

COLORADO ACADEMY
Denver, Colorado

Statement of Informed Consent and Release
Parental Agreement for Student Participation in Climbing Wall Program

I give permission for my child, _____ to participate in the activity of sport climbing on Gooter's Climbing Wall on the campus of Colorado Academy. I understand my child's participation will be through a supervised event of the Colorado Academy Climbing Club.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK

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

1. All manner of injury resulting from falling off the climbing wall and hitting holds, faces and projections, whether permanently or temporarily in place, or the floor;
2. Rope abrasion, entanglement and other injuries resulting from activities on or near the climbing wall such as, but not limited to, climbing, belaying, repelling, lowering on rope, rescue systems, and any other rope techniques;
3. Injuries resulting from falling climbers or dropped items, such as, but not limited to, ropes or climbing hardware;
4. Cuts and abrasions resulting from skin contact with the climbing wall;
5. Failure of ropes, slings, harnesses, climbing hardware, anchor points, or any part of the climbing wall structure.

I further acknowledge that the above list of risk factors is for illustrative purposes only, is not inclusive of all possible risks associated with the use of these facilities or the sport itself, and in no way limits the extent or reach of this agreement.

I acknowledge that my child could sustain various injuries and illnesses, including physical injury, death or other consequence arising or resulting from participation in these activities. Physical injuries may include, but are not limited to, serious neck and spinal cord damage, partial or complete paralysis, brain damage, serious injury to virtually all internal organs, bones, joints, ligaments, muscles, tendons, and other aspects of the body, general health and well-being. Furthermore, injuries sustained while participating in this activity could result in a serious impairment of participant's future abilities to earn a living, to engage in other business, social and recreational activities and generally to enjoy life.

I further acknowledge that my child is in good health and is physically capable of participating in physical activities which may be strenuous and hazardous.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMERGENCY CARE

In consideration of the possibility of an accident, I hereby consent to emergency transportation and treatment necessary in the event of injury or illness. I hereby accept responsibility for the payment of any emergency transportation and treatment expenses and any subsequent medical bills.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

By my signature below, I agree to assume all reasonable risks in connection with my child's participation in the above referenced activities. Furthermore, I hereby release and discharge Colorado Academy, its directors, officers, trustees, employees and agents from all liability, claims or demands for any damage, loss, or injury to the student in connection with participation in the climbing wall program. However, this release and discharge shall not apply in the event of a finding of negligence on the part of Colorado Academy.

This Agreement shall be binding upon the parent or guardian whose signature appears below and his or her respective assigns, and inure to the benefit of CA and its respective successors and assigns.

This Agreement and the rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall in all respects be governed and construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Colorado.

Signature of parent or guardian

Date

Safety Policy Contract for Gooter's Climbing Wall

I, the undersigned user of Gooter's Climbing Wall, accept full responsibility for my own safety and will respect the safety of other participants while on and around the wall. I agree to abide by the following safety policies:

1. I will have a signed "Statement of Informed Consent and Release" and "Safety Policy Contract for Gooter's Wall" on file with Colorado Academy prior to using the rock wall.
2. I will not use the rock-climbing wall unless it is "open" for use and a certified faculty climbing instructor is present in the rock wall room.
3. I recognize the importance of following the instructor's directions regarding technique, training, safety, equipment use and other rules, etc., and I agree to obey such directions.
4. I accept the responsibility of spotting, bouldering, belaying, and climbing and the high expectations of safety related to these activities.
5. I understand that if my behavior is distracting to others or unsafe in any manner I may not be allowed to continue participating in climbing activities.
6. I understand the following rules which govern all uses of the climbing wall as well as specific skills that must be demonstrated for certification to boulder, top-rope climb, and belay other climbers on the climbing wall:

I. Spectators in the Climbing Room

1. Spectators (any people in the climbing room not actively climbing or belaying) must stand in back of the belay line. They should never step in front of a belayer, under a climber, or under any ropes in use.
2. Spectators must not, in any way, interfere with the climbers or belayers.
3. Spectators must remain quiet enough that communication between belayer and climber are not inhibited.
4. There is to be no rough-housing or horseplay in the climbing room at any time.
5. Behavior not in accord with these policies will be considered a "strike." If any students obtain three (3) strikes, they will lose their climbing privileges for the year.

II. All Climbers- Bouldering or Top-Rope Climbing

1. A certified faculty climbing instructor must be present during any climbing activity involving use of the wall.
2. All climbers must have read and signed a "Safety Policy Contract for Gooter's Wall" and have had a "Statement of Informed Consent and Release" signed prior to any form of climbing on Gooter's Climbing Wall.
3. All climbers must be certified in the various levels of climbing- "Bouldering," "Top-Rope Climbing," and "Belaying" prior to engaging in those activities.
4. Climbers must remove all items of jewelry and loose clothing, as they can catch on holds and interfere with climbing.

5. Belayers and climbers may not wear clothing that obstructs view of their harness/knots/belay devices.

III. Bouldering (low climbing without rope)

1. All students who wish to boulder must be certified as a "Boulderer" prior to bouldering on the wall, which entails the following skills and policies:
 - a.) Must demonstrate proper landing and spotting techniques prior to bouldering
 - b.) Must have a certified boulderer spotting them when bouldering
 - c.) Must not boulder such that their feet are above a spotter's shoulder or the 5 foot line, whichever is lower.
2. Any certified "Boulderer" who makes errors in procedure will be de-certified and will be required to go through certification again.

IV. Top-Rope Climbing

1. All top-rope climbers must be certified by a climbing instructor as a "Top-Rope Climber" prior to climbing on the wall, which entails the following skills:
 - a.) Must be able to properly put on a harness
 - b.) Must be able to tie directly into their harness a Figure 8 follow-through knot and an acceptable back up knot.
 - c.) Must use the buddy system to double check harnesses, knots, and belay devices.
 - d.) Must be able to give and respond to appropriate belay commands.
 - e.) Must climb at a speed that does not exceed the belayer's ability to take in rope.
 - f.) Must use proper technique in being lowered- feet in front, no excessive bouncing.
2. Any certified climbers who make errors of procedure will be de-certified and will be required to go through the certification process again.

V. Belaying

1. All belayers must be certified by a climbing instructor as a "Belayer" prior to belaying a climber on the wall, which entails the following skills:
 - a.) Must be able to properly put on a harness.
 - b.) Must demonstrate use of locking carabiner/belay device.
 - c.) Must use the buddy system to double check harness, knots, belay devices.
 - d.) Must be able to give and respond to appropriate belay commands.
 - e.) Must be able to take up rope efficiently and safely, with the brake hand NEVER leaving the rope.
 - f.) Must be able to lower climbers safely.
 - g.) Must be able to catch unexpected falls.
 - h.) Must pay full attention to climber from the time that the climber has asked "On Belay?" to the time that the climber is back down on the ground and in control.
2. Students will not be certified as a "Belayer" until they consistently demonstrate each of the above skills. In the process of demonstrating proficiency in these skills for certification, they will be required to have a faculty instructor or certified student belayer back-up.
3. Certified students who make any errors in these procedures will be de-certified and will be required to go through the certification process again.

Certified Climbing Wall Instructors and Colorado Academy reserve the right to deny access to its facilities to any individual permanently or for a specific period of time for failure to follow these Safety Policies, or for any conduct that is viewed as unsafe or inappropriate.

In consideration of the use of the Climbing Wall, I acknowledge that I have read and agreed to abide by the Safety Policies.

Signature of Climber

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date