

Outdoor Education Standard Operating Procedures

A photograph of a person wearing a blue jacket and a white helmet, rappelling down a rope over a rocky stream. The person is suspended in the air, with their legs spread out. The background shows a forested area with trees and rocks. A blue brushstroke graphic is overlaid on the image, containing the word 'Tyrolean' in white text.

Tyrolean

Standard Operating Procedures: Tyrolean

Definition and Scope of Activities

There are several suitable sites to take part in a Tyrolean activity, A Tyrolean is essentially a rope set up between two anchors.

The participants can cross the rope using a variety of methods. This may include sliding across on a pulley or a postman's letterbox crossing where the participants stand on one rope and hold on to the other.

Variants of a Tyrolean can be used, for example off of the top of a cliff down to an anchor far away from the cliff face however a method of lowering participants down the Tyrolean would be used in this case to stop the participant sliding down too fast.

Precautions to Minimise Hazards

It is essential that the Standard Operating Procedures are followed and that personnel leading the Group fully brief the group to pay attention to hazard warning information, remain in control of the activity and follow accredited tuition and activity progression.

The specific hazards identified are not exhaustive and additional hazards or combinations may arise during the course of an activity necessitating ongoing attention to minimise or control the risk(s) to a manageable level.

Seasonal Constraints

Tyrolean activities can take place all year round, additional care should be taken of slips and trips on steeper ground when the ground is wet, icy or snow covered. In lying snow fall the access road to Glen Clova often become blocked and so road safety may be jeopardized.

Location Constraints

None

Tuition Ratios

The tuition ratios are 1:8 for Tyrolean activity.

Tuition Leader Qualifications

To take part in Tyrolean activity at any venue using a variety of systems the group leader must hold the mountaineering and climbing instructor and be familiar with Tyroleans.

In house accreditation to run Tyrolean sessions at approved locations. In addition to the in-House accreditation for each site, leaders must also hold one of the following qualifications in recognition of competence when working with ropes and height safety.

- Rock Climbing Instructor
- Mountain Rescue rigging level 2.
- IRATA L1
- SRT advanced

Equipment - Participants

All participants must have access to Helmet, harness, clothing appropriate to conditions, first aid supplies and emergency shelter.

Equipment

As required and specified during training.

Access / Environment

Mountains and coastal cliffs often provide an important habitat for nesting birds and species of moss / alpine not normally found at lower levels. Groups should exercise care to reduce unnecessary disturbance and damage from overuse of specific sites.

RISK ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENT REF NO: Tyrolean 1

Activity: Tyrolean Activities

Location: Glen doll main site
Various others

Assessor: DS

Hazard	Who might be harmed?			Existing controls What makes the hazard less risky? What makes these controls effective?	Risk			Further actions Avoid Control at source Take advantage of technology Protect all Make what you have more effective	Target date dd-mm-yy	Responsibility	Completion Date	New Residual Risk
	Public	Client	Leader		Probability	Severity	Rating					
Equipment failure		x	x	Regular PPE checks carried out. Instructor to check equipment prior to use. Lines not to be over tensioned. Avoid 'peak-impact' forces	1	4	4	None				
Slips / trips resulting in a fall and injuries from slip trip		x	x	Foot wear appropriate to conditions Group control near drops				None				
Water immersion		x	x	Control of group and robust safety briefs				None				
Hair etc getting caught in the pulleys		x	x	Ensure long hair and loose clothing is tied away. Use sling to extend pulleys away from clients				None				
Anchor failure	x	x	x	Use sound judgement to select anchors				Continued CPD				
Tensioned lines or setups whipping clients		x	x	Robust brief and good group control, If using 'post mans walk' ensure correct tensioning to avoid bottom line 'whipping' clients				None				
Vehicles on bridge	x	x	x	Robust brief				None				

Further actions approved by: Derek Napier

Signature: D Napier

Date: 9th April, 2026

Urgency of Action = (20>Very High) (16-20 High) (9-15 Moderate) (4-8 Low) (1-3 Very Low)

Severity = 1. Damage 2. Minor Injury 3. +3 Days/Hospitalised 4. Major Injury/Permanent Disability 5. Fatality

Probability = 1. Very Unlikely 2. Unlikely 3. Fairly Likely 4. Likely 5. Very Likely

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