

UGA OUTDOOR RECREATION – CHALLENGE COURSE – STAFF TRAINING

Purpose: The purpose of this document is to outline the standard procedures for new staff training at the UGA Challenge Course.

Scope: In order provide safe, effective challenge course programming for our patrons, it is imperative that all staff undergo a thorough and consistent training process that provides them with both the “hard” and “soft” skills necessary for effective challenge course facilitation. Although trainers should ensure that these foundational elements are covered for all trainees, the pace, length, and order of training are largely flexible to account for group ability/efficacy, participant experience, weather during training, etc. The Coordinator for Outdoor Recreation may also approve previous training and/or experience at his/her discretion.

Staff Training:

- I. PARTICIPANT PERSPECTIVE: LOW COURSE
 - a. Not all potential employees will have previous experience as a challenge course participant. Training should include a segment in which trainees complete a staff-facilitated low element “program” as if they were a client group. This fosters effective teamwork among the trainees and develops familiarity with the elements themselves.

- II. PARTICIPANT PERSPECTIVE: HIGH COURSE
 - a. As with the low course, not all potential employees will have completed a high course program. Training should include a staff-facilitated “program” to allow trainees to experience high course elements and exit activities as participants. Like their mock low course, this fosters group efficacy and familiarity with the elements.

- III. FACILITATION SKILLS
 - a. Training should cover basic facilitation skills as outlined in the UGA challenge Course Facilitation Guide. Topics should include, but are not limited to: program design, the experiential learning cycle, the stages of group development, sequencing, processing/debriefing, etc.

- IV. TECHNICAL SKILLS
 - a. Training should cover technical skills as outlined in the Teams Course Technical Manual from CDI, Inc. Topics should include, but are not limited to: course inspections, equipment use, belay systems, special elements, rescue procedures, etc.

- V. PRACTICAL APPLICATION
 - a. Trainees should have the opportunity to apply these skills throughout training and be assigned initiatives and/or elements to facilitate for their group.

All questions or concerns pertaining to challenge course inspections should be directed to the Coordinator or Assistant Director for Outdoor Recreation.

Daily Challenge Course Inspection

Group Name:

Date:	Initials	Comments (Write if unused)
Ground Inspection		
Shed (outer and inner)		
Access Control		
Guy Wires		
Poles		
Platforms		
Environmental (limbs, insects, bird nests)		
Ground School		
Participant Equipment		
Helmets		
Harness		
Crab Claws		
Element Row		
Lower Red (Complex X, Swinging Beams)		
Upper Red (Swings, Horizontal Play Pen)		
Lower Black (It's A "G" Thang, Bone Yard)		
Upper Black (Tarzan, Buddy Bars)		
Specialty Exits		
Quick Zip		
Giant Swing/ Bag *		
Zip Line /Pulley System		
Alf System Bags **		
Alf(Quick Zip side)		
Alf(Giant Swing side)		
Rescue Bags ***		
R B #1		
R B #2		
R B #3		
R B #4		

*Contents of Giant Swing bag include: 2 steel biners(participant), 2 retired black biners(rope), 1 retrieval rope.

**Contents of Alf System bag include: Static rope(orange), 2 locking biners(rope), Purple Pulley w/swivel(top), Red pulley w/rapid link(bottom), Prusik loop(red), 1 steel biner(Prusik). Inspect Rapid Link that stays on course(top).

***Contents of Rescue bag include: Static rope(red), 2 Prusik loops(on rope), 6 steel biners, 1 Etrier, 1 Rescue 8 device, medical kit, Emt scissors w/sheath.

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UGA Outdoor Challenge Course
Monthly Course Inspection Sheet – Teams Challenge Course

location	date of inspection	inspection team	name			
			signature			

Equipment	Findings/Actions taken	initial
Harnesses- review age, examine stitching and for abrasions		
46 Misty Mtn Full body Harness standard (12/2014)		
8 Misty Mtn Full body Harnesses XL (12/2014)		
1 Universal access harness		
10 Singing Rock Rope Dancer Harnesses small (02/2015)		
Helmets-Examine for cracks, condition of padding and straps		
48 Petzl Elios Blue size 2 (11/2014)		
4 Petzl Elios Blue size 1 (11/2014)		
12 Petzl Elios Orange size 2 (11/2014)		
Crab Claws- Examine rope for wear and herniation. Examine claws for cracks, wear and operational action		
60 High Country adjustable claws (11/2014)		
2 Zorber claws		
Carabiners -check for wear and lock mechanism operation		
4 Steel Liberty Mtn (loose) (11/2014)		
1 Aluminum Kong (loose) (10/2014)		
17 Aluminum Kong (Zipline setup) (10/2014)		
6 Aluminum locking (loose) various		
1 Rescue 8(loose) Russ Anderson		
10 Rapid Links, 5/8 size (loose)		
Pulleys- examine for wear		
8 Petzl tandem pulleys (Zipline setup) (11/2104)		
Belay Devices-check for excessive wear, cracks, sharp edges and action on Gri-Gris		
2 ATC		
3 Gri-Gri		
Ropes- All Challenge course ropes should be checked for use records, wear, abrasions, glazing on mantle, evidence of movement or break in kern. All current high course ropes manufacture/purchase date 10/2014		
Prusik loops- examine knot and check rope for abrasions, glazing on mantle, evidence of movement or break in kern		
2 8mm Sterling Prusik loops(red)		
Alf Systems-Check for functional use of all contents including: 7/16" Sterling static rope(orange), Alf climb assist pulley w/swivel + rapid link(top), red pulley + rapid link(bottom), 8mm Prusik loop(red), Autolock steel carabiner.		
Alf system Quick Jump		
Alf system Giant Swing		
Rescue Bags- Check for functional use of all contents including: 7/16" Sterling static rope(red), 8mm prusik loop (2), Steel carabiners(6), Etrier, Rescue 8 device, medical kit, Emt		

scissors w/sheath.		
Rescue bag #1		
Rescue bag #2		
Rescue bag #3		
Rescue bag #4		
Giant Swing Bag- Check for functional use of all contents including: 9mm static ropeP(white), steel carabiners (4)		
Pamper pole bag- Check for functional use of all contents including: 11mm dynamic rope(purple), locking carabiners(2)		
Pamper Pole bag #1		
Pamper Pole bag#2		
Inspection of basic high course components and the criteria for each are to be found on pg. 5 and 6 of CDI Teams Course Technical Manual(yellow). What follows is SOP checklist for individual elements.		
Pamper Pole: Floats secured in proper position, shear reduction devices and cable clamps secure in proper position, staples secure, JRD, 1/2"inch 3 strand braided multiline, inspect ladder		
Giant Swing: rapid links and all connection points on metal swing tube, 3 strand braided multiline, freestanding ladder		
Zipline: steps for participants,		
Quick Jump		
Complex X: cable, 3 strand braided rope		
Team Beams: inspect wood that collides and between wood and platforms, rope		
Cargo tube (giant swing side): inspect net for wear, net tie-in points, surrounding wood for splinters, staples		
Horizontal playpen: cargo net wear, log splinters, climbing holds, plastic sharp edges		
Swing dance: all rope connections, plastic swing seat wear, instructor cables,		
G-thing: foot pads for wear, plastic sharp edges		
boneyard: plastic bones secure, rope wear,		
Cargo net (quickjump)		
Buddy Bars: plastic sharp edges, rope wear,		
Tarzan: Rope swings wear, wooden foot platforms		