

# Lead Climbing Agreement & Assumption of Risk



Indoor Lead Climbing on Fixed Pre-Placed Protection

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

**Date of Birth:**  /  /  **Age:**  years

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 / legal guardian)**

I  *Print name* being the parent/legal guardian 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 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*  
(parent/legal guardian)

# Hardrock Lead Climbing Rules



## Equipment

- The only personal (customer owned) climbing equipment items permitted for Lead Climbing are:
  - **Harness:** EN 12277 'Type C' Certified. In addition harnesses shall have a dual tie-in point and a belay loop.
  - **Karabiner:** EN 12275 'Type H' (HMS) Certified. Additionally the karabiner must have:
    - A gate mechanism which requires 2 or more actions to open.
    - Geometry which allows the BD ATC Pilot to move up and down freely.
  - **Rope:** EN892 Ⓢ certified ('single' dynamic).  
Diameter: 8.7 - 10.5mm, recommended minimum 9.5mm. Length: minimum 40 metres long.
  - **Belay Device:** 'Black Diamond ATC Pilot' device. No other devices are permitted for lead belaying.
  - 'Edelrid Ohm' devices are permitted. See policy: 'Using the Edelrid Ohm at Hardrock'.For full details see 'Customer Owned Climbing Equipment at Hardrock' Policy.
- Personal climbing equipment must be in a safe condition and must not have exceeded the retirement age recommended by the manufacturer.
- Participants are responsible for ensuring that their personal climbing equipment complies with the required standards and is in safe condition.
- Hardrock reserves the right to refuse the use of personal climbing equipment.

## Communication and Checks

- The climber and belayer must communicate effectively with each other.
- Participants must complete a buddy check 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 must be threaded through the harness as per the manufacturer's 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 while climbing. 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.
- Only in-situ quickdraws are to be used.

## Belayer

- Belayers must use proper rope management skills. Specifically the rope shall 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).
- The karabiner attaching the belay device to the harness must be attached and orientated correctly (as per the instructions from the harness, karabiner and belay device manufacturers).
- The belayer is not permitted to anchor to the floor. Where a climber is significantly heavier than a belayer, the individuals must either: Utilise an Edelrid Ohm device OR elect not to climb together.
- The belayer is required to spot the climber until they clip the first quickdraw.
- For the entire duration of the climb and descent, the belayer must constantly have the brake rope in a firm, full-handed grip. Furthermore the brake hand must be positioned below the belay device working height.
- The belayer must stand in a safe position. This shall never be directly below the climber, or more than 2 metres from the base of the climb.
- The belayer must feed out and take in rope smoothly and safely.
- The belayer must maintain an appropriate amount of slack; i.e. the rope from the belay device to the first quickdraw should not hang below the belayer's waist and not impeding the movement of the climber.
- When arresting a fall, the belayer must bring the climber to a stop in the shortest distance safely possible. This does not preclude the use of dynamic belaying techniques.
- The belayer must maintain a stable position to safely catch a fall.
- The climber must be lowered at an appropriate speed.
- The rope must be retrieved from belayer's end.