Check-list for safe operation of bouncing castles and other amusements

General

1. Check operators insurance.
2. Check log book to ensure fourteen month examination is current.
3. Check log book that daily inspection before use has been carried out.
4. Ensure there is an operator from the supplier to supervise each piece of equipment at all times while in use.
5. Ensure there are sufficient attendants from the supplier to assist the supervisor to ensure safe operation of the equipment.
6. Ensure adequate crowd control by erecting barriers etc.
7. Use common sense to identify obvious hazards.
8. Ensure that the setting up and operation of the equipment is supervised by a responsible member of the University.
9. If in the opinion of the organises, operators or supervisors danger occurs due to the equipment, the supervision or peoples behaviour then the equipment should be closed down.

Bouncing castles

The Health and Safety Executive publishes guidance for Bouncing Castles. Detailed below are the key points to be aware of.

Setting up:

2. Check points 1,2,3 above.
3. Ensure it is firmly anchored down.
4. Ensure it is not erected if the wind speed is greater than the manufacturers recommended level.
5. Ensure all electric wires are laid where they cannot be damaged.
6. Ensure there is no risk of electric shock.
7. Ensure crowd barriers at least one meter high are erected around the castle. The barriers should be 1.8m-2.5m from the walls of the enclosed side and 3.5m-4m on the open side.
8. Non inflatable gym mats 3cm-12cm thick should be placed on the ground to cover any hard areas around the exit.
9. Emergency procedures must be in place in case the air supply to the castle fails, fire occurring etc.
10. Check that the equipment appears to be in good conditions and the operators and assistants know what they are doing.
11. Specify maximum number of people allowed on at one time.

Operation:

1. No person to be allowed on the castle unless the operator and assistants are in attendance.
2. Shoes, spectacles, sharp and dangerous objects should be removed.
3. No one is allowed to bounce on the front step or apron.
4. People must not be allowed to climb or hang on to the outer walls.
5. Operators must have a clear view of the activities on the castle at all times and take action at the first signs of misbehavior or horseplay.
6. The maximum number allowed on at one time must not be exceeded.