



Seated Belaying

Why

Guidance has arisen following a number of examples of people who are chair users not being allowed to carry out belaying in a climbing wall

Many walls have a policy of not being seated when belaying. This is because it may promote bad and unsafe practice.

Chair users are included in this policy.

What do we mean by seated.

- Guidance will cover

People who are wheelchair users including Self Propelled. Assisted propelled and powered chairs

People who may have to sit down due to not being able to stand for long periods of time sufficient to carry out the process of belaying or due to balance difficulties.





What will the guidance cover

- It will cover seated belayers who want to top bottom top rope belay and lead belay.
- It will provide guidance for facilities to assess a persons capability to belay in the above scenarios.

Examples of Content

An important aspect of this guidance is developing a systems that enable a person to access training and demonstrate their ability.

Very often it will be the perceived additional risks associated with a disabled person that will prevent any avenues being explored.



Examples of Content

- An exciting part of this guidance has been the evolution of different belaying systems for example
- Mechanical assisted braking devices
- Geometry assisted braking devices



Mechanical Assisted Braking Devices

- Gri Gri
- Cinch
- Neox

Geometry Assisted Braking Devices

- Pilot
- Click Up
- Ohm



Working Team

- A small team knowledgeable in accessible delivery

Paul Kellagher MCI Climbing for All provider

Joanna Byers GP/Occupational Therapy MT Disability Awareness
Trainer

Andy Cunningham MCI Climbing for All provider

Gav Kelly MCI Climbing for All provider



Progress So far

- 1st Draft Completed
- Submitted to mountain training
- Very supportive of the document.
- Feedback by mid July
- Meeting with Mountain Training

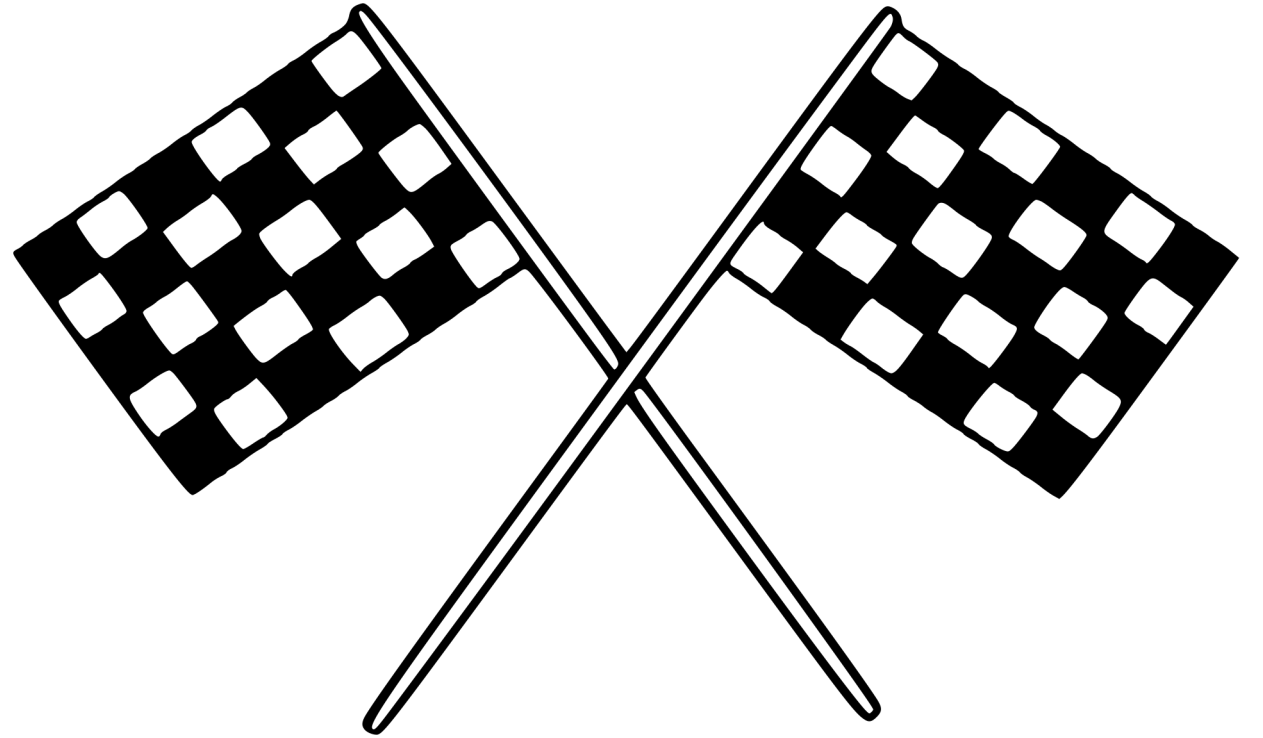


Photoshoot

- Possible Photo shoot with NICAS Ascend/Climbz session

Completion Date

- June 2026



Additional Points

Discussed possibility on including in Climbing for All booklet

Approaching a different area of work.

Requires that separation.



Thank you

- Questions