

NSW Scouts Adventurous Activities

Scoutskills Prior Achievement Recognition & Guide Observation Capture Sheet

Safe & Trained Participant Abseiling Single Pitch (Artificial and Natural)

Many Venturers, Rovers and Leaders have obtained the skills necessary to gain recognition through achievement on either the Youth Program or previous iterations of the Scoutskills framework. This capture sheet provides an avenue to request recognition of those achievements.

Other Leaders may have entered Scouts with significant outdoor experience. Again, this sheet provides an avenue for such a Leader to have their experience recognised through a conversation with, or observation from, an appointed NSW State Adventurous Activity Guide.

Situation	Action	Yes / No
Youth Member (Venturer or Rover): I have achieved OAS Stage 4 in the Youth Program, and I have a logbook that has recorded ten or more abseils in the past three years.	Export OAS Achievements from Terrain and provide them with your logbook as evidence and request a discussion with a Guide.	
Adult Member (Previous Qualification): I have achieved Level 1 Abseiling, and I have a logbook that has recorded ten or more abseils in the past three years.	Provide your logbook and request a discussion with a Guide.	
Adult Member or Rover (No Previous Qualification): I have previous abseiling experience. I have a logbook that has recorded ten or more abseils in the past three years.	Find a Guide and have a conversation about your experience.	
Adult Member (Inexperienced): I am an Adult Member who does not have much abseiling experience.	Discuss with a Guide the most appropriate way to obtain knowledge and experience.	

Scoutskills for Safe and Trained Participants are awarded by a NSW Adventurous Activity Guide who holds Lead in the area. The Scoutskills Sessions, which make up the Trained Participant Core, with their assessment basis, are outlined in the following table which is based on Version 2.5 of of Appendix 3 of the NAAF dated January 2021.

Scoutskill	Unit	Assessment Criteria	Session Name
Safe Participant – Abseiling Natural Single Pitch	SISOABS001	https://training.gov.au/TrainingComponentFiles/SIS/SISOABS001_AssessmentRequirements_R1.pdf	Abseil single pitches using fundamental skills
Trained Participant – Abseil Single Pitches, Artificial surfaces	Trained Participant Abseiling Artificial Single Pitch plus Trained Participant Core		
	SISOABS002	https://training.gov.au/TrainingComponentFiles/SIS/SISOABS002_AssessmentRequirements_R1.pdf	Abseil single pitches, artificial
Trained Participant – Abseil Single Pitches, natural surfaces	Trained Participant Establish ropes for single pitch abseiling on natural surfaces		
	SISOABS003	https://training.gov.au/TrainingComponentFiles/SIS/SISOABS003_AssessmentRequirements_R1.pdf	Abseil single pitches, natural
Trained Participant – Abseiling Natural Single Pitch	Trained Participant Establish ropes for single pitch abseiling on natural surfaces		
	SISOABS006	https://training.gov.au/TrainingComponentFiles/SIS/SISOABS006_AssessmentRequirements_R1.pdf	Establish ropes for single pitch abseiling

Trained Participant – Abseiling Natural Single Pitch	Trained participant Navigate in Tracked environments		
	SISOFLD006	https://training.gov.au/TrainingComponentFiles/SIS/SISOFLD006_AssessmentRequirements_R1.pdf	Navigate in tracked environments

Practical and Knowledge

Work with a Guide to document your knowledge and experience. Typically this will be a conversation with questions and answers and an opportunity to share evidence.

Mandatory elements:

Element	Not Observed	Not Yet Competent	Competent
Session: Abseil single pitches using fundamental skills			
I can select clothing, footwear and PPE suitable for abseiling and expected conditions			
I can demonstrate that I know safety and emergency response procedures for abseiling.			
I can explain communication calls between abseiler and belayer before, during and after abseiling descents.			
I can identify the abseiling route, and any features that could impact direction of descent.			
I can demonstrate how to attach descending devices to abseil rope and tie suitable knots for belaying, under direction.			
I can conduct equipment safety checks prior to abseiling or belaying.			
I can explain safety procedures used during abseiling to protect myself and others.			
I can demonstrate appropriate posture and abseiling techniques to safely descend, including avoiding hazards and correct use of safety procedures to minimise risk to self and others.			
I can establish a belaying position, including attaching self to anchor, as required, to allow effective and safe use of the belay system.			
I can demonstrate during belaying maintenance of rope tension to minimise fall distance and ensure abseiler movement is not unduly restricted.			
I can explain how, whilst belaying, how to monitor abseiler progress constantly, and maintain clear communication with the abseiler.			
I can arrest the fall of an abseiler using techniques suitable to the belay device and situation, and then allow them to resume descent under direction.			
Session: Abseil single pitches			
I can explain appropriate route identification on natural abseils.			
I can explain techniques that minimise damage to equipment and the surface during abseils.			
I can demonstrate during belaying how to safely and efficiently secure an abseiler using tie off techniques, releasing the tie off and allowing the abseiler to continue.			
I can attach myself to suitable belay device for descent with backup to maintain safety in the event of a fall (self belay).			
I can demonstrate appropriate posture and abseiling techniques to execute a self belayed descent.			
I can control a self belay system to execute safe and controlled descents.			
I can demonstrate features of of back up belay system in the event of a fall to self arrest, self rescue, and complete descent.			

Element	Not Observed	Not Yet Competent	Competent
Session: Establish ropes for single pitch abseiling			
I can identify safe access and exits from an abseiling pitch.			
I can choose appropriate descent and ascent routs for abseils.			
I can choose abseiling and belay systems suitable for the abseil, environmental conditions, and participants.			
I can explain and demonstrate choosing a belay system suitable for the abseil conditions and the participants.			
I can select other equipment to suit abseil requirements and participants.			
I can complete safety and serviceability checks on equipment and tag faulty equipment according to Scouting procedures.			
I can explain and demonstrate natural anchor selection, taking into account loads, anchor stability, and minimising shock loading			
I can select and tie appropriate knots, and rig ropes suitable for load and function within the belay system.			
I can establish a belay from which the belayer is independent of the system.			
I can establish a belay that maintains safety of belayer and abseiler, including locating to manage hazards.			
I can assess the need for, and establish, a back up belay system.			
I can complete, and explain, safety check requirements.			
I can rig ropes to minimise effects of rope stretch and rub points and to allow efficient descent and ascent.			
I can set up anchors and ropes to allow for rescue.			
I can select and tie knots suitable for chosen systems.			
I can explain and demonstrate correct usage of carabiners to avoid cross loading and mis-alignment.			
I know how to verify manufacturers recommendations, equipment limitations and safety margins, and rig equipment accordingly.			
I can rig to minimise impact on the natural environment.			
Session: Navigate in tracked environments			
I have navigated three routes (or parts) determined in three Activity Plans and used and understood techniques such as map-to-ground, distance and time, guard rails, feature collection, catch points and confirming location to grid references.			
I have adjusted my plan in the field and navigated that adjustment using a map and compass.			
I can explain an Activity Plan and Risk Assessment and explain my role in navigation.			
I can explain sources and types of maps and their uses, and different ways to access and display maps.			
I can explain the different information and colours on a map and the symbols they represent.			
I know the features of a compass, how it works and what impacts accuracy. I know how to test a compass.			
I can use a map and compass together, including orienting the map and maintaining a route.			
I know what features on a map will help me navigate.			

Note: Sessions may have been achieved through other Scoutskills qualifications. Where this is the case, cross out the applicable Session.

Guide Observation

The Guide should capture observations related to Practical Skills and Knowledge when required to observe the applicant on an activity. Include details of the activity, conditions and the applicant's role. The Guide may include video, photos, documents necessary to show evidence.

Guide Observations

Declaration: As an Appointed NSW Adventurous Activity Guide able to Lead Single Pitch Abseils on Natural Surfaces, I certify that I have discussed the applicant's experience with them and that the individual is competent in all required Practical and Knowledge elements. I have reviewed their logbook, and it includes recent applicable experience. The Participant may be awarded the following Sessions of Safe and Trained Participant Abseiling, Single Pitch, Artificial and Natural, surfaces:

- Abseil single pitches using fundamental skills
- Abseil single pitches, artificial surfaces
- Abseil single pitches, natural surfaces
- Establish ropes for single pitch abseiling
- Navigate in tracked environments

Guide Name	Scout Number	Signature	Date

Applicant Name	Scout Number	Signature	Date