

VERTICAL
EDGE

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISKS
ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RESPONSIBILITY
and RELEASE OF LIABILITY

WARNING: There are significant elements of risk in any adventure, sport, or activity associated with a "rock gym" climbing wall, bouldering area, and incidental weight and fitness training regimens and equipment (referred to herein as 'Activity'). Although we have taken reasonable steps to provide you with appropriate equipment and/or skilled instructors so you can enjoy an activity for which you may not be skilled, we wish to remind you this activity is not without risk. Certain risks cannot be eliminated without destroying the unique character of the activity. The same elements that contribute to the unique character of the activity can be causes of loss or damage to your equipment, or accidental injury, illness, or in extreme cases, permanent trauma or death. We do not want to frighten you or reduce your enthusiasm for this activity, but we do think it is important for you to know in advance what to expect and to be informed of the inherent risks.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISKS: I acknowledge that the following describes some, but not all of the risks: 1) Slips, trips, falls, or painful crashes while using the facilities or equipment, climbing walls, bouldering areas, landing pits, work out areas, floors below climbing areas, bathroom facilities, or stairs; 2) Risk associated with crossing, climbing, or down climbing; 3) Misuse of equipment or facilities, or failure of equipment; 4) My physical strength, coordination, sense of balance, and ability to follow or give directions while climbing, belaying, or working out; 5) Fatigue, chill, and/or dizziness, which may diminish my/our recreation time and increase the risk of accident; 6) Abrasion from or entanglement with ropes or equipment; 7) The presence, actions, or falls of other participants.

I understand the description of these risks is not complete and that other unknown or unanticipated risks may result in injury, illness, or death.

RELEASE, IDEMNIFICATION, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE: In consideration of the use of the climbing walls at The Vertical Edge Inc., I on behalf of myself, my heirs, legal representatives, and assigns hereby voluntarily release and covenant not to sue The Vertical Edge Inc., its officers, agents, employees, owners, successors, and assigns, from any cause of action, claim, or demand of any nature whatsoever which relate to or arise out of my use of the climbing walls and facilities at The Vertical Edge Inc., including but not limited to the negligence of The Vertical Edge Inc., its officers, agents, employees, or owners. I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless The Vertical Edge Inc., its officers, employees, owners, and agents from any and all causes or faction, demands, losses, or costs (including attorney's fees) of any nature which arise out of my use of the climbing walls and facilities.

AGREEMENT TO FOLLOW SAFETY POLICIES: I accept full responsibility for my safety and the safety of others. I agree to abide by and help enforce the Safety Policies of The Vertical Edge Inc.

COVENANT OF GOOD FAITH: I recognize that you, as provider of services, will operate under a covenant of good faith and fair dealing, but that you may find it necessary to refuse or terminate, the participation of any person you judge to be incapable of meeting the rigors or requirements of participating in the activity, I accept your right to take such actions for the safety of myself and/or other participants.

AUTHORIZATION: I hereby authorize any medical treatment deemed necessary in the event of any injury or illness while participating in the activity. I either have appropriate insurance or, in its absence, agree to pay all costs of rescue and/or medical services as may be incurred on my/our behalf. I agree that any film or photographs of me/us, as participants, become your property and may be used for promotional or commercial purposes.

RELEASE: In consideration of services or property provided, I, for myself and any minor children for which I am parent, legal guardian, or otherwise responsible, any heirs, personal representatives or assigns, do hereby release:

THE VERTICAL EDGE CLIMBING CENTER, Its principles, directors, officers, agents, employees, and volunteers, and each and every land owner, municipal and/or governmental agency upon whose property and activity is conducted, from all liability and waive any claim for damage arising from any cause whatsoever (except that which is the result of gross negligence).

I have read and understood the foregoing acknowledgement of risk, assumption of risk and responsibility, and release of liability. I understand that by signing this form I may be waiving valuable legal rights.

USE PEN ONLY

Participants Name: (Printed Neatly) _____ **DOB** _____ **Age** _____ **Sex** _____ **Climber's Signature** _____
M _____ F _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____ **Phone:** _____ / _____ / _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

In an emergency notify: _____ **Phone:** _____ / _____ / _____

If the participant is under 18, the Parent or Legal Guardian must also sign: _____

THE VERTICAL EDGE CLIMBING CENTER RULES

- Everyone must sign a waiver.
- No Smoking.
- Belayers and Lead Climbers must be certified by VECC staff. You get one attempt per certification test per day.
- All belayers must be anchored by a locking carabiner on the front of the harness. Belayers must be at least 14 years old.
- Climbers must wear a helmet unless a helmet waiver is filled out correctly.
- No barefoot climbing. All climbers must wear some type of closed toed shoe.
- Chalk must be in a chalk bag. Use a chalk ball. No loose chalk.
- Spotters are recommended when bouldering. Do not remove the mats from the bouldering cave.
- Parental supervision of kids under the age of 14 is required.
- Lead climber must use adequate protection to eliminate ground fall potential.
- Harness and belayed top rope required on walls. All harnesses must be approved by VECC staff.
- Belay with approved belay device only. No hip belays or Muentner Hitches. No sitting belays.
- Tie in with figure-eight retrace/follow-through knot with safety knot only. Do not tie into carabiners.
- Before belaying check that carabiners are locked and not cross or tri-axially loaded.
- Before climbing check & recheck harness & tie in knot.
- No food or beverage, except water, is allowed in the climbing areas.
- No one under the influence of alcohol or drugs is allowed on the premises.
- No climbing or bouldering directly below or above other climbers.

The Vertical Edge Climbing Center reserves the right to deny facility access to any individual or groups permanently or for a specified period of time for breach of contract in following the safety rules, or for any conduct that is viewed by VECC as unsafe or inappropriate.

Thanks for your cooperation. *The Vertical Edge Inc.*

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE RULES _____ (initial)

HELMET WAIVER - Write in the box below "I have read and understand this helmet waiver"

I, the undersigned, recognize the dangers inherent to climbing. I am assuming the hazard of the risk upon myself since I wish to climb. I realize I am subject to injury from this activity and that no form of preparing can remove all of the danger to which I am exposing myself. I am aware of the safety policy requiring the use of a protective helmet which could prevent permanent brain damage in the event of an accident. Against the advice of The Vertical edge Climbing Center, I am refusing the critical safety protection.

Climbers Signature: _____ (Parents if under 18)

Official Use Only

Belayer Check-Out

- _____ 1. Have customer put on his/her harness and demonstrate its proper use.
- _____ 2. Tie into harness using a figure eight follow-through knot with safety knot correctly without assistance.
- _____ 3. Customer is to be advised that the belayer and the climber are responsible for double checking each other (BARK). Buckles, Anchor, Rappel/Belay Device, Knot.
- _____ 4. Have customer demonstrate a proper belay set-up. Customer is to demonstrate proper signals and belay technique (Brake hand on rope at all times, no visible slack in rope.)
- _____ 5. Have customer hold an announced fall.
- _____ 6. Have customer hold an unannounced fall.
- _____ 7. If customer fails, direct them to a training session offered by VECC.

Completed By: _____ Date: _____