

Risk Assessment /Risk control - The Observatory Science Centre Herstmonceux

Activity	LASER MAZE CHALLENGE
Area	Geodesic Domes, Science Station, Telescope Domes (A or C)
Who is at risk?	Employees, public, volunteers, visitors

Compiled by (print) **Sandra Voss** (sign)

Hazard Identified	Likelihood (L,M,H)	Severity (L,M,H)	Risk (L,M,H)	Workplace precaution(s)	Requirements for risk control systems	Review Required If:
Steps leading into Dome – slips, trips and falls	L	M	M		SAFETY TALK PRIOR TO GOING INTO DOME FOR ACTIVITY	Activity done elsewhere
Narrow Stairs to dome - Slips, trips and falls Banging head on low ceiling Falling through stair barrier (Dome C)	L L L	M M H	M M M	Ensure that all floors are dry and not slippery before the challenge begins Ensure adequate lighting on the stairs. Extra safety barrier around existing stair barrier	SAFETY TALK PRIOR TO GOING INTO DOME FOR ACTIVITY Slippery floor safety signs when necessary Mop and dry any wet areas One way single file traffic up or down the stairs only FIT EXTRA SAFETY BARRIER ON EXISTING STAIR BARRIER – SAFETY TALK	Activity done elsewhere When safety barrier is fitted
Floors – Slips, trips and falls	L	M	M	Ensure that all floors are dry and not slippery before the challenge begins	Slippery floor safety signs when necessary Mop and dry any wet areas	
Falling into Existing Telescopes – cuts and bruises, bangs to head, smaller telescope falling in Dome C (crush injury)	L L	L H	L M	Ensure floor is free from loose trip hazards Barrier around the smaller telescope to prevent access to it	SAFETY TALK ABOUT BEING AWARE OF SURROUNDINGS	Activity done elsewhere
Negotiating the laser maze – overbalancing/falls Infra-red beam into eyes	L L	L L	L L	Ensure there are no significant trip hazards before starting the activity	SAFETY TALK. The challenge will be immediately stopped if any actions carried out by participants are deemed unsafe by the supervisor. Only ultra low power infra-red beams are used Only one person to negotiate the maze at one time	

Likelihood: The chance of the hazard or event actually occurring during the life of the exhibit.

High (H):	Could happen frequently
Medium (M):	Could happen occasionally
Low (L):	Could happen, but only rarely

Severity: The extent of the harm (injury or ill health) should the hazard occur.

High (H):	Irreversible injury
Medium (M):	Reversible injury requiring a week to recover
Low (L):	Negligible injury requiring First Aid

Risk Rating: Once the likelihood & severity have been determined, the risk is calculated as follows:

Severity	Likelihood		
	H	M	L
H	High	High	Medium
M	High	High	Medium
L	Medium	Medium	Low

Risk Assessment

Activity	LASER MAZE TEAM CHALLENGE
Area	Geodesic Domes, Science Station, Telescope domes (A or C)

<p>Description of activity</p> <p>The Laser Maze team challenge is a supervised group activity against the clock. If the activity does not take place in one of the geodesic domes or the science station, the activity can take place in one of 2 telescope domes. Dome A houses one permanently fixed large historic telescope (The Thompson 30-inch) and Dome C one permanently fixed large historic telescope (The Hewiitt Camera) and one 16-inch moveable modern telescope.</p> <p>Groups of children must be accompanied by own teacher / parent / helper and a member of Science Centre staff.</p> <p>The challenge commences with a safety talk before entering the dome. Any actions deemed unsafe by the supervisor will lead to the challenge being stopped. The activity will only recommence once the supervisor is happy that the activity can and will proceed safely.</p> <p>Students negotiate a maze that has lines of ultra low power infra-red beams running across an obstacle course. The student has to complete the course without breaking the infra-red beam which sets off an alarm. The shortest time for completion of the laser maze wins.</p>
--

Risk assessment is a simple process that must be applied to show that all identified risks have been eliminated or minimised to an acceptable level.

Any risk identified during a regular review of the activity for example, during its design development, any testing or prototyping, manufacture of parts, installation, operation, maintenance, should be recorded on the risk assessment form. All actions taken should be recorded to illustrate that this risk has been reduced to a minimum.