

# Lead Climbing Assumption of Risk

## Indoor Lead Climbing on Fixed Pre-Placed Protection



**First Name:**  **Surname:**

**Date of Birth:**  /  /  **Age:**  years **Sex**  Male  Female

**Hardrock Member No.:**

Before signing this form, please fully read the [Assumption of Risk](#) below and the [Hardrock Lead Climbing Rules](#) on the reverse of this form. Your signature is acceptance of this form and the terms and conditions that Hardrock may have in place now and in the future relating to lead climbing.

### **Assumption of risk – Lead climbing and belaying**

**Hardrock recognises that lead climbing has an inherent danger of serious personal injury or death. Participants of lead climbing activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions.**

**If you do not wish to accept these risks, then do not sign this assumption of risk and do not use these facilities.**

**Hardrock Management and staff reserve the right to revoke lead climbing permission if they believe participants are acting in an unsafe manner or if they believe the participants climbing equipment is unsafe.**

I am aware that your facility(s) in addition to usual and inherent risks have certain additional dangers, which may include:

- Physical exertion for which I am not prepared (please check with your physician before engaging in this strenuous activity)
- The use of climbing equipment, which if incorrectly used could fail to perform its designed purpose.

I accept all the inherent risks of the proposed activity and I acknowledge that the enjoyment and excitement of the activity is derived in part from the inherent risks incurred by participation in an activity where risks are greater than the accepted safety of life at home or work.

In entering into this agreement, I am not relying on any oral, written or visual representations or statement by the gym or their staff or any other inducement or coercion to participate in the activity, hence only of my own free will.

In addition to the normal risks involved in top rope climbing, I am aware of the added risks involved in Lead Climbing:

- I understand that the gyms take no responsibility for the condition of my personal climbing equipment including the type, age and condition of my rope, harness and belay device.
- I agree to apply the techniques taught by the gyms for safe indoor lead climbing, and agree to abide by the rules, warnings and guidelines for lead climbing on display in the facilities.
- I am aware that an Indoor Lead Climbing and Belaying and Proficiency Test does not test my ability to Lead Climb outdoors, and that climbing on outdoor rock requires skills of protection placement that cannot be fully taught on indoor walls.

### **Where participant is OVER 18 years of age**

I confirm that I have read and understood this agreement prior to signing it and agree that this agreement will be binding on my heirs, next of kin, executors, and administrators.

I agree that this agreement shall be governed in all respects by and interpreted in accordance with the law of Victoria.

Signed on this the  **DATE** **Signature:**  **SIGN x**

### **Where participant is UNDER 18 years of age (can only be completed by parent – not guardian)**

I  **Print name** being the parent of the above named participant hereby consent to my child participating in the lead climbing activities above and agree to abide by the rules of the facility and the terms and conditions as set out above.

I confirm that I have read and understood and explained to the participant, this agreement prior to signing it and agree that this agreement will be binding on my (and their) heirs, next of kin, executors, and administrators.

I agree that this agreement shall be governed in all respects by and interpreted in accordance with the law of Victoria.

Signed on this the  **DATE** **Signature (parent):**  **SIGN x**

# Hardrock Lead Climbing Rules



All prospective lead climbers must have completed a Hardrock Rock Climbing Agreement Form and a Hardrock Safety Check.

Lead climbers and belayers must complete all relevant forms and pass a Hardrock Lead Climbing assessment and before participating in lead climbing.

Lead climbers will be issued with a Hardrock Lead Pass. This must be clearly displayed on both the climbers and belayers harness at all times.

## Equipment

- Harnesses must be of a 'sit harness' style, and must be designed for lead climbing.
- Lead rope must be 'single' and 'dynamic' with a minimum length of 40 metres.
- Only in situ quickdraws are to be used.
- Only manual belay devices of the 'belay plate' style (eg. ATC, Reverso) are permitted. Automatic belay devices (eg. Gri Gri, Eddy, Sum, Cinch, Zap-o-mat), Friction knots (such as Italian or Munter hitch) and 'Figure 8' style descending devices are not permitted for belaying. Belay devices must be suited to the rope.
- The belayer's karabiner must be a 'pear shaped' HMS karabiner.
- The belayer is permitted to anchor into the floor; however during the Lead Climbing Assessment use of a floor anchor is not permitted.

## Communication

- The climber and belayer must communicate effectively with each other.
- Lead climbers must complete a buddy check on each other to ensure that all equipment is correctly fitted and attached.

## Climber

- The climber must tie in using a rethreaded figure-of-eight knot with a stopper.
- The rope should be threaded through the harness as per the manufactures recommendations.
- The climber must clip all quickdraws appropriate for each climb.
- Each quickdraw must be clipped correctly and from a safe position.
- Climbers must show good rope management whilst on the wall. Ideally the climber should never come between the rope and the wall.
- The climber must lower to the ground in a safe manner with regard to the safety of other wall users.
- Top roping on lead ropes is not permitted unless under the direct supervision of a Hardrock instructor.

## Belayer

- Belayer's must use proper rope management skills. Specifically the rope should be 'flaked' out in an appropriate position to belay, and not obstructing other patrons.
- The rope must be passed through the belay device correctly (according to the manufacturer's instructions for that device).
- The karabiner attaching the belay device to the harness must be attached and orientated correctly (as per the instructions from the harness and belay device manufacturer).
- The belayer must spot the climber until they clip the first quickdraw.
- The belayer should stand in a safe position. This should never be directly below the climber or more than 3 metres from the bottom of the climb.
- The belayer should feed out rope smoothly and safely, not impeding the movement of the climber.
- When taking in rope the 5-step belay method must be used.
- The belayer must constantly have the brake rope in a firm, full-handed grip.
- The belayer must maintain a stable position to safely catch a fall
- Whilst lowering the climber both hands must be gripping the brake rope and the climbers descent must be at an appropriate speed
- The rope must be retrieved from belayer's end.