

vertical plane of the climbing face and the width of the climbing zone.

2. Surfacing of the landing area shall meet, or exceed, the impact attenuation requirements of ASTM F 1292 for a height of at least six feet. Multiple sections shall be secured together, to eliminate separation.

(i) Rock walls employing auto-belay devices shall comply with the following:

1. The use zone shall be a volume extending a minimum of eight feet perpendicular from the outermost vertical plane of the climbing face and the width of the climbing zone.

2. Surfacing of the landing area shall meet, or exceed, the impact attenuation requirements of ASTM F 1292 for a height of at least six feet. Multiple sections shall be secured together, to eliminate separation.

(j) Rock climbing walls where lead-climbing is permitted shall comply with the following:

1. The use zone shall be a volume extending a minimum of eight feet perpendicular from the outermost vertical plane of the climbing face and the width of the climbing zone.

2. Surfacing of the landing area shall meet, or exceed, the impact attenuation requirements of ASTM F 1292 for a height of at least six feet. Multiple sections shall be secured together, to eliminate separation.

3. Spacing of protection points shall be a maximum of six feet from the prior protection point in the climbing path.

(k) Rock climbing walls where a bouldering feature is provided shall comply with the following:

1. Bouldering shall be restricted to a maximum of 12 feet in height.

2. The use zone shall be a volume extending a minimum of eight feet perpendicular from the outermost vertical plane of the climbing face and eight feet to each side of the climbing zone.

3. Surfacing of the landing area shall meet, or exceed, the impact attenuation requirements of ASTM F 1292 for the maximum bouldering wall height. Multiple sections shall be secured together, to eliminate separation.

5:14A-14.6 Operation

(a) Operation of a climbing wall amusement ride shall comply with applicable requirements of N.J.A.C. 5:14A-9.

(b) Patrons shall be supervised at all times.

(c) Access to a climbing wall amusement ride shall be restricted to prevent unauthorized use.

1. Each climbing wall amusement ride shall have a system for controlling patron access.

2. Prior to being permitted access to a climbing wall amusement ride, adequate instruction for safe use of that climbing wall shall be given to each patron. As a minimum, this instruction shall include that required or recommended in the operation manual (N.J.A.C. 5:14A-2.14).

(d) A written staffing plan, acceptable to the Department, shall be established and implemented.

(e) Rules for use of a climbing wall amusement ride shall be prominently posted in the climbing area and at the entrance to the climbing area.

(f) A written policy regarding use of personal equipment shall be established and implemented.

(g) Climbing rope on a climbing wall amusement ride shall be as specified in the artificial climbing structure manufacturer's manual and conform to one or more of the following standards: EN 892 or UIAA 101.

(h) Low elongation rope on a climbing wall amusement ride shall be as specified in the artificial climbing structure manufacturer's manual.

(i) Harnesses on a climbing wall amusement ride shall be as specified in the artificial climbing structure manufacturer's manual and conform to one or more of the following standards: EN 12277, UIAA 105, or ASTM F 1772.

(j) Connectors on a climbing wall amusement ride shall be as specified in the artificial climbing structure manufacturer's manual and conform to one or more of the following standards: EN 12275, UIAA 121, or ASTM F 1774.

(k) Slings on a climbing wall amusement ride shall be as specified in the artificial climbing structure manufacturer's manual and conform to one or more of the following standards: EN 566 or UIAA 104.

(l) The use zone of a climbing wall amusement ride shall be free of objects not used in the climbing process.

(m) Multiple climbers shall not be permitted in the same climbing zone.

(n) Self-belay shall not be permitted on a climbing wall amusement ride.

(o) Rappelling without belay shall not be permitted on a climbing wall amusement ride.

(p) Rock walls employing manual-belay devices shall comply with the following:

1. The belayer shall pass a test, demonstrating competency in use of the belay system, prior to performing belay of a climber.

2. Prior to commencement of each climb, the belayer shall be responsible for performing the pre-climb checklist, as specified in the operation manual.

3. If the climber or belayer detect any abnormalities with the wall, rope, or equipment, they shall notify the floor supervisor immediately and follow the floor supervisor's instructions.

4. Only manual-belay devices specified in the operation manual and rated for such application shall be used.

5. The belay device shall be attached to the belayer's belay loop on their harness, or where specified by the manufacturer, using a locking carabiner.

6. The climbing rope is to be attached to the belay device in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications found in the operation manual.

7. While operating a belaying device, the belayer shall always keep a hand around the brake end of the rope.

8. A minimum horizontal distance of five linear feet of artificial climbing wall shall be required for each climbing zone. Overlapping climbing zones shall not be used simultaneously.

i. Exception: An alternative means for segregation of climbers may be acceptable to the Department.

(q) Rock walls employing auto-belay devices shall comply with the following:

1. A floor supervisor shall check the connection from the climber to the auto-belay system and the fitting of climber's harness, in accordance with the pre-climb checklist found in the operation manual, immediately prior to climb commencing.

2. A minimum horizontal distance of five linear feet of artificial climbing wall shall be required for each climbing zone. Overlapping climbing zones shall not be used simultaneously.

i. Exception: An alternative means for segregation of climbers may be acceptable to the Department.

(r) Rock walls where lead-climbing is permitted shall comply with the following:

1. The belayer and climber shall pass a test, demonstrating competency in use of the lead-climbing system, prior to their being permitted to use the climbing wall.

2. A minimum horizontal distance of eight linear feet of artificial climbing wall shall be required for each climbing zone. Overlapping climbing zones shall not be used simultaneously.

i. Exception: An alternative means for segregation of climbers may be acceptable to the Department.

(s) Rock walls where a bouldering feature is provided shall comply with the following:

1. A floor supervisor shall monitor the safety of the climber and ensure the climber does not move into another climbing zone.

2. A minimum horizontal distance of two linear feet of artificial climbing wall shall be required to each side of a climber for a climbing zone.

i. Exception: An alternative means for segregation of climbers may be acceptable to the Department.

5:14A-14.7 Adoption as amended of ASTM practice F 1773-97

(a) The Standard Terminology Relating to Climbing and Mountaineering Equipment and Practices, designated by the American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) as F 1773-97, is adopted by reference, as amended, and made part of this subchapter and shall be enforced as part of this subchapter.

(b) Notwithstanding any provisions stated in the standard, where specific provisions of the standard conflict with the provisions expressly set forth in this subchapter, the provisions set forth in this subchapter shall govern.

(c) The following sections of the standard are modified as follows:

1. Section 3, Terminology, shall be amended as follows:

i. Section 3.1.2: Following the words "a stationary person," the words "or mechanical device" shall be inserted. Also, the words "catch the climber" shall be deleted and the words "restrict speed of descent" shall be inserted in their place.

ii. Section 3.1.4: The words "person who is belaying" shall be deleted and the words "ride operator who performs the manual-belay of a climber" shall be inserted in their place.

iii. Section 3.1.6: The words "person engaging in the sport of climbing and mountaineering" shall be deleted and the words "patron engaged in climbing a climbing wall amusement ride" shall be inserted in their place.

iv. Section 3.1.13: The words "the path chosen by a climber" shall be deleted and the words "a series of specified holds to be followed by a climber during the ascent of an artificial climbing wall" shall be inserted in their place.

v. Add Section "3.1.17 Auto-belay, n—an automated mechanical device used to belay a climber."

vi. Add Section "3.1.18 Auto-belay, v—the technique of using an auto-belay device."

vii. Add Section “3.1.19 Climbing wall amusement ride, n—an amusement ride where an artificial climbing wall is used as an integral part of the ride and where it is intended for rider to climb.”

viii. Add Section “3.1.20 Climbing zone, n—the surface on an artificial climbing wall, defined by two vertical planes extending from the base of the wall to the apex, which is designated for use by an individual climber.”

ix. Add Section “3.1.21 Floor supervisor, n—a ride operator who’s primary responsibility is to train and supervise other operators and patrons.”

x. Add Section “3.1.22 Landing area, n—an area at the base of the use zone, where it is predicted a climber would land when falling or exiting the climbing wall.”

xi. Add Section “3.1.23 Manual-belay, v—the technique of using a person to belay a climber, by securing the end of the climbing rope, not attached to the

climber, to a braking device and regulating the rope travel through this device.”

xii. Add Section “3.1.24 Protection point, or anchor point, n—a point to which a climber can be attached for fall protection.”

xiii. Add Section “3.1.25 Use zone, n—the volume immediately adjacent to an artificial climbing wall that is restricted for use by climbers and support personnel.”

xiv. Add Section “3.2.40 Hold, n—a device on the face of an artificial climbing wall for a climber to grasp, grip, or step on for support during ascent.”

(d) The ASTM standard F 1773-97 may be obtained from:

American Society for Testing Materials
100 Barr Harbor Drive
West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959