

A photograph of a woman with brown hair in a ponytail, wearing a teal t-shirt and black pants, climbing an indoor rock wall. She is wearing a climbing harness and a blue rope is attached to her. The wall is made of light-colored wood and has various colorful climbing holds. The photo is taken from a low angle, looking up at the climber.

**Climbing Wall Supervisor
Monitor Lead Endorsement**

Photo: Lee Howell

Scope and Syllabus

With the support of:



NZOIA™ Climbing Wall Supervisor – Monitor Lead Endorsement Scope

Monitor Lead Endorsement Profile

In addition to the Climbing Wall Supervisor profile the NZOIA Climbing Wall Supervisor with the Monitor Lead Endorsement is able to:

- Monitor single pitch lead climbing on artificial climbing structures
- Rectify unsafe practices
- Demonstrate lead climbing and belaying techniques

The NZOIA Climbing Wall Supervisor with the Monitor Lead Endorsement is able to monitor lead climbing on artificial climbing structures (inside or outside, fixed or mobile). It is recommended they work under the supervision of a person who has additional competencies including a current First Aid Certificate and the ability to perform complex rescues and follow emergency procedures. If there is more than one staff member, someone on site must have the ability to manage the operator's supervision system. It is recommended that one person in the operation holds the NZOIA Sport Climbing or NZOIA Rock 1 qualification. Alternatively, a technical expert should be brought in on a regular basis to check and monitor procedures. Climbing Wall Supervisors with the Monitor Lead Endorsement are qualified to operate within the standard operating procedures of the climbing wall. The qualification does not define the skill set required to design or approve such a plan.

This is a foundation qualification and provides a stepping stone towards NZOIA Leader, Sport Climbing and Rock 1 qualifications.

Refer to the Activity Safety Guidelines "Indoor Climbing and climbing on other artificial structures" for operational good practice www.supportadventure.co.nz.

Scope

The holder of this qualification can monitor lead climbing at climbing walls where the clients are using their own equipment and regular checks of anchors, bolts and fixed quick draws are completed by the organisation managing the facility.

Prerequisites

Be a current Full Member or working under an Affiliated Membership of NZOIA

Be 18 years old or over

Hold a current NZOIA Climbing Wall Supervisor qualification

Have the following experience as evidence in a logbook:

Personal experience – At least 4 sessions of personal climbing leading on bolts including a minimum of lead climbing grade 14

Instructional experience – At least 3 sessions in an assistant supervisor role monitoring lead climbing

A session is considered to be at least 2 hours or more of climbing activity or assistant supervising. The personal sessions must include no less than 4 climbs per session.

The prerequisite experience requirements are minimums, extra days are recommended.

Registration and Revalidation

This qualification is valid for four years at which time the supervisor is required to re-sit the assessment. Registration with NZOIA provides proof of currency.

Progressing to higher NZOIA qualifications

As the Climbing Wall Supervisor with Monitor Lead Endorsement gains more experience, they may progress towards gaining the NZOIA Rock Leader, NZOIA Abseil Leader, NZOIA Sport Climbing and NZOIA Rock 1 qualifications. The steps they would follow include:

- Gaining the experience outlined in the qualification prerequisites
- Attending an NZOIA training course
- Working with a NZOIA Rock Leader, Abseil Leader, Sport Climbing or Rock 1 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 can use two types of direct evidence to judge a candidate's competency:

- Observation of practical tasks
- Questioning and discussion

Candidates are expected to know and follow a system as defined by the operator

Candidates are required to monitor lead climbing within a familiar environment and to work within the standard operating procedures of the facility

Technical Competence

1. Demonstrate safe and efficient lead climbing techniques

The candidate will lead a grade 14 and be able to:

- 1.1** Correct tie into the climbing rope
- 1.2** Demonstrate a systematic safety check of self and belayer before climbing
- 1.3** Demonstrate clear communication with the belayer using agreed calls
- 1.4** Demonstrate correct clipping of quickdraws and bolt hangers
- 1.5** Demonstrate a safe and efficient system for lowering
- 1.6** Describe times of heightened risk e.g. between the first and second bolt, clipping, transition to lowering
- 1.7** Describe unsafe practices e.g. unstable clipping stance, long clipping when low on the wall, leg behind the rope, back-clipping, skipping bolt hangers, z-clipping, seconding on an unfinished climb or unsuitable anchor
- 1.8** Demonstrate basic and efficient climbing movement skills
- 1.9** Demonstrate or describe safe lead falling technique
- 1.10** Demonstrate or describe retrieving quickdraws from an overhanging route with a suitable top anchor

2. Demonstrate safe belaying technique

The candidate will belay a lead climb at least twice (using both a manual and assisted braking device) and demonstrate:

- 2.1** Threading the rope through the belay device and attaching to self
- 2.2** A systematic safety check before the climber leaves the ground
- 2.3** Good practice belay technique
- 2.4** Clear communication with the climber using agreed calls
- 2.5** Anticipating the climber's movement and providing slack and tension as required
- 2.6** Belayer positioning
- 2.7** Holding a lead fall safely and efficiently
- 2.8** Lowering the climber safely and efficiently

Group Management and Leadership

3. Monitor lead climbing

The candidate will be responsible for monitoring client's lead climbing and will:

- 3.1** Demonstrate the ability to scan the area to assess the overall situation and identify any clients or groups that may require closer monitoring
- 3.2** Demonstrate the personal skills and a range of strategies required to intervene
- 3.3** Demonstrate clear communication skills

4. Identify and take steps to rectify unsafe lead climbing practices

The candidate will identify and take steps to rectify unsafe lead climbing and belaying practices to ensure:

- 4.1** Size match between belayer and climber will work
- 4.2** Attentive belaying
- 4.3** Correct amount of slack in the rope
- 4.4** Safe transition from ascending to lowering
- 4.5** Safe clipping techniques e.g. stable clipping stance, avoidance of; z-clipping, back-clipping and long reach clipping
- 4.6** Rope management e.g. avoidance of rope behind leg, tangles
- 4.7** No seconding of unfinished routes from a single quick draw or on unsuitable top anchor
- 4.8** Active management to minimise impact against wall during a fall
- 4.9** Safe retrieval of runners (unless fixed) from an overhanging route