



WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS RECREATION AND WELLNESS
BASE CAMP CULLOWHEE
CLIMBING WALL POLICY STATEMENT

- **Equipment Loan Statement:** Base Camp Cullowhee (BCC) makes available for loan the following equipment to climbers during climbing wall use: harnesses, climbing shoes, chalk bags, Gri Gri's, and helmets. The climber is responsible for safeguarding, proper care, and use of the equipment and will use it only in accordance with the information and instruction supplied. The climber agrees to report any damage incurred while the equipment is used. The climber is obligated to return all equipment to the Climbing Wall Staff and understands that a late fee of \$5/day, per item will be charged up to the total replacement cost of the equipment.
- Valid WCU CAT CARD ID or CRW issued Guest Pass is required to climb at the wall.
- Loose chalk is not permitted at the WCU climbing wall. Chalk balls or liquid chalk only.
- Climbers must have a current Climbing Wall Inform & Consent form on file in order to participate. A new form must be completed each academic year.
- Climbers must check-in at the Climbing Wall Desk prior to climbing.
- Failure to adhere to BCC policies and procedures as addressed in this policy statement will result in loss of climbing privileges.
- Climbing or belaying while under the influence of alcohol or drugs is strictly prohibited and will result in loss of climbing privileges.
- Helmets are available to all climbers at no additional charge. Climbing helmets are designed specifically for protection from objects falling from above, and are recommended by BCC.
- Personal items should be stored in the provided cubbies or CRW lockers. The CRW is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items. Please turn in any found items to the Climbing Wall staff on duty.
- Climbers may use personal climbing equipment such as harnesses, shoes, helmets, Gri Gri's, carabineers, and lead ropes. BCC's staff reserves the right to restrict use of equipment that is judged to be inappropriate or in poor condition.
- The figure 8 follow-through cleanly dressed with 4" to 6" tail is the only accepted tie-in knot.
- The only accepted belay device for top rope climbing is a Petzl GriGri. Patrons are allowed to use an ATC for lead belaying while accompanied by a backup belayer.
- Food, drink, cell phones, and tobacco are not permitted in the climbing area.
- Headphones or other devices that interfere with communication between belayers or staff members and climbers are not allowed.
- Climbers should tuck in loose clothing and tie back long hair empty pockets and remove jewelry, gum, and candy before climbing.
- Climbers are asked to stay off the padded mats when not climbing or belaying.
- Shirt and shoes are required when climbing. Shoes must be close-toed and close-heeled appropriate for climbing.
- BCC rental climbing shoes must be worn with socks.
- Climbers and belayers are asked to perform a check of knot, harnesses and belay systems prior to each climb.
- Do not drop or throw carabineers and/or belay devices and do not step on ropes.
- In order to reduce the risk of a hazardous swing, stay on route and do not traverse dramatically while on top rope.
- Disrespectful language or behavior will not be tolerated.

- Never climb above the top anchors or adjust the anchor system.
- Climbing without appropriate supervision is prohibited.
- All boulderers climbing above waist height should have a spotter. Two spotters are recommended for bouldering on the arch.
- Please keep the climbing area free of personal belongings and extraneous equipment.
- Never climb faster than the belayer can belay.
- Right of way: lead climbers, top rope climbers, boulderers.
- Only BCC Climbing Wall staff and professional staff are permitted to adjust or rearrange holds on the wall.
- All children 12 and under must be accompanied by a supervising adult at the wall.
- The minimum age for belaying is 12 years old. Consent of guardian is required for climbers under the age of 18.
- While on lead, climbers must clip all available protection – skipping clips is not permitted.
- In order to belay or lead climb, participants must complete and pass the appropriate workshops/tests and display a current certification card visibly.
- BCC does not provide youth climbing shoes and parents of young children are encouraged to supply appropriate climbing gear.
- All belaying must be conducted from the standing position.
- Report all loose handholds and other problems to the climbing wall supervisors.
- Keep fingers, hands, and body parts clear of all hardware (including quicklinks, quickdraws, carabiners, and bolts).
- Participants will adhere to all CRW, BCC and Climbing Wall Policies.
- Staff may require any participant to leave the facility if they in any way pose a threat to the safety or wellbeing of other patrons or staff.
- **Contraindications for Participation:**
 - Physician approval is recommended for any of the following conditions:
 - High blood pressure (>145/90)
 - Unstable cardiovascular or respiratory conditions
 - Active back or joint problems (recent or recurring injuries)
 - Post-partum (< 6 weeks since giving birth)
 - Uncontrolled diabetes, epilepsy, or seizures.
 - Climbers should be aware that preliminary research indicates that psychological fear (i.e. fear of height) can accelerate an individual's heart rate as high as 180 beats per minute; this could strain a weak heart.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE POLICIES OF THE BASE CAMP CULLOWHEE CLIMBING WALL AS STATED IN THIS DOCUMENT. I HEREBY WARRANT THAT I AM 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER OR THE PARENT OR GAURDIAN OF THE MINOR WITH LEGAL AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THIS DOCUMENT.

Signature Date Date of Birth

Signature of Legal Guardian (if under 18yrs. old) Date



**WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS RECREATION AND WELLNESS
BASE CAMP CULLOWHEE
CLIMBING WALL INFORM AND CONSENT**

Climber Information:

Please Print Clearly

FIRST NAME:	LAST NAME:
PRIMARY EMAIL:	CELL PHONE:
920 ID # :	DATE OF BIRTH:

I am: Resident Student Commuter Student Staff/Faculty Guest Kids Climb

There are inherent risks associated with participation in indoor climbing and related activities (individually and collectively “activities”), which may result in damage to, or loss of, personal property, bodily injury, or even death. These risks include, but are not limited to:

1. Impact with the ground, wall, artificial holds, or other people in the event of a fall
2. Failure of equipment
3. Human error in belaying, rope handling, lowering, and equipment use
4. Falling objects

In addition, climbing is a strenuous activity often requiring rigorous physical exertion. Physician approval is highly recommended for individuals with any of the following contraindications for participation:

1. High blood pressure (>145/90)
2. Unstable cardiovascular or respiratory conditions
3. Active back or joint problems (recent or recurring injuries)
4. Post-partum (<6 weeks since giving birth)
5. Uncontrolled diabetes, epilepsy, or seizures

I understand that wearing a climbing helmet may help prevent serious head injuries, including, but not limited to, permanent brain damage and death. I acknowledge that climbing helmets are made available to me at no charge by Western Carolina University Base Camp Cullowhee for participation in climbing activities. I acknowledge and understand that Base Camp Cullowhee recommends the use of a helmet while climbing or belaying.

I accept and assume responsibility for the risks of property damage or loss, personal injury, and death, associated with my participation in the activities sponsored or provided by Western Carolina University. I accept and assume responsibility for my safety during participation in the activity, and I knowingly and voluntarily assume that responsibility.

In consideration of my participation in the activities, I agree as follows:

1. I will comply with all instructions and directions of Western Carolina University agents or employees during my participation in the activities. I understand, acknowledge, and agree to follow all Western Carolina University policies and procedures for climbing wall use. I agree to conduct myself in a safe and responsible manner while utilizing the climbing wall or assisting others in doing so;
2. I understand the risk and danger to me and my property associated with my participation in the activities, and I do so voluntarily in reliance upon my own judgment and ability. I knowingly and voluntarily assume all risk of personal injury, death, and property damage or loss from any cause whatsoever, including, but not limited to, failure of anyone to enforce rules and regulations or inspect equipment or facilities, and negligence of other students or staff; and
3. I shall indemnify, defend, and save harmless Western Carolina University, its trustees, agents and employees from all liabilities, losses, costs, damages, claims or causes of action of any kind or nature whatsoever, and expenses, including attorneys fees, arising or claimed to have arisen out of personal injuries or death, or property damage or loss, sustained by me as a result of negligence on the part of Western Carolina University agents or employees or other participants, or injuries or losses suffered by others as a result of my own negligence or intentional acts, during my participation in the activities.

I certify that I am medically sound and physically fit to participate in the activities described above. I further certify that no oral promise, agreement, warranty or representation concerning safety or liability has been made to me.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS DOCUMENT AND AGREE THAT IT WILL LEGALLY BIND ME AND MY ESTATE. I HEREBY WARRANT THAT I AM 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER OR THE PARENT OR GAURDIAN OF THE MINOR WITH THE LEGAL AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THIS CONSENT.

_____ Signature	_____ Date	_____ Date of Birth
_____ Signature of Legal Guardian (if under 18yrs. old)	_____ Date	