

Surrey Summit Conditions of Use & Codes of Practice

Participation Statement: "The British Mountaineering Council 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 and involvement."

Conditions of Use

Although the climbing centre is an artificial environment the risks involved are no less serious than when climbing outside on a crag or mountain.

The soft flooring under the bouldering walls is designed to provide a more comfortable landing for climbers falling or jumping from the bouldering wall. The soft flooring does not make the climbing any safer. 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 Bouldering: Before you climb without supervision the centre expects you to be able to understand the dangers involved with bouldering and accept the risks involved.

You are required to register to say that you are prepared to abide by the Code of Practice and that you understand the risks involved in your participation.

Unsupervised Climbing: Before you climb 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 Code of Practice and that you understand the risks involved in your participation. You must also pass a safety test.☒

Anyone who has not had an induction and/or safety test must not climb without supervision.

Staff will provide whatever help and advice they can, but instruction in the use of equipment or climbing techniques will only be provided where it has been booked and paid for in advance. If you are not confident in the use of any climbing equipment or technique, then do not attempt to use it without the supervision of someone who is competent to do so.

Supervised Climbing: An adult who has registered and passed the safety test at the centre may supervise a MAXIMUM OF TWO novice climber as long as they are prepared to take full responsibility for the safety of those people. Supervised climbers must still complete a registration form and sign in on the "Supervisory Form". Groups of three or more novices must only be supervised by an instructor holding a relevant climbing qualification.

Children: All children in the centre must be supervised by a registered and safety assessed adult unless they are over fourteen (14) and have passed the junior safety assessment. The minimum age for use of the climbing wall is four (4) years old.

Codes of practice

Report to reception on each visit before you climb.

All jewellery must be removed before using this facility.

You must exercise care, common sense and self-preservation at all times.

T-Shirts (or similar) must be worn at all times. ☒
Shoes must be worn when climbing; Climbing barefoot or in socks is not permitted.

Do not bring bags into the climbing area, please use the storage provided.

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.

The abseil and multi-pitch platforms may only be used with the permission of the duty manager.

Volumes on the walls are designed to enhance the quality of climbing but you must be aware that when climbing above them there is an additional risk of falling onto them.

Rope stretch must be taken into consideration when using dynamic ropes as these can stretch at least 10%, i.e. 1m for every 10m of rope in use.

Customers are politely asked that they do not start any new routes within 15 minutes of closing time and that everyone must not start new climbs/problems 10 minutes before the advertise closing time.

When climbing: Many of the climbs in the centre have top ropes already in place. Do not take them down to use on other routes.

Do not use your own 'quick draws' to lead the top rope walls.

You may only top rope on the walls using the top anchor points.

When Belaying: Always use a belay device attached to your safety harness with a locking karabiner.

'Traditional' or 'body' belaying is not acceptable. Figure of 8 devices are not permitted as belay devices in this centre.

The attachment points on the floor are provided to give support to people belaying a climber who is much heavier than they are. Direct belays from the attachment points on the floor are not acceptable.

Always pay attention to what the climber is doing.

Always stand within the marked line to belay. Sitting or lying down are not acceptable.

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 Leading: 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.

You must clip all the quick draws on the route you are climbing.

When Bouldering: Always climb within your capabilities and descend by down climbing, or a controlled fall.

Never climb directly above or below another climber.

Do not boulder whilst wearing a harness or with any hardware hanging from your clothes or chalk bag.

Keep the safety mat free from objects or obstructions such as bags, clothing, brushes, shoes etc.

No food or drink (other than water) is permitted on the mats

Do not sit or stand under the wall when people are bouldering.

Problems finish on the last obvious hold. Do not grab or touch the top of the wall or any girders, metalwork or lights.

The soft mat does not remove the risk of injury and does not make the climbing any safer.

