Assault Course Risk Assessment - Green Beret 2026

This activity risk assessment must be read in conjunction with the HCSC General site risk assessment and Green Beret event risk assessment. Each specific risk should follow guidance from the General Course Risk Assessment as well.

Scouts Hertfordshire

Name of activity, event, and location	**Abbos Tree Walk – Assault Course - 14th November 2026** **Hertfordshire Scout Activity Centres- Tolmers Activity Centre**	**Date of risk assessment**	**13th November 2026**	**Name of person doing this risk assessment**	**Jack Mawhinney Course Manager** **Reviewed by:** **Doug Stack ACM HCSC** **Katy Pearce EM HCSC**
		Date of next review	**1st November 2027**		

Hazard - what could go wrong?	Who is at risk?	Assessment of risk	Control measures in place	Remaining risk using control measures
Uneven terrain, roots, mud, leaves (slips, trips)	All	Medium	• Area checked before and during competition by base team - hazards as far as possible are removed, moved or covered over. • Tape / rope used to cordon area to help prevent others venturing into the area. • Base team briefed at morning briefing of any hazards still remaining. • Competitors are briefed of any hazards at the start of the course • Base team to ask competitors to tie all laces and not run in the area.	Low
Weather/environment (on people) – hypothermia/hyperthermia	All	Medium	• Base team briefed on potential risks and signs of illness at morning briefing. Ensure staff bring layers and waterproofs. • Competitors briefed at the start and checked at each base. • Warm drinks to be provided at the base throughout the day. • Ensure everyone keeps moving. • Provide somewhere for competitors to take a rest if over exerting. • First aider on call for any issues.	Medium due to weather reports
Weather damage to course (slippery planks, loose ropes)	Participants	Medium	• Base team to check immediately before the competition that course is sound and all fixings are in place. • If unable to fix issues the activity will be stopped and advice sought from the Green Beret Management Committee. • Checks done hourly or if any obvious signs of weather damage	Low
Construction (breaking planks, loose fixings)	Participants	High	• Construction equipment checked prior to use for damage and suitability and replaced. • Appropriate and sufficient nail, screw, rope or strap fixings to be used and placed correctly. • Ropes and hand-lines to be tensioned to minimise slack. • Base team to check throughout the competition that course remains in place and to rectify anything immediately. • If unable to fix issues the activity will be stopped and advice sought from the Green Beret Management Committee. • Competitors briefed - only 1 competitor at a time on each section.	Medium
Tree failure (movement/snapping)	Participants	Medium	• Trees checked for stability and minimum 10cm diameter to ensure load • Support stakes added to smaller trees to reduce/spread load.	Low

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Fall from course height	Participants	High	• Maximum foot height above the ground will be 600mm - with NO safety net • Base team to ensure landing zone is clear of hazards throughout the competition. • Base team to use spotters and follow competitors around the course and provide support, encouragement, help where needed. • Ladders available to assist and help competitors down if anyone is hurt or stuck.	Medium
General incident response delay	All	Low	• Base team will have walkie-talkie & mobile phone to communicate with management committee. • First aider (1st response) will be on the base all day with recommended 1st aid kit. • Base team will have shelter, extra clothing, emergency blanket, hot & cold drinks, clean water, paper towels.	Low

Note: This risk assessment is intended only as a guide and is supplementary to the main Assault Course and the HCSC main Green Beret Risk Assessment.

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Element Name: Base 8 – Abbos Tree Walk

Time	7-8am	8-9am	9-10am	10-11am	11-12am	12-1pm	1-2pm	2-3pm	3-4pm	4-5pm
Any comments?										
Base leader sign off										
Assault course manager sign off										