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## CONDITIONS OF USE OF REDPOINT CLIMBING CENTRE

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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 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. If you are not prepared to abide by them then the staff may 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. These describe the accepted methods of use and how customers would normally be expected to behave towards each other.

**UNSUPERVISED CLIMBING & NOVICE POLICY** - 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 and a belay device to secure a falling climber and 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 **do not** attempt to use it without supervision by someone who is competent to do so. Once registered as a Novice, you may be required to undergo a belay test before being registered as a competent belayer.

**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 should only be supervised by an instructor holding the relevant Mountain Training Association qualification, unless permission has been granted by the Manager on duty.

**CHILDREN** – All children in the centre must be under direct supervision of, and in line of sight of, a supervising adult unless they have been assessed by the management and registered for unsupervised climbing. Sitting in reception while your children are climbing is not adequate supervision.

**PHOTOGRAPHY** – Photography is normally allowed in the centre and may be undertaken by Redpoint Staff, members of the centre, group participants or spectators. These may be used for publicity purposes. If centre staff are taking photographs and you do not wish to be in them please notify reception.

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## CHALKBALLS ONLY – PLEASE DO NOT USE LOOSE CHALK IN THE CENTRE

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### RULES OF THE CENTRE

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#### GENERAL SAFETY

- Report to reception on each visit before you climb.
- You must always exercise care, common sense and self-preservation.
- Report any problems with the walls, equipment or other climbers' behaviour to a member of staff immediately.
- Be aware of the other climbers and how your actions will affect them.
- Do not distract people while they are climbing or belaying.
- Never stand directly under someone who is climbing.
- Keep clear of the Autobelay landing areas
- We reserve the right to ask you to use one of the centre's harnesses if your harness looks old or unsuitable.
- Beware of falling items, including ropes being pulled down.

#### 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, water bottles, bags etc on the mats.

Do not boulder whilst wearing a harness.

Low-level traversing in the main hall is only permitted during quiet periods

#### WHEN BELAYING

Always use a belay device with a locking karabiner attached to your harness.

'Body-belaying' or belaying with an Italian Hitch is not allowed.

Self-belaying is not allowed.

Ballast bags are provided to give support to people belaying a heavier climbing partner. Do not belay directly from the ballast bags.

Always pay attention to what the climber is doing.

Always stand as close to the climbing wall as is practical when belaying.

Sitting or lying down are not acceptable when belaying.

Check that the area that you are lowering the climber into is clear.

Do not lower the climber too quickly.

Do not use phones or cameras when belaying!

#### WHEN ROPED CLIMBING

- The tall walls are designed to be climbed using a rope for protection. Solo climbing is not acceptable. Always use a rope 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.
- Do not carry phones, cameras, wallets, keys etc when climbing – they may fall and hurt other people.

#### WHEN LEAD CLIMBING

- Many of the climbs in the centre have ropes already in place. Do not take them down for any reason.
- When using the lead walls you must supply your own appropriately rated lead rope. Do not use the centre's top ropes for lead climbing.
- Quickdraws are already provided on the lead walls. Do not use your own. Clip all the runners on the route you are climbing.

#### WHEN USING THE AUTOBELAYS

- Keep the landing area clear of obstructions.
- Do not wear helmets.
- Do not carry slings or additional equipment on your harness.
- Check the Autobelay operation before climbing by pulling a short section of tape out and letting it retract.
- Attach the self-locking karabiner to the belay loop of your harness and ensure that it is properly closed before climbing.
- Do not climb in a position that would cause a pendulum swing if falling or lowering.
- If the Autobelay fails to retract during climbing, stop climbing and climb down and/or request assistance.
- Prior to, and during descent ensure the descent path and landing is free of obstructions.
- Always descend feet first and prepare yourself for landing.
- Autobelays may be withdrawn from use during busy periods.

**PRIVACY NOTICE** : In order for you or your child to participate in activities provided by Birmingham Climbing Wall Ltd T/as Redpoint Birmingham we will process your data in accordance with our GDPR Policy and Privacy Notice which is available at [www.redpointbirmingham.co.uk/privacy-notice/](http://www.redpointbirmingham.co.uk/privacy-notice/) or ask at reception for a printed copy.