



Policies and Procedures

- The entryway to the facility, the tables and chairs in the gathering space, and the retail area are open to visitors. Anyone who intends to enter the climbing or fitness area, even as a non-participating visitor, must sign a waiver.
- Everyone who wishes to belay, lead climb, or lead belay at HSCC must gain certification from an authorized staff member, either by completing a course or passing a competency test.
- All participants must have a day pass, membership, or punch card, or be enrolled in a program, class, or event.
- Modern belay methods as recommended by the equipment manufacturers must be observed at all times. Please see our resources tab or reach out to a staff member for more information.
- HSCC requires that climber's tie-in using only a figure-eight-follow-through.
- Personal equipment must be manufactured specifically for climbing and must meet modern standards for climbing equipment. Equipment must be in good repair and must not have exceeded manufacturer's recommendations for maximum lifespan. Contact your equipment manufacturer for more information. All equipment is subject to inspection by any on-duty staff or instructor and may be refused if found unsafe.
- Children under the age of four are invited to climb for free with a paying adult.
- Children under the age of 11 must always be supervised while in the facility. HSCC recommends, and may require, that one adult supervises no more than two children at one time.
- Climbing shoes must be worn while climbing. Kids whose shoe-size is smaller than 11 (our smallest rental shoe) are welcome to climb in closed-toed athletic shoes. Climbing shoes must not be worn into the restrooms.
- When children climb without a rope, they are strongly encouraged to limit the maximum height of their climbs to well below the top of the boulder. A rule-of-thumb used by many facilities and youth programs is this; a child's feet should never go higher than the child can reach their hand while standing on the ground.

- Helmets are recommended but not mandatory. Participants may choose to assume the risks associated with not wearing a helmet and have stated that this is understood with a signature on the waiver form.
- Hand hold adjustments or rearrangements are not permitted except by HSCC staff members.
- When bouldering, no body part is allowed above the top of the wall.
- There is absolutely no topping out on the boulder.
- One spotter is strongly recommended when bouldering in an inverted body position.
- Traversing on the roped wall is permitted given that climbers stay very low on the wall (within 4 feet of the floor). Individuals bouldering on the roped walls must yield to roped climbers.
- Bouldering is never allowed above or below another climber.
- Down climbing while bouldering is recommended over jumping down to minimize the risk of injury.
- HSCC is not a place for horseplay. Please refrain from running and jumping, or performing stunts or gymnastic maneuvers on the mats. Please avoid swinging on the ropes more than occurs as a part of normal climbing activities.
- HSCC insists that no one in the facility behaves in any way that endangers themselves or others.
- HSCC staff have the right and responsibility to stop participants from climbing or belaying if they do not abide by these rules or if equipment is being used in any way that does not follow the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Climbing is permitted only on those surfaces that are designed for climbing. Participants must not grab, climb on, step on, or in any way interact with the superstructure of the climbing wall or the sides and back of the walls. Also off-limits for climbing are all other parts of the building, including pipes, beams, wires, and non-climbing walls or ledges. There is absolutely no topping out on the boulder.
- Personal items should be left in lockers or cubbies. Items like water bottles must be kept off the bouldering mats, and either off the roped climbing floor or against the base of the climbing wall. Do not climb with things in your pockets!
- No one will be permitted to use the facility if they are found to be under the influence of any impairing substance. Recent use (hangover) will be considered under the influence.