

## **TOP ROPE BELAY TEST PROCEDURE (CUSTOMER COPY)**

**GOAL:** To ensure that all individuals top-roping in the climbing gym are doing so up to the safety standards of the facility.

**COST:** \$6.00

**TIME:** About 10 minutes.

### **PROCEDURE:**

There will be no coaching by the staff during the test. Two people taking the test implies that a missed item is a dual error. *If you are unsure about any part of this procedure, you must ask for clarification prior to the belay test.*

### **The customers are responsible for the following items:**

- Proper assembly of the harness. If the harness involved is a substituted rental harness, staff may have to provide another harness. *The customer's harness and climbing equipment must be CE and/ or UIAA approved and unmodified. All equipment must be assembled and used as specified by the manufacturer. Staff persons reserve the right to reject any climbing equipment they deem to be unsafe.*
- The tie-in knot must be through the proper isolated tie-in points. A figure "8" knot is required for this test. Tying a knot on a bight and clipping in with a carabiner is not acceptable.
- A rehearsed communication system of distinct, climbing-specific signals between the belayer and climber.
- A proficient belay technique with a dynamic friction device. Some methods and devices are not acceptable (check with the facility management). The device is to be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- All customers will be required to hold at least one fall during the test. There should be no hesitation in locking the fall.
- Lowering the climber should be done at a reasonable speed and in a safe manner.

### **PASS, FAIL, OR CONDITIONAL?**

Upon passing the test, customers are to be given an orientation to the facility, and an explanation of the facility rules. A customer that fails the test cannot belay for the rest of the day, but can re-test another day with no charge – if they return within 7 days. Under certain circumstances, a conditional pass may be issued. This allows the customer to climb and belay, but the test must be redone upon the next visit (no charge).