

No Jail in Freak Tourist Death

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The owner of an extreme sports attraction that killed a tourist at a mountain resort in the North Caucasus in January has been given a four-year suspended sentence.

Stavropol resident Denis Burakov, 27, died at the mountain sports resort of Dombai on Jan. 3 when he and a friend, Vladimir Shcherbov, 33, decided to take a turn in a Zorb, an inflatable two-layered ball with a space in the center for someone to ride in.

The Zorb, with both Burakov and Shcherbov inside it, was sent rolling down a track lined with barriers made from piled-up snow. The ball was intended to stop at the bottom of the track, but instead it went off course and plunged down a ravine before eventually stopping on a frozen lake 1 kilometer away, RIA Novosti reported.

The free fall broke Burakov's neck and killed him, while Shcherbov was hospitalized with multiple injuries, including a concussion.

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