
CONDITIONS OF USE OF REDPOINT CLIMBING CENTRE

Although the climbing centre is an artificial environment the risks involved are **no less serious than when climbing outside** on a crag or mountain. There is an additional risk that bolt-on **holds can spin or break, resulting in a fall.**

The matting under the bouldering walls is designed to provide a more comfortable landing for climbers falling or jumping from the bouldering wall. **The matting does not remove the risk of injury.** Broken and sprained limbs are common on this type of climbing wall despite the soft landing. **Uncontrolled falls are likely to result in injuries to yourself or others.**

Climbing **beyond your capabilities** on any wall is likely to result in a **fall.** Any fall may result in an **injury** despite the safety systems in place to avoid it. You must make your own **assessment of the risks** whenever you climb.

OUR DUTY OF CARE - The **rules** of the climbing centre set out below are not intended to limit your enjoyment of the facilities. They are part of the **duty of care** that we, as operators, owe to you, the customer, by law. As such they are **not negotiable** and if you are not prepared to abide by them then the staff must politely ask you to leave.

YOUR DUTY OF CARE - **You also have a duty of care** to act responsibly towards the other users of the centre. Statements of 'Good Practice' are posted around the centre adjacent to the relevant facilities. These describe the accepted methods of use and how customers would normally be expected to behave towards each other.

UNSUPERVISED CLIMBING - Before you climb on the roped walls without supervision the centre expects you to be competent in the use of a safety harness, a suitable knot to attach a rope to the harness and a belay device to secure a falling climber or lower a climber from the wall using a rope. You are required to register to say that you know how to use the equipment, that you are prepared to abide by the Rules below and that you understand the risks involved in your participation. Anyone who has not registered as a competent belayer is classed as a **novice and must not climb the roped walls without supervision.** If you are not confident in the use of any climbing equipment or technique then **do not attempt** to use it without supervision by someone who is competent to do so.

BOULDERING - Adult members will be allowed to use the Bouldering facilities unsupervised providing they accept the risks involved and agree to abide by the Conditions of Use and the rules of the centre.

SUPERVISED CLIMBING - An adult who has registered at the centre will normally only be allowed to supervise up to **two** novices or Under 18 climbers as long as they are prepared to take **full responsibility for the safety of those people.** Groups of three or more novices must only be supervised by an instructor holding the relevant Mountain Leader Training Board qualification.

CHILDREN – All children in the centre must be under direct control of, and in line of sight of a supervising adult unless they have been assessed by the management and registered for unsupervised climbing.

CHALKBALLS ONLY PLEASE – NO LOOSE CHALK TO BE USED IN THE CENTRE

RULES OF THE CENTRE

GENERAL SAFETY

- Report to reception on each visit before you climb.
- You must exercise care, common sense and self preservation at all times.
- Report any problems with the walls, equipment or other climbers' behaviour to a member of staff immediately.
- Be aware of the other climbers around you and how your actions will affect them.
- Do not distract people while they are climbing or belaying.
- Stand well back from the climbing walls unless you are belaying or spotting a climber. Never stand directly under someone who is climbing.

WHEN BELAYING

- Always use a belay device attached to your safety harness with a locking karabiner. 'Traditional', 'body' belaying or belaying with an Italian Hitch is not acceptable.
- The ballast bags are provided to give support to people belaying a climber who is much heavier than they are. Direct belays from the ballast bags are not acceptable.
- Always pay attention to what the climber is doing.
- Always stand as close to the climbing wall as is practical
- Sitting or lying down are not acceptable.
- Check the area that you are lowering the climber into.
- Do not lower the climber too quickly

WHEN CLIMBING

- The tall walls are designed to be climbed using a rope for protection. Solo climbing is not acceptable on these walls. Always use a rope to protect yourself on these climbs.
- Always use a safety harness to attach yourself to the rope.
- Always tie the rope directly into the harness using a suitable climbing knot. Clipping in with a karabiner is not acceptable.

WHEN ROPED CLIMBING

- Many of the climbs in the centre have ropes already in place. Do not take them down to use on other routes.
- When using the lead walls you must supply your own appropriately rated dynamic rope. Do not use the centre's top ropes for lead climbing.
- Running belay attachments (runners) are already provided at intervals on the lead walls. Do not use your own 'quick draws'. You must clip all the runners on the route you are climbing.

WHEN BOULDERING

- Always climb within your capabilities and descend by down climbing or, at the very least, a controlled fall.
- Never climb directly above or below another climber
- Do not leave – equipment, bags etc on the bouldering mats
- Low-level traversing in the main hall is only permitted during quiet periods.