



## INFORMATION

# Climbing Walls

## Guidance for drawing up Conditions of Use

### INTRODCUTION

The following example of a “Conditions of Use” disclaimer does not necessarily cover all the issues that may arise at a wall. However, it does give an indication of the major items that should be brought to the attention of users of an indoor facility, and can be used as a possible template by prospective wall developers.

The MCofS would wish to see a management system which allowed as little direct intervention on the activity of users as possible, whilst allowing the management to take a customer care attitude in preventing obviously hazardous behaviour that should be foreseen by any reasonable person.

The preferred option is to allow for personal responsibility to prevail. These guidance “Conditions of Use” should do that.

## Conditions of Use

*“Climbing is a potentially dangerous activity and the following conditions are relevant when in the climbing area for all users safety”:*

1. Climbers use all facilities at their own risk
2. The Centre shall accept no responsibility for personal accident or loss of possessions
3. Users should retain entry tickets at all times for inspection
4. Users should not remove, or adjust in any way, bolt-on holds on the climbing walls. Loose holds should be reported to Centre staff immediately.
5. Climbers under the age of 16 should be accompanied by a competent adult climber unless they have undergone a basic competency course
6. Climbers are responsible for ensuring their own personal climbing equipment is fit for its purpose at all times. Climbers should use recognised climbing equipment that conforms to UIAA standards: Appropriate footwear should be worn; Recognised belay devices should be used; Appropriate ropes for leading / top roping; Karabiners; Quick draws/extendors; Sit harness(es); Helmets if desired [climbing equipment is available for hire from the Centre. This is regularly checked but climbers should satisfy themselves that it is fit for its purpose]
7. The use of climbing helmets is advisable for novices
8. Climbers should respect the facilities provided by:  
Only using chalk-balls (loose chalk creates more dust); Depositing litter in the bins provided; Not consuming food within the climbing wall area
9. Whilst passing the bouldering wall climbers should keep outside the marked area to avoid conflict with boulderers
10. Climbers using the Bouldering Wall should:  
Not leave personal equipment (including rucksacks) below or around the climbing wall area  
Not climb onto the top horizontal surface; be aware of other users of the wall (on it or below it) at all times;  
Always attempt to climb back down from the top rather than jump off
11. Climbers using the Leading wall should:  
Not solo climb on the wall as this is potentially more dangerous; Clip into (or place) all available running belays in order to safely protect themselves whilst leading; Pay full attention whilst belaying (inattentive belaying is the greatest cause of accidents on leading walls)