

(BC42). BOULDERING ONLY CONDITIONS OF USE OF BOULDER CENTRAL



These Rules and Conditions apply purely to climbers making a 'Bouldering Only Registration'. Boulder registered customers are not to use roped walls as these are for instructed sessions only.

Risks - "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."

Although the climbing centre is an artificial environment the risks involved are **no less serious than when climbing outside** on a crag or mountain. There is an additional risk that bolt-on holds can spin or break.

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.

When you make a Bouldering Only registration you must agree not to use the roped walls either as a climber or a belayer.

Failure to comply with this condition may result in your registration being permanently withdrawn.

Furthermore, if you do climb with ropes and someone is injured as result of your actions, it is you and not the climbing centre operator who will be held legally liable.

Inexperienced climbers and Inductions – Inexperienced climbers will be allowed to register for 'Bouldering Only' climbing but only after they have completed an induction to the centre (form BC5).

Unsupervised Climbing - Before you climb without supervision the centre expects you to be able to describe the dangers involved with bouldering and accept the risks involved.

You are required to register to say that you understand the Conditions of Use, that you are prepared to abide by the Rules below and that you understand the risks involved in your participation.

While you climb without supervision the centre expects you to be aware of all other climbing users whether boulderers or roped climbers and their belayers.

Unless you have registered you **must not** climb without supervision.

Unsupervised climbing is just that! 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 - Only Members of Boulder Central may supervise novices. Please ask at reception for rules on supervision.

Children (Under 18) – All children in the centre must be supervised by an adult unless they have been assessed by the management and registered for unsupervised climbing. In addition to the obvious risks of climbing, **children on the ground are at particular risk of being seriously injured by falling climbers.** Supervising adults are responsible for making sure that children are **never** directly below climbers.

BOULDERING ONLY RULES

General Safety

- Report to reception on each visit before you climb.
- You must exercise care, common sense and self preservation at all times.
- Report any problems with the walls, equipment or other climbers' behaviour to a member of staff immediately.
- *Only when the belay areas are in use should you keep out of the marked belay areas. When in use, these are for the exclusive use of roped climbers and their belayers.*
- 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 spotting a climber. Never stand directly under someone who is climbing.
- The top rope walls have a red line marking the maximum permitted bouldering height. If ropes are in place,

bouldering is not permitted in this area. Only authorised staff and BC permitted persons may climb beyond the red line height (hands or feet).

Bouldering

- Always climb within your capabilities and descend by down climbing, or, at the very least, a controlled fall.
- Never climb directly above or below another climber.
- The traverse problems should not be undertaken when the centre is busy, please do not traverse under other climbers.

Roped Climbing

If you want to take part in roped climbing on the tall walls you must be with a Boulder Central instructor on a pre-booked session or climbing course