



# Climbing Wall Agreement

Youngstown State University  
Department of Campus Recreation / Intramural Sports

Revised 3-7-2006

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## Participant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Date Of Birth : \_\_\_\_\_

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**ELIGIBILITY:** To have full-time access to the wall, a participant must pass the Safety and Skills Test every academic school year to be an approved climber.

- ARWC patrons who are **experienced** climbers and wish to become approved climbers must pass the Safety and Skills Test. Upon successful completion of the test, participants may use the wall during normal hours of operation.
- ARWC patrons who are **inexperienced** climbers and wish to become approved climbers must take the Climbing Introduction Clinic. The clinic teaches the participant basic safety and climbing skills and prepares them for the Safety and Skills Test. Participants who take this clinic may then take the Safety and Skills Test.
- Participants must be at least 16 years of age to take the Safety and Skills Test to become an approved climber and belayer.
- Participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an Approved Adult Climber at all times. Under age climbers (16 to 17 years of age) must also have a **parent or legal guardian** attend the Safety and Skills Test and sign off on all waivers. Notes of parental permission are not allowed in any circumstance. Parent or legal guardian must be in attendance.

## **ACCESS PROCEDURES**

- All approved climbers who wish to gain access to the wall must:
  - Check in at the equipment issue counter.
  - Have an Acknowledgement of Risk and Release form on file.
  - Be issued ARWC approved climbing equipment, excluding personal shoes and chalk bags. Participants may also use their own harness provided that it is inspected by a Wall Supervisor or Intern.
  - Wear a helmet or sign a Helmet Release Waiver.
  - No personal items may be taken into the Climbing Wall area except for approved climbing gear and plastic **water** bottles.

## **EQUIPMENT POLICIES**

- Climbing shoes or athletic shoes are required to be worn at all times. No bare feet or hiking boots are permitted.
- All climbers must use ARWC provided belay devices, carabiners and ropes. **No exceptions.**
- Participants may use their own harness provided it is inspected by a Wall Supervisor or Intern. All harnesses must be fitted properly according to manufacturer's specifications. No homemade harnesses will be allowed.
- Helmets are highly recommended, but not required if the participant signs a Helmet Release Form.
- No loose chalk is permitted. Climbers may use Bison balls NO X-factor.
- Climbing equipment may be checked out at the Climbing wall with a valid YSU ID card.
- Signed out equipment must be returned at the end of each open wall session or a service charge will incur.

## YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY CLIMBING WALL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Climbers and belayers are responsible for double checking each other's safety systems prior to each climb.
- Climbers must tie into their harness (no clipping in). Belayers must belay from their harness and not the floor anchors.
- It is the climber's responsibility to choose their belayer at their own risk.
- Belayers are required to use the floor anchors.
- No swinging across the wall.
- Climbers must climb the designated routes.
- No grabbing, pulling or stepping on quick draws or bolt hangers are allowed.
- No bouldering with hands above the 10' shaded area is allowed.
- No bouldering above or below another climber or boulderer.
- Spotters are highly recommended when bouldering.
- No lead climbing without a lead card.
- No climber that is bleeding may continue to use the wall until the blood is properly cleaned and the wound is covered.
- Rappelling from the wall is only allowed during scheduled times.
- No food, beverages, alcoholic beverages, personal belongings or glass are allowed in the climbing area. Approved climbing gear and Plastic water bottles are allowed.
- All accidents and equipment damage must be reported immediately to the staff on duty.
- There is a 30 minute time limit per rope when the wall is at capacity.
- Shirts are required. No sport bras or shirtless climbers will be allowed.
- No street clothes allowed on the climbing wall.
- All personal possessions such as jewelry, watches, necklaces, rings, excessively loose clothing, etc., should be removed when climbing or belaying and stored in your locker. Climbing Wall Staff are not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Correct communication commands must be used by both the climber and belayer.
- Spectators will not be allowed in the climbing area.
- Patrons found to be climbing or belaying under the influence of alcohol or drugs will have their privileges suspended.
- All staff have the right to ask uncooperative or unsafe patrons to leave.
- Participants found to be climbing or belaying in an unsafe manner will first be counseled about appropriate techniques or procedures.
- If continued abuse occurs, participants will be asked to retake the safety test. Then, if the participant still continues to use inappropriate techniques, their Climbing Wall privileges will be suspended or revoked.
- **Any infraction of any policy can result in immediate loss of Climbing Wall privileges.**

**By signing this form, I certify and acknowledge that I have read the above Climbing Wall guidelines and agree and abide by these policies and procedures.**

**Signature of Participant** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Parent or Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE USE ONLY			
Safety and Skills Test Date Passed: _____		Lead Test Date Passed: _____	
Approved Adult	Approved Minor		Approved Child
Liability Waiver on file (Yes) (No) If Yes, Date Signed _____		Helmet Release on file (Yes) (No) If Yes, Date Signed _____	
Harness Release on file (Yes) (No) If Yes, Date Signed _____			

# Indoor Climbing Wall Acknowledgment of Risk and Release

**ROCK CLIMBING/RAPPELLING:** There are significant elements of risk in any activities at the climbing wall. It is not always within the power of the Youngstown State University Climbing Wall Staff to protect all participants at all times from the hazards of rock climbing or rappelling. The risk involved in indoor climbing includes known and unknown dangers such as loss of or damage to equipment, accidental injury, permanent trauma, or loss of life.

## **Acknowledgment of Risk**

I hereby acknowledge and agree that the use of the Youngstown State University Climbing Wall has inherent risks. I have full knowledge of the nature and extent of all risks associated with wall climbing, including but not limited to:

- Injury from falling from high elevations (up to 53 feet) and impacting against the wall or landing surface.
- Injury in the form of cuts, bruises, abrasions, muscle, tendon strain, and rope burns.
- Injury from equipment or other debris falling from above the climber and belayer.
- Injury from choosing not to wear a helmet. I understand that helmets are provided free and by choosing not to wear a helmet, I am exposing myself to an increased risk.
- Injury from choosing to wear my personal harness. I understand that by using my personal harness that I am responsible for inspecting the harness and monitoring its upkeep.
- Failure to follow the above safety policies and procedures and/or follow directions from wall staff.
- The presence, actions or falls of other participants.
- Misuse of equipment or facilities in the climbing area.
- Injury caused by belayer (climbing partner) negligence. I understand that it is important that I choose my climbing partner carefully, and that I am responsible in verifying their wall certification and skill level.
- Fatigue, chill and/or dizziness, which may diminish reaction time and increase the risk of accident.
- Slips, trips, falls or painful crashes while using the facilities or equipment in the climbing area.

**I understand the description of these risks is not complete and that other unknown or unanticipated risks may result in injury, illness or death.**

## **Assumption of Risk and Responsibility**

**In recognition of the inherent risks of the above activity and in consideration of my use of the Youngstown State University Climbing Wall, I the undersigned user, agree to release and on behalf of myself, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, and assigns hereby do release Youngstown State University, its agents, officers, employees, participants, volunteers, and all other persons or entities acting in any capacity on its behalf from any cause of action, claims, or demands of any nature related to my use of the climbing wall, including injury or damage due to the negligence of YSU and its employees, as follows:**

1. I acknowledge that rock climbing/rappelling/bouldering entails known and unanticipated risks, which could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to myself, to property or to third parties. I hereby certify that I have full knowledge of the nature of risks of the climbing wall and further understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.
2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, and I elect to participate in spite of the risks.
3. Should Youngstown State University, or anyone acting on its behalf, be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold such harmless for all fees and costs.
4. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause to suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage to myself. I further certify that I am in good health, and that I have no medical or physical conditions that could interfere with my safety in this activity, or else I am willing to assume and bear the costs of all risks that may be created, directly or indirectly, by any such condition.

**Harness Release (*Sign only if you want to use your own harness*)**

**I voluntarily choose to use my own harness and accept personal responsibility for injuries that may occur as a result of using my harness.**

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Helmet Release (*Sign only if you do not want to wear a helmet*)**

**I voluntarily choose not to wear a helmet and accept personal responsibility for injuries that may occur as a result of not wearing a helmet.**

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**I certify that I have fully read and understood the forgoing policies and procedures, acknowledgment of risks, and assumption of risk and responsibility. I agree to abide by the policies and procedures listed above and follow all directions of the climbing wall staff. I further understand that the terms of this agreement are legally binding.**

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_