

# **Climbing Wall Guidelines**

- a) Everyone using the wall must follow these guidelines. A Hold Harmless Agreement must be signed by everyone not engaged in organized, on-duty WFR training.
- b) Use of the wall will be limited to normal RTC office hours unless prior arrangements are made.
- c) Each person using the wall must be proficient with:
  - 1. Tying the figure 8 rethread.
  - 2. Belaying techniques.
  - 3. Setting up the required rigging (see attachment).
- d) Use only the equipment provided by the RTC for anchoring and belaying. Do not use any equipment off of any apparatus, including "Muley".
- e) Only those individuals listed on the checkout sheet can sign out equipment and or use the wall. Names with an asterisk (\*) indicate the individual is approved to give proficiency checks to Fire Rescue/RTC personnel interested in using the wall. On duty WFR/RTC members not listed may climb as long as someone on the list sets up the anchor rigging, ties the climber in and provides the belay.
- f) No lead climbing.
- g) No solo climbing. All climbing must be top roped with a bottom belay person.
- h) While climbing, no one is to be on top of the tower and all loose hardware and software will be removed from the top of the tower.
- i) No climbing during WFR or RTC training which utilizes any portion of the tower and/or the adjacent 2 story building.
- j) De-rig and neatly return the equipment to its storage area and complete the required entries on the usage form. Verbally report any damaged equipment to Lt. Weliver.
- k) Belayers:**
  - 1. Must give your complete undivided attention to the climber at all times to avoid any accidents.
  - 2. Check the climber to ensure that they've attached the rope correctly to their harness and tied the figure 8 rethread correctly.
  - 3. Allow no slack in the rope.
- l) Climbers:**
  - 1. Make sure the belayer is ready before climbing.
  - 2. Check that the belayer has the belay device set up correctly and the device is attached correctly to their harness.
  - 3. If needed, remind the belayer to stay attentive.
  - 4. Do not climb so high that your waist is above the last hand hold.
- m) Any exceptions to these guidelines will be made on a case-by-case basis by Lt. Weliver (per Chief Magsamen). Possible exceptions may include:
  - 1. Hosting a function for an outside organization (Scouts, Explorers, RTC class, etc) where approved (par. e) WFR personnel supervise the use of the wall, sets up the rigging AND performs the belaying.
  - 2. Organized WFR training where an approved individual (par. e) supervises the activity including: rigging, tying the climber in & belaying.
  - 3. WFR/RTC family functions where approved (par. e) WFR personnel supervise the use of the wall, sets up the rigging AND performs the belaying..
  - 4. Allow as much advanced notice as possible for approval and release forms. Minors need the signature of their parent or legal guardian.
- n) Use caution when tightening holds. Over tightening **WILL** crack the holds. Holds will loosen due to natural expansion & contraction of the plywood.
- o) Any deviations from these guidelines without prior approval from Lt. Weliver will result in that individual being prohibited from using the wall.