

THE RIDGE CLIMBING WALL - CONDITIONS OF USE

The BMC recognises that climbing and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions.

Climbers must be registered as accredited users of the facility having completed a registration form and having satisfied the minimum criteria, or be accompanied by an experienced registered user who accepts responsibility for the non registered climber. A maximum ratio of 1:2 applies.

Climbers are required to obtain a SwindonCard as proof of accreditation and membership. Alternatively, a higher entrance fee is payable per visit for non members.

Climbers under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an competent adult climber at all times, unless participating in an instructed session. A maximum ratio of 1:2 applies. Children aged 14-15yrs. may climb unsupervised if they can demonstrate competent climbing ability and have parent or guardian consent. Parent/guardians must visit the wall to sign the registration & consent forms. Climbers 16yrs. + will be classed as adult.

Personal climbing equipment with "mortal safety implications" should conform to the relevant CE standard where appropriate.

Only recognised belay devises which conform to the relevant CE standard should be used and belayers should be fully conversant with their usage. Shoulder and waist belays are not permitted. Only recognised climbing footwear should be worn.

Solo climbing is permitted in the designated bouldering areas or at the base of the walls with feet no higher than the height indicated by the red line.

No attempt should be made to alter holds, in-situ ropes, features or hire equipment in any way. If you consider that a problem exists, particularly loose or spinning holds, please inform the duty staff.

No loose chalk may be used. Chalk balls only.

When leading, all quick-draws, on the route being attempted must be clipped. On overhanging routes, seconding should only be attempted when all relevant quick draws and lower off are clipped.

Lead ropes should be specific single ropes of 9.8 - 11.5 mm. in diameter which conform to CE 0120. The use of twin ropes is not permitted. Double ropes are permitted when used as a pair.

Where there is a disparity in weight between climbing partners, use of the belay ballast bags is recommended.

Climbers intending to use natural protection routes may place gear in slots highlighted with RED PAINT only. Climbers are advised to back up natural protection routes with quick draws. Continuous cracks on the old and new concrete walls are not designed to take shock loadings and gear placement should not under any account be used, or practised in these cracks.

Leaders of parties using the wall must be holders of a recognised qualification such as SPA, MIA or MIC and be approved by The Ridge Centre Staff following site specific training, induction & validation. Prior notice of group attendance must be given.

Climbers are advised to have personal liability insurance and or be a member of the BMC. The management reserve the right of admission and may ask any user to leave The Ridge if he/she is considered to be unsafe.

Swindon Borough Council complies with current data protection legislation. For further information please contact the data protection controller at Swindon Borough Council, Civic Offices, Euclid St. Swindon SN1 2JH