Acceptability of risk guidance	**High-risk: 15 – 25**	High-risk activities should cease immediately. Further effective control measures to mitigate risks must be introduced.
	Medium-risk: 8 – 12	Medium-risks are an acceptable level based on the reduced likelihood after sufficient control measures are implemented.
	Low-risk: 1-6	Low-risks are largely acceptable. Where it is reasonable to do so, efforts should be made to reduce risks further.
Guidance. When completing a risk assessment, you should:	1. Identify the persons at risk and the significant hazards. 2. Calculate an initial RR for the activity. 3. Identify risk control measures that reduce the risks to an acceptable level. 4. Calculate a revised RR - you should consider how much safer the task will be if the control measures are followed. Here, you should consider changing both the likelihood (L) and the severity (S) ratings.	
Note. Ideally, you should look to reduce the risks so that the task can be classified as "low-risk".		

Likelihood	Definition	Points rating
Inevitable	If the work continues as it is, there is almost 100% certainty that an accident will happen, for examples: A broken stair or broken rung on a ladder, Bare, exposed electrical conductors, Unstable stacks of heavy boxes	**5**
Highly likely	Will happen more often than not. Additional factors could precipitate an incident but it is still likely to happen without this additional factor.	**4**
Possible	The accident may occur if additional factors precipitate it, but it is unlikely to happen without them.	**3**
Unlikely	This incident or illness might occur but the probability is low and the risk minimal.	**2**
Remote possibility	There is really no risk present. Only under freak conditions could there be any possibility of an accident or illness. All reasonable precautions have been taken - This should be the normal state of the workplace.	**1**

Severity	Definition	Points rating
Very high	Causing multiple deaths and widespread destruction eg. fire, course/building collapse.	**5**
High	Causing death, serious injury or permanent disability to an individual.	**4**
Moderate	Temporary disability causing injury (to member of the public, contractor or employees) or disease capable of keeping an employee off work for seven days or more and reportable under RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995).	**3**
Slight	Minor injury (to member of the public, contractor or employee), which would allow the individual to continue work after first aid treatment on site or at a local surgery. The duration of the stoppage or treatment is such that the normal flow of work is not seriously interrupted.	**2**
Nil	Very minor injury, bruise, graze, no risk of disease.	**1**

SER	HAZARD	L	S	RR	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED	CONTROL MEASURES	FURTHER CONTROL MEASURES: reviewed annually to formulate Risk Reduction Plan	L	S	RR
1	Slips, Trips and Falls due to uneven or muddy ground	3	2	6	Staff, Participants	Bases are installed in appropriate locations, close to established paths considering ground condition, trip hazards, other obstacles such as streams or long drops. Suitable footwear to be worn by participants.	Instructors to brief group as appropriate regarding specific hazards.	2	2	4
2	Incidental Injuries such as from trash eg broken glass	2	3	6	Staff, Participants	Staff to litter pick scan area during morning check and remove any litter or inappropriate objects. Regular litter picks. Suitable footwear to be worn.		1	3	3
3	Participants getting lost or injured	2	3	6	Staff, Participants	Map issued to participants includes cabin phone number for use in emergencies. Participants told to remain in their groups during briefing.		1	3	3
4	Injury to participants from the puzzles- sharp edges, entrapment	3	3	9	Staff, Participants	Puzzles at bases are designed to minimise hazards, with no sharp or abrasive edges, and minimal entrapment risks. Regular checks by staff on condition of puzzles.		1	3	3

References:
HSE Information Sheet Entertainment Sheet No 14
HSE 5 Steps to Risk assessment INDG 163
HSE A Guide to Risk Assessment requirements INDG 218
Go Ape Generic Risk Assessments

Control Measures. Where a control measure has been identified, it is only included once and not repeated under every subject. Therefore, for a specific hazard identified, a control measure noted above may apply to that hazard. (HSE RA guidance.)

Go Ape operational and training systems. These include the following: Go Ape Operations on how to run a Go Ape Activity, Go Ape Training Manual including training and assessment policy, Practical Session plans and online training and Go Ape Company Handbook.

Instructor Training. Go Ape staff must undertake relevant training and assessment programme specific to their role. They undergo training in accordance with the Go Ape Online Training Manual