

ERCA Low and High Ropes Combined Course

Course Content and Assessment Procedure

Course Content

The course complies with the standards required by the ERCA Training Syllabus as set out in EN15567 and includes:

Theory

Norms and ERCA Standards
Law & Insurance
General knowledge & the role of Instructors
General safety standards
Emergency Plans
Site Specific Rules
Basic knowledge of Forces & Safety Systems
Knowledge of knots and harnesses
Understanding of ropes course programmes

Practical

Independent preparation/operation of High Elements
Independent preparation/operation of Low Elements
Spotting and Lifting
Purpose of Exercise
Belaying
Accessing
Facilitation Skills

Assessment Procedure

The course is run on a continual assessment basis with the main assessment on the last day; the assessments will cover how correctly and safely you do things, and also how efficiently.

The entire course must be attended and the participants must reach a pass mark of 75% in a multiple choice theory test, and pass the practical test, assessing everything from delivery to safety.

Please note that the course is run at your centre so that we can ensure your staff are best adapted to your facilities and systems, however, this is a European qualification.

Pass

Upon completion the successful candidates will be awarded with an ERCA award for Low and High Ropes Combined Course Instructor which is valid for 3 years.

After 3 years you will need to attend a revalidation course / workshop, which Vertex Training runs throughout the year.

If more than 6 years elapses between courses then the instructor must retake the whole course.

It is advised that instructors keep a personal record of achievements in a log book including date, location and comments of their experiences.

Fail

If you fail the course, your trainer will discuss the best course of action with you. Two reassessments are permitted before having to complete the entire course again.

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Appeals

An appeal of an examination result will be considered;

- If there is evidence of substantive irregularity in the conduct of the examiner.
- If the participant is not satisfied that the checking of his/her examination result was properly carried out.

Appeal procedures

- The participant must set out in writing, the grounds for the appeal in full to the coordinator of the certification scheme, within 4 weeks of the exam results.
- There will be a fee, set by ERCA, which is refundable if the appeal is upheld.
- Upon receipt of the appeal it will be referred to the ERCA board for a decision and ERCA will inform the relevant heads that an appeal has been launched.
- An appeal may not be successful (in such a case the fee will not be refunded).