

Greentop Circus

Risk Assessment

Activity:	Equilibristic: including tightwire, unicycling, walking globe, stiltwalking, walking ladder. Please see building related risk assessments and Covid 19 risk assessment.	Assessed By:	Trudi Patient
Location:	Greentop Community Circus Centre Other location - outreach	Approved By:	Teo Greenstreet
		Issue Date:	29/08/17
		Revision Date:	22/07/2025
		Next review	21/07/2026

Hazard	Consequences	Persons affected	Severity	Likelihood	Total Risk	Existing Control Measures (Where appropriate)	Severity	Likelihood	Total Risk
Control measures not implemented appropriately	Major Injury	Equilibrist and other people present	3	4	12	For unsupervised training: the following control measures are the responsibility of the equilibrist. For tutor led sessions: they are the responsibility of the tutor. If the tutor is working with adults it may be sufficient to demonstrate and explain these measures, but for younger participants the tutor (or another adult) will need to continually / repeatedly check that these measures are being observed	2	4	8
Falling	Major Injury	Equilibrist	3	4	12	Use of good quality, appropriately placed crash mats and judo mats where appropriate. Use of knee pads, elbow pads, wrist guards etc. where appropriate. Identifying the entire area into which you might fall and ensuring that there are no objects, walls or people within it. Avoid attempting moves at height where the likelihood of failure is high and the consequences could be severe. Ensure moves are attempted at an appropriate height for the skill being performed. Knowledge of good technique and appropriate responses when falling. Use spotters where appropriate. Those training independently must be assessed as competent to train equilibristics independently and therefore should have sufficient knowledge of how to keep themselves safe.	2	4	8

Hazard	Consequences	Persons affected	Severity	Likelihood	Total Risk	Existing Control Measures (Where appropriate)	Severity	Likelihood	Total Risk
Impact of equilibrist with others	Major Injury	Equilibrist and other people present	5	3	15	<p>For tutor led sessions the tutor should ensure that participants have sufficient space for the trick that they are trying. Options include:</p> <p>asking a participant to move to an area that has enough space</p> <p>asking other participants to move to create enough space</p> <p>asking participant to stop until there is enough space</p> <p>suggesting another trick for which there is sufficient space</p> <p>reducing the number of participants / items of equipment in order to make enough space</p> <p>For unsupervised training:</p> <p>The Equilibrist should be clear about the area into which they or their equipment might fall.</p> <p>They should make this clear to all others if necessary by marking area out or through verbal communication.</p> <p>They should not continue training the move if there continues to be insufficient space or if there is a likelihood that others will enter this space</p>	3	2	6
Impact of equipment with equilibrist or others	Major Injury	Equilibrist and other people present	4	3	12	<p>See above. Tutors should ensure that everyone in their session has sufficient space to practise safely.</p> <p>Those training independently should not only consider how much space they need to train safely, but whether everyone else also has enough space.</p> <p>Communicate to establish safe practise, and stop training if necessary.</p> <p>Do not continue training the move if there is a likelihood that others or other equipment will enter this space.</p> <p>Use of safety equipment or spotters if appropriate to protect equilibrist from collision with equipment.</p>	4	2	8
Muscle strain / Injury	Minor injury	Equilibrist	2	3	6	<p>Ensure that all Equilibrists warm up and cool down appropriately for the level and duration of training:</p> <p>In classes and workshops this is the tutor's responsibility.</p> <p>Those training independently have been assessed as competent and should understand this. Training should include appropriate conditioning exercises for the activities. Warm up should include a pulse raiser, joint mobilisation and cognitive preparation.</p> <p>Tutors should ask participants about existing injuries prior to training, and avoid practice that may aggravate these injuries. Those training</p>	2	3	6

Hazard	Consequences	Persons affected	Severity	Likelihood	Total Risk	Existing Control Measures (Where appropriate)	Severity	Likelihood	Total Risk
						<p>independently to be made aware of the potential risks of training on injuries.</p> <p>The moves taught / trained should be appropriate in level for those attempting them.</p> <p>Teaching and application of good technique to reduce risk of injury.</p>			
Equipment failure	Major injury	Equilibrist	4	3	12	<p>Tutors and anyone training independently should visually inspect all equipment before use to check welds, screws, bolts etc. If there is any doubt physically test the equipment e.g. try to wobble a stilt foot plate if you think it's loose.</p>	4	2	8
Environmental Factors	Major Injury	All people present	4	3	12	<p>Tutors and anyone training independently should visually inspect the environment before running an equilibristic workshop or training.</p> <p>This should include checking:</p> <p>whether the ground / floor is flat, smooth and solid</p> <p>whether there is any liquid or dust that could cause slippage, and whether nearby loose items (including leaves, litter) could fall or blow into the area and cause an accident.</p> <p>A similar visual inspection should be done for the environment overhead.</p> <p>Consideration of the movement of the public if in a public space (indoors or outdoors).</p> <p>Ensure necessary space around and above.</p>	3	2	6
A safeguarding issue occurs whilst participants are under the care of Greentop	Child or vulnerable adult harmed. Reputation damage to Greentop. Potential for being subject to legal procedure	Staff, centre users and public	4	2	8	<p>All staff and freelance contractees are inducted in Safeguarding policy and procedure. All users informed via noticeboard and web site. If not at Greentop, teachers to be led by policy and procedure of host venue.</p> <p>All doors are kept secure during activity and monitored when participants are arriving/departing. In times of heightened risk monitor news channels and local networks for information about possible disruption.</p>	4	1	4
Community tension	Major injury		3	3	9	<p>de-escalate any community tension / views participants may showcase during sessions by referencing Greentop's Inclusion Manifesto posted on the wall to encourage discussions in a safe and inclusive manner where appropriate. If needed to contact police on 101 or in an emergency call 999.</p>	3	2	6

Hazard	Consequences	Persons affected	Severity	Likelihood	Total Risk	Existing Control Measures (Where appropriate)	Severity	Likelihood	Total Risk
Security Incident .	Multiple fatality	Everyone entering Greentop	5	1	5	<p>All staff to understand Emergency Procedure in the event of a Security incident.</p> <p>Anything suspicious witnessed or found during or around a session, such as a bag/package that looks suspicious and/or attempted to be hidden contact 999 in an emergency or for further advice, contact the counter terrorism helpline on: 0800 789 321. For further information: Report possible terrorist or extremist activity Action Counters Terrorism - Report possible terrorist or extremist activity.</p>	4	1	4

RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX

RISK							
Severity	5	5	10	15	20	25	
	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	
Likelihood							

SEVERITY	
5	Multiple fatality
4	Fatality
3	Major injury
2	Minor injury
1	Negligible impact

LIKELIHOOD	
5	Almost Certain
4	Probable
3	Possible
2	Remote
1	Improbable

The aim is to reduce the risk by prevention or control measures so far as is reasonably practicable.

Explanatory Note:

Risk

16-25	Very high (Do not proceed without authorisation from the Directorate)
12-15	High
6-10	Medium
1-5	Low

Likelihood

Almost certain	Self explanatory
Probable	More likely than not to occur
Possible	Has the potential to occur
Remote	Unlikely to occur
Improbable	Occurrence is extremely unlikely

Severity

Multi fatality	Self explanatory
Fatality	Self explanatory
Major injury	Reportable incident under RIDDOR such as fracture of bones, dislocation, amputation, occupational diseases (e.g. asthma, dermatitis), loss of sight.
Minor injury	First aid administered. This would include minor, cuts, bruising, abrasions and strains or sprains of ligaments, tendons, muscles
Negligible impact	Self explanatory