



## **POTENTIAL CAUSES OF ACCIDENTS IN OUTDOOR PURSUITS**

A matrix designed by Dan Meyer (1979) and edited by Jed Williamson (1989-2008) ©

### **Potentially Unsafe Conditions Due To:**

- **Falling Objects (Rocks, etc)**
- **Inadequate Area Security  
(Physical, Political, Cultural)**
- **Weather**
- **Equipment/Clothing**
- **Swift/Cold Water**
- **Animals/Plants**
- **Physical/Psychological Profile  
of Participants and/or Staff**

### **Potentially Unsafe Acts Due To:**

- **Inadequate Protection**
- **Inadequate Instruction**
- **Inadequate Supervision**
- **Unsafe Speed (Fast/Slow)**
- **Inadequate or Improper  
Food/Drink / Medications**
- **Poor Position**
- **Unauthorized/Improper  
Procedure**

### **Potential Errors in Judgment Due To:**

- **Desire to Please Others**
- **Trying to Adhere to a  
Schedule**
- **Misperception**
- **New or Unexpected Situation  
(Includes Fear and Panic)**
- **Fatigue**
- **Distraction**
- **Miscommunication**
- **Disregarding Instincts**