



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for SISOCHC004 Set up and supervise challenge course sessions, high elements

Release: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Performance Evidence

Evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit in the context of the job role, and:

- prior to commencement of two sessions, complete two visual inspections and complete reports:
 - course site and surrounding area
 - four high course elements
- for three different challenge course sessions and according to predetermined activity plans:
 - select and set up a sequence of high element activities to meet the requirements of three different participant groups
 - select and set up belay systems suitable for course elements and participants
 - across the three sessions, select and tie at least four different types of knots suitable for the system type established, and appropriate for the intended load and function
- supervise activity leaders and participants during three high element sessions
- during each session consistently manage activity leader and participant adherence to safety procedures
- after each session, lead a debrief with team members
- utilise options provided in Assessment Conditions to:
 - direct activity leaders to amend activities in response to a total of two safety issues that arise during activities
 - complete a brief written or verbal report to recommend improvements for activities and management of safety issues
- set up two belay systems suitable for rescues at two different high elements
- complete simulated high element rescues, using safe approach procedures, to:
 - lower a conscious person on two occasions
 - lower an unconscious person on one occasion.

Knowledge Evidence

Demonstrated knowledge required to complete the tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit:

- organisational procedures for:
 - safe participant use of high elements

- emergency response and first aid for high element challenge course sessions
- for high element challenge courses, organisational:
 - schedule for completing visual inspections
 - items that must be inspected and extent of inspection requirements prior to commencement of session
 - requirements for recording and filing outcomes of inspections
 - requirements for reporting issues of immediate concern including hazardous ones
- typical environmental hazards found within challenge course sites and surrounding areas and associated risks, to include:
 - unstable trees and tree branches; tree debris
 - tree and tree debris hazards, including falling limbs
 - ground surface hazards
 - spiders, insects, snakes and fauna
- features of different types of high elements found in challenge courses:
 - common elements:
 - independent elements
 - linked elements
 - those which are specific to the particular course in use
 - signs of deterioration
 - failures that pose an immediate safety risk
- factors that affect the selection and sequencing of high element activities:
 - group objectives and session duration for particular client groups
 - objectives of activity participation for general admission clientele
 - participant characteristics:
 - age, size and weight
 - current experience in challenge course activities and skill level
 - fitness level and physical capabilities
 - injuries and medical conditions
 - emotional, behavioural and intellectual ability or disability
 - season of operation, weather and environmental conditions
- features, functions, advantages and disadvantages of different types of anchors or attachment points used in challenge course facilities:
 - bolts
 - camming devices
 - wire rope grip
 - shackles
- working load limits of anchors or attachment points and tension formula
- issues that are assessed when selecting anchors or attachment points and likely impacts of poor condition on performance under load:
 - wear and abrasion due to age and use

- corrosion
- decay
- dislodgment
- features, functions, advantages and disadvantages of challenge course high element equipment:
 - harnesses of different types
 - carabiners
 - rope
 - wire rope
 - hand ropes
 - swing ropes
 - pulleys
 - tape
 - sewn sling
 - Prusik cord
 - personal attachment systems, including cow's tails
 - crab claws
 - thimbles
 - rigging screws
 - turnbuckles
 - staples
 - belay devices:
 - plate
 - assisted locking
 - tubular
 - belay systems:
 - static belay
 - dynamic belay
 - bottom braking belay
 - self-belay
- how the following factors affect the selection and rigging of above equipment:
 - element characteristics
 - weather and environmental conditions
 - participant size, weight and abilities
- manufacturers' specifications for equipment use
- techniques used to rig belays for performance of rescues
- when different knots are used, advantages and disadvantages, and how to tie them:
 - fixed eye
 - mid line tied in the bight
 - end to end joining

- termination
- load control hitches
- slide and grip hitches
- hazards and associated risks for participant use of high elements, and methods used to minimise risk:
 - hazards associated with the structure
 - hazards associated with equipment used to negotiate the element
 - fall protection hazards
 - group management hazards
 - weather related hazards; wind, rain, lightning etc.
- methods used by challenge course supervisors to:
 - roam and supervise multiple course elements, and performance of belayers and participants
 - lead team member debriefs
 - provide overall reports on activity successes, problems and incidents
 - provide recommendations to improve activities and management of safety.
- roles and responsibilities that can be allocated to team members to effectively complete a complex high element rescue
- appropriate approach methods for high element rescues:
 - using ladders
 - using ascending ropes
 - approaching via the element
 - approaching from start, mid or finish point of course
 - how these will vary depending on rescue circumstance
- techniques used for complex high element rescues to include those for:
 - ascending and descending a single rope
 - lowering conscious and unconscious persons
 - securing rescuee and escaping from a loaded belay system.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated in a challenge course facility where at least four different high course elements are set up.

The following resources must be available to replicate industry conditions of operation:

- first aid equipment
- communication equipment for emergency response

Assessment must ensure use of:

- a group of participants and activity leaders whom the individual supervises
- people who act as rescuees with whom the individual interacts during simulated rescues

- real workplace situations, or simulated activities, or case study scenarios that test aspects of this unit that relate to:
 - arising safety issues and activity modifications
 - recommending activity and safety management improvements
- personal protective equipment used to set up high elements which can include climbing helmets
- equipment to include:
 - established anchors or attachment points
 - harnesses
 - carabiners
 - rope
 - wire rope
 - tape or sewn sling
 - pulleys
 - Prusik cord
 - personal attachment systems, including cow's tails
 - crab claws
 - thimbles
 - rigging screws
 - turnbuckles
 - staples
 - belay devices
- activity plans
- organisational procedures for:
 - safe participant use of high elements
 - emergency response and first aid for high element challenge course sessions
- organisational schedule, procedures and templates for completing and documenting visual inspections of course site and high elements.

Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations requirements for assessors, and:

- have a collective period of at least three years' experience as a challenge course supervisor where they have applied the skills and knowledge covered in this unit of competency; the three years' experience can incorporate full and or part time experience.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=1ca50016-24d2-4161-a044-d3faa200268b>