

2021/2022 USA CLIMBING MEMBER HANDBOOK

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Memberships Overview

This member handbook was created to give you an in depth look at the different memberships USA Climbing has to offer and provide you with additional resources to ensure all your membership questions are answered. This handbook is not intended to serve as a replacement or brief of the USA Climbing Rulebook.

In order to compete in a USA Climbing sanctioned competition, all competitors must hold a current USA Climbing Membership. Memberships are on a rolling structure, whereby when your membership is purchased it will be current for a year from purchase date. This will ensure that all members have maximized value for their membership annually instead of a shortened period based on when it was purchased.

For those who selected auto-renew when purchasing their 2020-2021 membership, your membership will renew on the purchase date of the following year.

What is USA Climbing?

USA Climbing is the national governing body of competition climbing in the United States. We promote three competition disciplines: Bouldering, Lead/Top Rope, and Speed climbing. Competitions are held separately for youth (through age 19), adult (starting at age 16), collegiate, and paraclimbing athletes. USA Climbing (USAC) receives sanctioning and is recognized by the International Federation for Sport Climbing (IFSC), the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC).

USAC's Mission: To promote the growth and success of the sport of competition climbing in the United States while generating sustained competitive excellence for United States athletes in international competition.

USAC's Structure: USA Climbing is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, with a small paid staff based in Salt Lake City, Utah.



Competitor Memberships

A competitor membership is for competitive youth and adult climbers that wish to compete at regional, divisional, and/or national level events. A competitor membership can also be used at qualifying (local) events and is required for results to count toward regional qualification. In order to obtain this membership, a competitor member that is 18 years or older must complete annual SafeSport Training.

How much are Competitor Memberships?

Competitor Memberships are \$105.00 and are valid for a year from purchase date.

How to get a Competitor Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select a Competitor Membership type
- Pay for Competitor Membership
- Complete the SafeSport Training (17 turning 18 recommended, 18+ mandatory, not required for under 17)

SafeSport Information

Who is required to take SafeSport?

All members 18 and older are required to take SafeSport training prior to competing in a USAC sanctioned local,regional, divisional, or national event. USAC recommends 17-year-old members also take SafeSport training with parental consent.

What if the training isn't completed prior to the competition?

Local gyms should not allow anyone 18+ without SafeSport training to compete. If a competitor is allowed to compete at a local competition without SafeSport training complete, their score will not count. If a competitor does not show up in the scoring module that means they have either do not have a valid proof of enrollment, have not paid for their membership, or have not completed the SafeSport training. If a competitor can show that they have completed the training in their membership profile, then they can be allowed to compete and added in later by USAC.

Youth Regions

USA Climbing's Regional and Divisional structure is reflected in the map here. The U.S. will be composed of **9 Divisions and 18 Regions**. Region 11 and 12 will make up Division 1, Region 21 and 22 will make up Division 2, Region 81 and Region 82 will make up Division 8, etc.



Youth Regional Coordinators:

Each youth region has an email address for their regional coordinators such as: region11@usaclimbing.org. You can use this with the regions in your division to communicate with the youth regional coordinators.

Category Breakdown

USA Climbing youth age categories for the 2021-2022 season:

Category Birth Year

Youth D 2011 or later Youth C 2009 or 2010 Youth B 2007 or 2008 Youth A 2005 or 2006 Junior 2003 or 2004

USA Climbing adult categories (16+) for the 2021-2022 season

Introductory Memberships

An introductory membership is for competitive climbers that wish to compete at qualifying (local) events and National Cup Series competitions. Introductory members qualifying event scores will not qualify for regional, divisional, and/or national level events. In order for a climber's score to count towards regional qualification, introductory members must upgrade their membership, in addition to other eligibility requirements, through their USA Climbing account to either a competitor membership (youth/adult) or a collegiate membership (collegiate). In order to obtain this membership, an introductory member that is 18 years or older must complete annual SafeSport Training.

How much are Introductory Memberships?

Introductory Memberships are \$30.00 and are valid for a year from purchase date.

How to get an Introductory Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select an Introductory Membership
- Select an Introductory Membership type
- Pay for Introductory Membership
- Complete the SafeSport Training (17 turning 18 recommended, 18+ mandatory, not required for under 17)



SafeSport Information

Who is required to take SafeSport?

All members 18 and older are required to take SafeSport training prior to competing in a USAC sanctioned local, regional, divisional, or national event. USAC recommends 17-year-old members also take SafeSport training with parental consent.

What if the training isn't completed prior to the competition?

Local gyms should not allow anyone 18+ without SafeSport training to compete. If a competitor is allowed to compete at a local competition without SafeSport training complete, their score will not count. If a competitor does not show up in the scoring module that means they have either do not have a valid proof of enrollment, have not paid for their membership, or have not completed the SafeSport training. If a competitor can show that they have completed the training in their membership profile, then they can be allowed to compete and added in later by USAC.

Youth Regions

USA Climbing's Regional and Divisional structure is reflected in the map <u>here</u>. The U.S. will be composed of **9 Divisions and 18 Regions**. Region 11 and 12 will make up Division 1, Region 21 and 22 will make up Division 2, Region 81 and Region 82 will make up Division 8, etc.

Youth Regional Coordinators:

Each youth region has an email address for their regional coordinators such as region11@usaclimbing.org. You can use this with the regions in your division to communicate with the youth regional coordinators.

Category Breakdown

USA Climbing youth age categories for the 2021-2022 season:

Category Birth Year

Youth D 2011 or later

Youth C 2009 or 2010

Youth B 2007 or 2008

Youth A 2005 or 2006

Junior 2003 or 2004

USA Climbing adult categories (16+) for the 2021-2022 season



Collegiate Competitor Memberships

A collegiate membership is for competitive collegiate climbers that wish to compete at divisional and/or national level collegiate events. A collegiate membership can also be used at collegiate qualifying (local) events. In order to compete in non-collegiate events, a collegiate member must upgrade to a competitor membership through their USA Climbing account. In order to obtain this membership, a collegiate member that is 18 years or older must complete annual SafeSport Training.

How much are Collegiate Competitor Memberships?

Collegiate Memberships are \$65.00 and are valid for a year from purchase date. Collegiate Memberships are a free 'add-on' to Competitor Memberships. Competitors can also compete with a Collegiate Introductory Membership but must get a Collegiate Membership prior to Divisional Championships.

How to get a Collegiate Competitor Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account <u>HERE</u>
- Select a Collegiate Membership
- Pay for Collegiate Membership
- Upload Proof of Enrollment
- Complete SafeSport Training (can be done without proof of enrollment being verified)

What is the procedure for providing proof of current enrollment to USA Climbing?

All collegiate members must submit proof of enrollment confirming their status as a student and must do so when purchasing a Collegiate Membership.

Please include at least one of the following for each Competitor:

- A form from the Office of the Registrar that includes: First & Last Name, Name of College, Dates of Attendance. We recommend you run a search for "Verification of Enrollment' on your college's website to find information about how to go about procuring such a form from your specific school.
- A letter from your Rec Sports Department including all competitors first and last name and verifying each competitor meets the eligibility requirements outlined in the USA Climbing Rulebook for Collegiate participation.
- A class schedule showing First & Last Name, Name of College and semester in which the schedule is for.
- Verification from the National Student Clearinghouse (\$2.50 fee associated with each verification)

For those schools that are part of the National Student Clearinghouse, Team Captains or Competitors can go to: https://secure.studentclearinghouse.org/vs/Index, select Verify Current Enrollment (within the past 6 months), enter/select School Name, enter Students full name and date of birth, Submit, add payment information and obtain a certification for each competitor.



Collegiate Divisions

For collegiate competitions, USAC has divided the country into 7 divisions. Each division is assigned one or more **Divisional Coordinators** to serve as the local coordinator of collegiate competitions and as the liaison between USAC and the competitors, coaches, and gyms within their division.

SafeSport Information

Who is required to take SafeSport?

All members 18 and older are required to take SafeSport training prior to competing in a USAC sanctioned local, divisional, or national event. USAC recommends 17-year-old members also take SafeSport training.

What if the training isn't completed prior to the competition?

Local gyms should not allow anyone 18+ without SafeSport training to compete. If a competitor is allowed to compete at a local competition without SafeSport training complete, their score **will not** count. If a competitor does not show up in the scoring module that means they have either do not have a valid proof of enrollment, have not paid for their membership, or have not completed the SafeSport training. If a competitor can show that they have completed the training in their membership profile, then they can be allowed to compete and added in later by USAC.

Collegiate Introductory Memberships

A collegiate introductory membership is for competitive climbers that wish to compete at qualifying (local) events. In order for a collegiate climber to compete at divisional, and/or national level events, collegiate introductory members must upgrade their membership, in addition to other eligibility requirements, through their USA Climbing account to either a competitor membership (youth/adult) or a collegiate membership (collegiate). In order to obtain this membership, an introductory member that is 18 years or older must complete annual SafeSport Training.

How much are Collegiate Introductory Memberships?

Collegiate Introductory Memberships are \$30.00 and are valid for a year from purchase date. Competitors can also compete with a Collegiate Introductory Membership but must get a Collegiate Membership prior to Divisional Championships.

How to get a Collegiate Introductory Competitor Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select a Collegiate Introductory Membership
- Pay for Collegiate Introductory Membership
- Upload Proof of Enrollment
- Complete SafeSport Training (can be done without proof of enrollment being verified)



What is the procedure for providing proof of current enrollment to USA Climbing?

All collegiate members must submit proof of enrollment confirming their status as a student and must do so when purchasing a Collegiate Introductory Membership.

Please include at least one of the following for each Competitor:

- A form from the Office of the Registrar that includes: First & Last Name, Name of College, Dates of Attendance. We recommend you run a search for "Verification of Enrollment' on your college's website to find information about how to go about procuring such a form from your specific school.
- A letter from your Rec Sports Department including all competitors first and last name and verifying each competitor meets the eligibility requirements outlined in the USA Climbing Rulebook for Collegiate participation.
- A class schedule showing First & Last Name, Name of College and semester in which the schedule is for.
- Verification from the National Student Clearinghouse (\$2.50 fee associated with each verification)

For those schools that are part of the National Student Clearinghouse, Team Captains or Competitors can go to: https://secure.studentclearinghouse.org/vs/Index, select Verify Current Enrollment (within the past 6 months), enter/select School Name, enter Students full name and date of birth, Submit, add payment information and obtain a certification for each competitor.

Collegiate Divisions

For collegiate competitions, USAC has divided the country into 7 divisions. Each division is assigned one or more **Divisional Coordinators** to serve as the local coordinator of collegiate competitions and as the liaison between USAC and the competitors, coaches, and gyms within their division.

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Team Captain Memberships

A team captain membership is a free add-on to a collegiate membership which allows the team captain to create a team roster for divisionals and nationals. The deadline for creating rosters will be when registration closes for divisionals. This deadline will be communicated to competitors when USAC announces registration opening for collegiate divisionals. The ability to add rosters will open during the local season in order to give teams as long as possible to add their rosters to their USA Climbing account.

How much are Team Captain Memberships?

Team Captain Memberships are free and are valid for a year from registration date.

How to get a Team Captain Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select a Collegiate Membership
- Select Team Captain membership type

Paraclimbing Memberships

A Paraclimbing membership is for competitive para-athletes that wish to compete at local and national level Paraclimbing events. In order to compete in non-paraclimbing events, a Paraclimbing member must upgrade to a competitor membership through their USA Climbing account. In order to obtain this membership, a Paraclimbing member that is 18 years or older must complete annual SafeSport Training. Currently, USA Climbing hosts a Paraclimbing National Championship each spring. The plan is to expand the series to include a local series prior to the national championship.

How much are Paraclimbing Memberships?

Paraclimbing Memberships are \$45 and are valid for a year from purchase date.

How to get a Paraclimbing Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select a Paraclimbing Membership
- Pay for Paraclimbing Membership
- Complete the SafeSport Training (17 turning 18 recommended, 18+ mandatory, not required for under 17)

SafeSport Information

Who is required to take SafeSport?

All members 18 and older are required to take SafeSport training prior to competing in a USAC sanctioned local, divisional, or national event. USAC recommends 17-year-old members also take SafeSport training with parental consent.



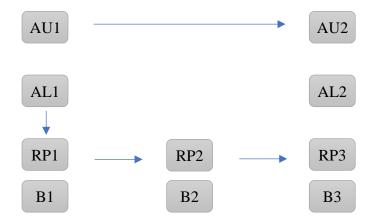
What if the training isn't completed prior to the competition?

Local gyms should not allow anyone 18+ without SafeSport training to compete. If a competitor is allowed to compete at a local competition without SafeSport training complete, their score **will not** count. If a competitor does not show up in the scoring module that means they have either do not have a valid proof of enrollment, have not paid for their membership or have not completed the SafeSport training. If a competitor can show that they have completed the training in their membership profile, then they can be allowed to compete and added in later by USAC.

Paraclimbing Categories:

AL1 | AL2 | AU1 | AU2 | YD | YC | YB | B1 | B2 | B3 | RP1 | RP2 | RP3

If there are less than three competitors in a category, we suggest merging categories as follows. Base categories would remain Upper Limb Amputee (AU), Lower Limb Amputee (AL), Range of Power (RP), Visually Impaired (B), and Youth for male and female (10 categories minimum). Youth would combine and stay separate even if less than three.



Classification System can be found in USA Climbing's Rulebook

Coach Memberships

A Level 1 Coach Membership is for coaches that wish to coach at a USA Climbing Sanctioned Event. Level 1 Coaches do not have competition isolation area ('iso') access. A Level 1 Coach does have the ability to file appeals. In order to obtain this membership, a coach must complete annual SafeSport Training, successfully pass a background screen, and provide documentation of their coaching role. SafeSport Training and Background Screens can be accessed through a member's USA Climbing account. Coaching verification is to be completed independently by the member with documentation uploaded into their USA Climbing account. Level 1 Coaches can upgrade their membership to a Level 2 Coach Membership at any time through their USA Climbing account.



A Level 2 Coach Membership is for coaches that wish to coach at a USA Climbing Sanctioned Event. Level 2 Coaches have competition isolation area ('iso') access and the ability to file appeals. In order to obtain this membership, a coach must complete annual SafeSport Training, First Aid/CPR certification, successfully pass a background screen, and provide documentation of their coaching role. SafeSport Training and Background Screens can be accessed through a member's USA Climbing account. First Aid/CPR Certification and coaching verification is to be completed independently by the member with documentation uploaded into their USA Climbing account.

A coach must meet minimum requirements in order to be considered as a USA Climbing Certified Coach Member. Certification is subject to review and revocation is subject to USA Climbing's Bylaws.

A USA Climbing Level 1 Certified Coach must:

- Obtain a USA Climbing Coach Membership
- submit verification of their coaching role in the form of either a letter from the coach's employer stating that the coach is employed as a coach, or a personal letter and curriculum vitae documenting their coaching experience, accompanied by references; and
- via the coach's USA Climbing account, authorize USA Climbing to conduct a
 criminal background check, respond timely to any requests from the background
 check vendor for additional information, and successfully complete that background
 screening under USA Climbing's SafeSport Screening and Background Check
 Policy; and
- complete all required SafeSport training under USA Climbing's SafeSport Policy which is accessed through their USA Climbing account. If the coach has a current SafeSport training that was completed outside their USA Climbing account, the SafeSport completion certificate must be submitted to info@usaclimbing.org for manual addition to the coach's account.

See Section 2.2 of the USA Climbing Rulebook for more details.

In order to be considered for Level 2 USA Climbing Coach Certification, a coach must fulfill the above (Level 1) requirements and in addition, must provide documentation proving current First Aid and CPR certification through the season in which their certification is valid.

How much are Coach Memberships?

Level 1 Coach Memberships are \$40. Level 2 Coach Memberships are \$90, and both are valid for a year from purchase date.



How to get a Coach Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select a Coach Membership
- Select a Coach Membership type
- Pay for Coach Membership
- Complete the SafeSport Training, initiate the background screening, upload First Aid and CPR for approval, and upload documentation

Routesetter Memberships

A Routesetter Membership is for individuals in process of becoming a Certified Routesetter by attending a Routesetting Clinic. Once a Routesetter Member successfully completes clinic requirements, they must upgrade to a Certified Routesetter Membership in order for certification to be complete. This membership is also for routesetters who are not certified but are members of a routesetting crew who are routesetting for a USA Climbing competition where a certification is not required. In order to obtain this membership, a routesetter member that is 18 years or older must complete annual SafeSport Training.

How much are Routesetting Memberships?

Routesetting Memberships are free and are valid for a year from registration date.

How to get a Routesetting Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account <u>HERE</u>
- Select a Routesetting Membership
- Select the Routesetting Membership type
- Complete the SafeSport Training

Routesetting Membership requires a member to:

 Complete SafeSport Training from within your USA Climbing account (Certificates are valid for one USA Climbing season, once the Core training is complete, the annual refresher is required).

Certified Routesetter Memberships

A Certified Routesetter Membership is for USA Climbing certified routesetters. In order to obtain this membership, a routesetter must complete annual SafeSport Training. Level 2+ Routesetters must also successfully pass a background screen. SafeSport Training and Background Screens can be accessed through a member's USA Climbing account.



How much are Routesetting Memberships?

Routesetting Memberships are \$70 and are valid for a year from purchase date.

How to get a Routesetting Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select a Routesetting Membership
- Select a Routesetting Membership type
- Pay for Routesetting Membership
- Complete the SafeSport Training and initiate the background screening (Background screening is required for Level 2+

Routesetting Membership requires a member to:

- Complete and pass a criminal background check (Level 2+ only), respond
 promptly to requests from vendor for additional information, and successfully
 completed that background screening under USA Climbing's SafeSport
 Screening and Background Check Policy; and
- Complete **SafeSport Training** from within your USA Climbing account (Certificates are valid for one USA Climbing season, once the Core training is complete, the annual refresher is required).

Certified Judge Memberships

A Certified Judge Membership is required for all Certified Chief Judges and Certified Route Judges who appear on the 'Certified Judges List'. In order to obtain this membership, a judge must complete annual SafeSport Training and successfully pass a background screen. SafeSport Training and Background Screens can be accessed through a member's USA Climbing account.

How much are Certified Judge Memberships?

Certified Judge Memberships are free and are valid for a year from registration date.

How to get a Certified Judge Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select a Certified Judge Membership
- Complete the SafeSport Training and complete and pass the background screening

Certified Judge Membership requires a member to:

 Complete and pass a criminal background check, respond promptly to requests from vendor for additional information, and successfully completed that background screening under USA Climbing's SafeSport Screening and Background Check Policy; and



• Complete **SafeSport Training** from within your USA Climbing account (Certificates are valid for one USA Climbing season, once the Core training is complete, the annual refresher is required).

Volunteer Memberships

A Volunteer Membership is required by those seeking to volunteer at a sanctioned USA Climbing competition. Volunteer Memberships (Covered and Non-Covered Individuals) are split into two categories based on the type of volunteer position.

Covered Individuals include: Isolation and Volunteer Coordinators, and Event Organizers.

Non-Covered Individuals include: Non-Certified Judges, Scorekeepers, Runners, Belayers.

How much are Volunteer Memberships?

Volunteer Memberships are free and are valid for a year from registration date.

How to get a Volunteer Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account <u>HERE</u>
- Select the Volunteer Membership
- Select the Volunteer Membership type
- Complete the SafeSport Training and initiate the background screening if applicable

Covered Volunteer membership requires a member to:

- Complete and pass a criminal background check, respond promptly to requests from vendor for additional information, and successfully completed that background screening under USA Climbing's SafeSport Screening and Background Check Policy; and
- Complete **SafeSport Training** from within your USA Climbing account (Certificates are valid for one USA Climbing season, once the Core training is complete, the annual refresher is required).

Non-Covered Volunteer membership recommends but not requires a member to:

• Complete **SafeSport Training** from within your USA Climbing account (Certificates are valid for one USA Climbing season, once the Core training is complete, the annual refresher is required).



Supporter Memberships

Supporter members are those individuals who are interested in the purpose, programs, aims and objectives of USA Climbing.

How much are Supporter Memberships?

Supporter Memberships are \$35 and are valid for a year from purchase date.

How to get a Support Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select the Supporter Membership
- Pay for the Supporter Membership

Administrative Memberships

The Administrative Membership is for USA Climbing full-time staff, Board Members, Committee Members, Working Groups, and Task Forces. Administrative Memberships are split into two categories (Covered and Non-Covered Individuals) based on the type of position.

Covered Individuals include: USA Climbing full-time staff, Board Members, and Members of Designated Committees (NGC, Audit, Judicial, Ethics, Hearing Panel Pool and Team Selection). In order to obtain this membership, a member must complete annual SafeSport Training and successfully pass a background screen. SafeSport Training and Background Screens can be accessed through a member's USA Climbing account.

Non-Covered Individuals include: Members of Other Committees, Working Groups, and Task Forces.

How much are Administrative Memberships?

Administrative Memberships are free and are valid for a year from registration date.

How to get an Administrative Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select the Administrative Membership
- Select the Administrative Membership type
- Complete the SafeSport Training and initiate the background screening

Covered Administrative membership requires a member to:

• Complete and pass a criminal background check, respond promptly to requests from vendor for additional information, and successfully completed that



- **background screening** under USA Climbing's SafeSport Screening and Background Check Policy; and
- Complete SafeSport Training from within your USA Climbing account (Certificates are valid for one USA Climbing season, once the Core training is complete, the annual refresher is required).

Non-Covered Administrative membership recommends but not requires a member to:

• Complete **SafeSport Training** from within your USA Climbing account (Certificates are valid for one USA Climbing season, once the Core training is complete, the annual refresher is required).

Team Memberships

This membership is required for a team to be eligible for the Team Championship competition at championship events. A Level 2 Coach membership is required to add the team membership and athletes to the roster. This is accessible from the Level 2 Coaches USA Climbing account only. Adding the athletes to the roster after creating the team is a crucial step to being counted towards Team Championship points.

How much are Team Memberships?

Team Memberships are free and are valid for a year from registration date.

How to get a Team Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account <u>HERE</u>
- Select Add Team from within your USA Climbing account on the left side of the dashboard
- Create the Team account
- Add the Team Membership
- Add athletes to the Team
- Add athletes to the roster

What if my Team Membership is showing "Action Required"?

- The Level 2 Coach who created the team has a certification that has expired. Once that coach renews their expired certification the Team Membership will automatically go back in to a "Current" status.
- No action is necessary from the athlete member

As a Level 2 Coach, How do I create my Roster?

- From within your Team account click on "Memberships"
- Click on "List"
- Add each individual athlete to the Roster



Basic Gym Memberships

This membership allows a gym to be included in a searchable gym locater on the USA Climbing website and access to USA Climbing benefits.

How much are Basic Gym Memberships?

Basic Gym Memberships are \$100 and are valid for a year from purchase date.

How to get a Basic Gym Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE
- Select Add Gym from within your USA Climbing account on the left side of the dashboard

Full Gym Memberships

This membership is required for gyms who are hosting any USA Climbing sanctioned events. It allows inclusion in a searchable gym locater on the USA Climbing website and one free membership of their choice. To obtain the free membership, please have the individual add the membership to their account and put it in their cart, then email info@usaclimbing with the coaches name and gym name they are associated with.

How much are Full Gym Memberships?

Full Gym Memberships are \$250 and are valid for a year from purchase date.

How to get a Full Gym Membership?

- Create or log in to your USA Climbing account <u>HERE</u>
- Select Add Gym from within your USA Climbing account on the left side of the dashboard

Additional Facility Memberships

This membership is available for facilities with multiple locations that have already purchased one full gym membership and are hosting USA Climbing sanctioned events. For example, if a gym has three locations, they should purchase one full gym membership and two additional facility memberships.

How much are Additional Facility Memberships?

Additional Facility Memberships are \$75 and are valid for a year from purchase.

How to get an Additional Facility Membership?

• Create or log in to your USA Climbing account HERE



• Select Add Gym from within your USA Climbing account on the left side of the dashboard

Helpful Links

- Incident Report Form
- USA Climbing Membership Platform
- USA Climbing Rulebook
- Safe Sport
- USA Climbing Compete Page
- USA Climbing Region Page
- USA Climbing Resources
- USA Climbing Routesetting Page

