

Sport Climbing Endorsement



Photo: Chris Prudden

Scope and Syllabus

With the support of:



NZOIA™ Rock 1

Sport Climbing Endorsement

Scope

Sport Climbing Endorsement Profile

The NZOIA Sport Climbing Endorsement holder can:

- Plan and prepare lead climbing sessions using fixed protection
- Lead and manage groups during lead climbing sessions using fixed protection
- Apply effective safety management
- Instruct the sport climbing skills required for positive, educational and safe experiences
- Prepare and plan teaching sessions

Scope

The holder of this qualification can organise and instruct/guide lead climbing at single pitch indoor/artificial and outdoor sport climbing venues using fixed protection.

Prerequisites

Be a current Full Member of NZOIA

Be 20 years old or over

Hold a current First Aid Certificate (minimum of 12 hours or 2 day course including some direct contact with course tutors)

Hold a current NZOIA Rock 1 qualification

Have the following experience as evidence in a logbook:

Total experience – at least 30 days lead climbing experience (a climbing day is considered to be at least 4 hours climbing and at least 4 pitches climbed) at indoor/artificial and outdoor sport climbing venues including at least 2 different outdoor sport climbing venues and 2 different indoor/artificial sport climbing venues

Personal experience – at least 20 days personal climbing including, leading a minimum of grade 16 sports route at a variety of crags and venues

Instructional experience – at least 5 days instructing lead climbing

The prerequisite experience requirements are minimums, extra days are recommended so that a broad range of experience is gained. Experience will include co-instructing or working as an assistant instructor.

Registration and Revalidation

Registration and revalidation with NZOIA provide proof of currency for NZOIA qualification holders.

Progressing to NZOIA Rock 2

As the NZOIA Sport Climbing Endorsement holder gains more experience, they can progress to gaining the NZOIA Rock 2 qualification. The steps they can follow include:

- Gaining the experience outlined in the NZOIA Rock 2 prerequisites
- Attending an NZOIA Rock 2 training course
- Working with an NZOIA Rock 2 qualification holder

Syllabus

Assessment Notes

The syllabus outlines what the content of the assessment will include and gives an idea of what assessment tasks the candidate will be asked to complete. All judgements on how the candidate meets the syllabus must be based on current good practice and industry standards.

Assessors use two types of direct evidence to judge a candidate's competency:

- Observation of practical tasks
- Questioning and discussion

Endorsement: As this is an endorsement to NZOIA Rock 1 it is expected that candidates can demonstrate competence in all the criteria within the NZOIA Rock 1 syllabus. If competence is not demonstrated during the assessment, then the result of the endorsement will reflect this. The Assessor will bring this to the attention of the NZOIA Technical Sub Committee who may issue a training pathway or require attendance at a refresher workshop for the Rock 1 to remain current.

Technical Competence

1. Describe sport climbing history and ethics

The candidate will be able to describe and discuss:

1.1 The development of sport climbing and current trends

2. Demonstrate the care and correct use of sport climbing equipment and clothing

The candidate will:

- 2.1 Use lead climbing equipment that is in good condition, well maintained and is used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and current good practice
- 2.2 Describe the advantages and disadvantages of current equipment used for sport climbing and reasons for choice e.g. dynamic rope, karabiner types, belay devices, quickdraws, personal safety
- 2.3 Describe the types of fixed protection commonly used at sport climbing venues in New Zealand
- 2.4 Carry and use the appropriate clothing for the environmental conditions

3. Demonstrate safe and efficient lead climbing techniques

The candidate will lead a grade 16 route without falling or hanging and demonstrate:

- 3.1 Leading the climb and leaving it set up for top roping
- 3.2 Clearing a sport route after top rope use
- 3.3 The climbing moves and techniques required for a participant to complete a grade 16 sport route

4. Demonstrate safe and efficient lead belaying technique

The candidate will demonstrate:

- 4.1 Systematic checking before the climber leaves the ground
- 4.2 Clear communication with a lead climber including anticipating the climber's movement and paying out and taking in the rope as required
- 4.3 Lowering the climber safely, smoothly and efficiently

Group Management and Leadership

5. Plan and prepare a lead climbing experience

The candidate will prepare a written risk management or activity management plan which:

- 5.1 Identifies any risks of the activity and the risk management strategies to minimise or avoid the impact of these identified risks

6. Lead and manage a group during a lead climbing session

The candidate will be responsible for a group during a lead climbing session using fixed protection and demonstrate:

- 6.1 Effective group briefing including setting boundaries/safe areas and ground rules
- 6.2 Coaching, encouraging, motivating clients to ensure they are interested engaged and have a positive experience
- 6.3 Supervising and coaching lead climbers and belayers

7. Apply effective safety management

The candidate will:

- 7.1** Demonstrate checking the climbing routes used for hazards e.g. unsafe bolts, loose holds/rocks
- 7.2** Be able to identify and manage areas of risk on the climbing route e.g. placing draws, extending runners, clipping the first bolt
- 7.3** Use an effective communication and checking system with clients during the climbing sessions
- 7.4** Never compromise their personal safety or the safety of their clients
- 7.5** Demonstrate safe practices and good judgment and decision making within the scope of this qualification

Instruction

8. Instruct the sport climbing skills required for a positive, educational and safe experience

The candidate will provide clients with effective instruction in the following skills:

- 8.1** Safe and efficient belaying of a lead climber, including catching a lead fall
- 8.2** Climbing movement and techniques required to lead climb safely and efficiently
- 8.3** Safe and efficient clipping of bolts while lead climbing
- 8.4** Techniques for safe lead falls
- 8.5** Safe and efficient transitions from climbing to descending at the top of the climb e.g. lowering, abseiling
- 8.6** Abseiling with self-protection

The candidate will use:

- 8.7** A logical sequence of teaching progressions
- 8.8** Clear demonstrations and explanations

There may not always be the opportunity to demonstrate all these instructional techniques due to the ability of the client group, environmental conditions and/or venue. If this is the case, the Assessor can use questioning, demonstrations, scenarios, peer teaching etc to gather the evidence.