

**CLIMBING ACTIVITIES ARE INHERENTLY DANGEROUS**  
**SUPERVISION IS LIMITED | BE AWARE | CLIMB WITH CARE**

## HIVE CLIMBING

# LEAD AREA RULES

All lead climbers and lead belayers must have passed a lead belay test and orientation prior to using the lead climbing area(s).

See a Customer Service Rep at the front desk to arrange your test.

### **PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING LEAD AREA RULES CAREFULLY PRIOR TO TESTING/CLIMBING.**

- Lead climbers and belayers must have their lead card visible on their harness at all times while leading. If you have forgotten or lost your card, see a Customer Service staff member *before* you begin leading.
- Skipping any draws on a route is a hazard and is not permitted.
- Large, intentional falls are considered reckless behaviour and may result in the loss of your lead privileges.
- It is unacceptable to pull ropes unnecessarily, unless these ropes are clearly occupying quick-draws on your intended route, or are not running through the top anchors.
- Back-clipping must be corrected immediately before pressing onward.
- Z-clipping: please down-climb to the lowest clip and lower to the ground. Do not try to correct the Z-clip!
- Ground anchoring is not permitted – it places too high a force on the climbing system when lead climbing.
- Ensure that at least one complete line of draws exists between any lead climber and adjacent climbers. Be aware that routes which wander dramatically in the lead area may place lead climbers in positions where a fall could injure a climber beside and below.
- It is not acceptable to start a lead climb until the climbs directly beside your route have been vacated. This means that a climber on an immediately adjacent route / anchor has to be lowered to the ground and untied, and is aware of your intent to lead climb, before you can start on your route. Use polite and clear communication at all times during your climbing session, to help mitigate risk to yourself and others.
- Lead belayers should not belay lead climbers more than 150% their weight. If you are unsure of the acceptable weight difference, please consult the Lead Belay Weight Discrepancies chart provided.
- Belay only with devices with which you are familiar and competent
- Lead belays with auto-locking devices such as the Petzl Gri-Gri must be reviewed with a qualified staff member prior to first use in the facility if this was not the device used on your lead test. Manufacturers of auto-locking/camming devices offer online videos which demonstrate the acceptable method associated with their respective devices. Please be sure that you are viewing the official use videos by the manufacturers, and are comfortable feeding rope and taking slack with these devices prior to use. If you are unsure that what you are viewing is official and correct, device manufacturers have links to these videos on their official websites.
- Lead belayers should remain inside the designated lead area while belaying. Standing outside this area to belay may result in a large lead fall and is considered unsafe.

**CLIMBERS WHO DO NOT ADHERE TO THE LEAD RULES MAY HAVE THEIR LEAD PRIVILEGES REVOKED AT ANY TIME, AT STAFF'S SOLE DISCRETION.**