

**University of North Carolina at Charlotte-Venture Climbing Wall
VENTURE PROGRAM RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

**THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT WHICH INCLUDES A RELEASE OF LIABILITY.
READ IT CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING.**

1. I understand and accept that the Venture Climbing Wall exposes me to many risks. Some of the risks which may be present or occur include, but are not limited to:
 - the hazards of ascending or descending steep terrain, including the potential of falling and hitting rocks, walls, holds, the ground or other people;
 - using harnesses, ropes, carabiners, and other climbing equipment;
 - rope burn and abrasions from contact with rough climbing surfaces;
 - injuries and strain to joints or extremities from insertion in cracks or around holds;
 - man-made objects falling from above including but not limited to ropes, carabiners, other climbing gear, climbing holds, bolts, personal gear;
 - other people falling upon or against you;
 - the physical exertion associated with this activity.
2. This Venture Activity is not a university requirement. I have freely chosen to participate. I hereby assume the risks associated with this Venture Activity.
3. I understand that this activity may subject me to rigorous physical exertion. I hereby state that I am in sufficient physical condition to accept a rigorous level of physical activity. If my health condition changes, such that at a later time at the Venture Climbing Wall I am not sure if I am in sufficient physical condition to accept the rigorous level of physical activity that the wall demands, I will so inform the staff at the climbing wall of this.

Contraindications for Participation

Physician approval is required for participation for participants with any of these contraindications:

- High Blood Pressure (>145/90)
- Unstable cardiovascular or respiratory condition
- Active back or joint problems (recent or recurring injuries)
- Post-partum (<6 weeks since giving birth)
- Uncontrolled diabetes, epilepsy or seizures

4. IN CONSIDERATION OF AND AS PART PAYMENT FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS ACTIVITY, I HAVE AND DO HEREBY RELEASE AND WILL HOLD HARMLESS THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE AND ALL ITS OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS, FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, ACTIONS, CAUSES OF ACTION, DEBTS, CLAIMS AND DEMANDS OF EVERY KIND AND NATURE WHATSOEVER, AND SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING ANY CLAIM FOR NEGLIGENCE OR NEGLIGENT ACTS, WHICH I NOW HAVE OR WHICH MAY ARISE OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH MY TRIP OR PARTICIPATION IN THIS ACTIVITY. THE TERMS HEREOF SHALL SERVE AS A RELEASE, INDEMNIFICATION, AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK FOR MY HEIRS, EXECUTORS, AND ADMINISTRATORS AND FOR ALL MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY, INCLUDING ANY MINORS ACCOMPANYING ME.
5. Prior to signing this document, I have had an adequate opportunity to read and understand it, have had an opportunity to ask questions about it, and my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

Participant:

Signature

Printed Name

Date

Photo Release:

I give permission to be photographed and permission for the photograph to be published by the Venture Program at UNC Charlotte for promotional purposes only.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Venture Climbing Wall User Agreement

Climbing is inherently dangerous. **Climbing on an indoor wall is very different from climbing outside** on real rock and you need additional training and experience to safely make the transition to climbing outdoors. You are responsible for your own actions.

To have **access** to the Venture climbing wall, participants must get on the list of approved climbers by:

- 1) successfully completing a Wall introductory course within the current semester.
 - 2) successfully completing a Wall proficiency test during the current semester.
- This will include signing a Venture Climbing Wall Waiver and this User Agreement form.

User Policies

At each climbing session, each climber must be **approved** to climb/belay by the climbing staff monitor. Climbers are encouraged to **stretch** and loosen/warm up prior to climbing.

Harness: Participants will use an approved harness that must be approved by the climbing wall staff.

Belay device: Participants are encouraged to use Venture provided ATC. Other mechanical belay devices can be used if approved by climbing wall staff.

Shoes: Climbing shoes or sneakers or light hiking boots are all appropriate footwear. Shoes that are dirty and trash up the floor or that leave tread prints on the rock can be banned from use. Bare foot climbing, open-toed sandals and heavy mountaineering boots or other hard soled shoes are all prohibited.

Helmets do not need to be worn, but can be provided at no additional charge.

Chalk: Bison balls are the only acceptable chalk allowed. Chalk bags with loose chalk in them are prohibited because the chalk will interfere with other users of the SAC facility.

Shirts must be worn at all times.

Remove **objects from body and pockets** that could lead to injury (especially rings and large earrings.)

Participants will be **responsible for equipment** signed-out to them. **Don't step on the ropes.**

Belay Check: All climbers must use a belayer-check-climber and climber-check-belayer system before each climb. This includes checking each others':

- harnesses (that it is fitted correctly and buckle is backed-up correctly),
- figure eight knot (tied & dressed correctly to correct place with approved back-up knot),
- belay device (threaded correctly - including a hands on test by pulling on climber's end of the rope),
- and anchor (standing tight against it and carabiner locked to appropriately place on harness).

Use approved Climbing Calls

"On belay?, Belay on, Climbing?, Climb, Up rope, Tension, Slack, Falling, Take!" or "Got Me

Climber speed: Climbers will not climb faster than their belayers ability to keep the belay rope secure. Though this is the climber's responsibility, the belayer should let them know if they need to slow down.

Stay on line: Climbers will stay below and in-line with their belay anchor to avoid a pendulum swing in a fall. Climbers will not climb directly above or below others on the wall.

The top: Climbers will not climb above their belay anchors.

Lowering: Belayers will need a belay second when lowering until approved to lower on their own.

Bouldering on the wall can be done if spotted by another person. Non-rope climbers should not go above their spotters shoulders and not use sections of the wall where others are already climbing. This includes not climbing below someone else. Roped climbers have first priority for using the wall.

Lead Climbing is not allowed since the structure of the wall is not capable of holding protection safely.

Food and drink are not allowed within the designated climbing area (roped boundary area).

There are a **limited number** of people that can safely be monitored at the wall. You may need to wait outside the wall area until a space opens up.

Climbing Wall Staff have right to **deny access** to the wall for any individuals whom they consider a safety risk to themselves or others. Climbing Wall Staff have the authority to set and enforce policies they deem necessary at the wall.

I have read and agree to the preceding policies and procedures.

Signature

Printed Name

Date