



Australian Government

SISOCHC005 Manage challenge course

Release: 1

SISOCHC005 Manage challenge course

Modification History

Not applicable.

Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to manage a range of specialist functions within challenge course facilities. It requires the ability to develop and document a range of plans and procedures including those for course inspection, safe participant use, rescues, emergency response and for training staff. It also covers the selection of specialist equipment and services appropriate for course elements and the site.

This unit applies to any type of organisation that operates a challenge course including commercial, not-for-profit and government organisations.

It applies to challenge course managers who work with significant autonomy to manage the operation and safety of the course.

No occupational licensing, certification or specific legislative requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Competency Field

Challenge Course

Unit Sector

Outdoor Recreation

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes

1. Develop course inspection schedules and procedures.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

- 1.1. Develop and implement procedures for hazard identification and risk assessments for the site, surrounding areas and all course elements.
- 1.2. Develop hazard identification and risk assessment templates for use of relevant personnel.
- 1.3. Establish and document all required course inspection

- types and create templates for course and equipment inspections.
- 1.4. Develop schedules for inspections and allocate responsibility to internal personnel and external specialists.
 - 1.5. Disseminate documented procedures, schedules and templates and ensure all personnel understand requirements.
 - 1.6. Establish and maintain a record keeping system for inspections and risk assessments.
2. Determine course operational procedures
 - 2.1. Determine different activity techniques suited to course elements and different participant characteristics.
 - 2.2. Develop and document procedures for safe participant use of course elements, in line with particular element features.
 - 2.3. Evaluate course elements, determine and document suitable rescue techniques and procedures.
 - 2.4. Establish and maintain emergency response plans and procedures.
 - 2.5. Develop and implement plans for ongoing staff training in course use, safety procedures, hazard identification, emergency response and rescue requirements.
 - 2.6. Implement mechanisms to inform course users and leaders of changes to elements and procedures.
 3. Select specialist equipment and services for challenge courses.
 - 3.1. Consult with course installation specialists to identify equipment appropriate for course elements.
 - 3.2. Select ancillary equipment suited to requirements of the course and clientele.
 - 3.3. Select external specialists to inspect, maintain and modify the site and course elements.

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance in this unit, but not explicit in the performance criteria are listed here, along with a brief context statement.

SKILLS

DESCRIPTION

Reading skills to:

- interpret unfamiliar and potentially complex product specifications when selecting equipment.

Writing skills to:

- develop comprehensive plans, procedures and template documents in a format and style easily understood by a full

- Self-management skills to:
- range of workers.
 - critically analyse the characteristics and needs of the facility to design tailored systematic plans and procedures.

Unit Mapping Information

No equivalent unit.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides -

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

Assessment Requirements for SISOCHC005 Manage challenge course

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:

- develop and document the following procedures for a challenge course:
 - completing and reporting routine visual inspections of site, surroundings and course elements
 - completing and reporting hazard identification and risk assessments
 - safe participant use of two course elements including types of equipment that must be used to support safety
 - completing rescues, including approach methods, techniques and variables for two course elements
- develop and document the following templates for a challenge course:
 - inspections of the site, surrounding areas and two course elements
 - hazard identification and risk assessments for the site, surrounding areas and two course elements
- develop and document schedules for the following types of inspections and indicate who is responsible for each:
 - routine visual inspection of site, surroundings and course elements
 - operational inspection
 - periodical inspection
 - tree inspection
- develop and document:
 - an emergency response plan for dealing with incidents involving injured participants
 - a basic training plan for activity leaders and supervisors, limited to covering procedural issues for course operation, and not skill issues
- document a process for:
 - disseminating plans, procedures and information to activity leaders, supervisors and course users
 - maintaining records
- research the availability of one type of ancillary equipment suited to a course and one type of specialist service available and write a brief recommendation on why these should be purchased.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- different types of challenge course inspections that should be completed, at what intervals, and extent of inspection requirements:
 - routine visual inspection of site, surroundings and course elements
 - operational inspection
 - periodical inspection
 - tree inspection
- for each of the above inspection types:
 - who would complete these; staff or external specialists
 - requirements for recording and filing outcomes of inspections
- typical settings for challenge courses and features of both internal site environments and surrounding areas
- typical environmental hazards found within challenge course sites and surrounding areas, associated risks, and methods used to minimise risk to include:
 - unstable trees and tree branches; tree debris
 - ground surface hazards
 - spiders, insects, snakes and fauna
- features of different types of low and high elements found in challenge courses, both independent and linked
- hazards and associated risks for participant use of low and high course 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.
- operational features of the following equipment used to support participant safety:
 - safety lines for low elements
 - belay systems for high elements
 - fall protection
- safe techniques that should be used by participants to negotiate low and high course elements
- unsafe practices that may be used by participants on course elements and the importance of controlling potential behaviours
- spotting techniques used with different types of low elements and how these can be tailored to the element features and characteristics of participants
- 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 high element rescues to include those for:
 - indirect assistance to rescuee to recover and continue through verbal direction
 - direct assistance to rescuee to recover and continue
 - ascending and descending a single rope
 - lowering conscious and unconscious persons
- a range of formats for and inclusions of:
 - procedures and schedules
 - training plans
 - hazard identification and reporting tools
 - risk assessment and control tools based on the hierarchy of control method
 - emergency response plans and procedures
 - inspection reports
 - equipment safety and serviceability checklists
- Australian Standards relevant to the operation of challenge courses:
 - the purpose and legal status of the standards
 - why the guideline standard might be adopted by organisations
 - how the standards may be used to assist the development of organisational procedures
- emerging equipment research and technology for challenge courses, at an overview level
- suppliers of specialist equipment and services for challenge courses, their product and service range and suitability to meet the needs of particular courses.

Assessment Conditions

In order to develop tailored systematic plans and procedures, access to the following is required:

- a challenge course where low or high course elements, or a combination of both, are set up
- comprehensive information about the operation and clientele of the challenge course facility to determine its characteristics and needs

Assessment must ensure access to information about suppliers of specialist equipment and services for challenge courses and details of their product and service range.

Assessment must ensure use of:

- computers, printers and general software programs used to produce system documents
- template documents:
 - procedures and schedules
 - hazard identification and reporting tools

- risk assessment and control tools based on the hierarchy of control method
- emergency response plans and procedures
- training plans
- inspection reports.

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 manager 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

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