

Adventurous Activities Practice Note

Topic:	Safety Harness	AAPN 2022/001
Discipline:	All Vertical Disciplines	18th August 2022
Audience:	All Vertical Practitioners in NSW	ACTIVE
Compliance:	Mandatory for all Scouts NSW Members	
Currency:	Current until 31 December 2023 or when included in Procedure	



At a recent Scout event a safety harness failed while in use. Thankfully, no-one was hurt. The harness was manufactured by Mad Rock. A number of these harnesses are known to be in circulation within Scouts NSW as they were purchased for the 2020 Cuboree.

The harness failed as the red webbing of the leg section was not threaded through the blue attachment point, meaning that the non-load rated black webbing (which was threaded through the blue attachment point) was taking the load. The harness was supplied new in this configuration. A second harness was also found to be in the same configuration.

If your Group or Region is in possession of any of these harnesses, please **check that the red webbing sections are threaded through the blue attachment point**. If this is not the case and the black webbing has not been damaged, the situation can be rectified by threading one of the leg sections through the blue attachment point.

Correct



Incorrect



When fitting the harness, a tell-tale sign that the harness is configured incorrectly is that the leg buckle straps will need to be pulled downwards (between the legs) when tightening, rather than outwards.

This incident acts as a reminder to make sure that all safety equipment is checked prior to use and that people checking harnesses are aware of how a correctly fitted harness should look. Finally, always check that you are following manufacturers specifications and instructions.

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