

USA Climbing Spectator Code of Conduct

Approved by Board of Directors October 25, 2025

Intent and Scope. The USA Climbing Spectator Code of Conduct is designed to ensure a safe, respectful, and enjoyable experience for all participants, spectators, volunteers, and USA Climbing and facilities staff. This policy applies to anyone in attendance at a USA Climbing-sanctioned event.

Conduct Agreement. In general, spectators are expected to show respect to all athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, staff, and other spectators. Support for athletes should be expressed in a positive, encouraging manner, and decisions of officials should be respected. Spectators are expected to comply with all instructions from event staff and all facility rules.

Prohibited Conduct. Spectators must refrain from any of the following:

- Violating the “no beta” rules around providing coaching/advice to climbers when they are competing
- Booing, taunting, inflammatory remarks, or directing profanity or objectionable cheers toward athletes, coaches, volunteers, or officials
- Engaging in unruly, disruptive, violent or threatening behavior toward athletes, spectators, volunteers, or staff members, including through verbal or physical harassment
- Interfering with other spectators’ enjoyment of the event experience
- Displaying signs, symbols, or images, or using language or gestures that are threatening, abusive or discriminatory on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation or any other protected characteristic
- Any action that might distract participants, volunteers, and staff or compromise their safety
- Engaging in illegal activity
- Bringing items banned by the facility or the event organizers into the venue
- Interfering with the operation of the event, including by entering the competition or athlete preparation areas
- Damaging facility or others’ personal property

Enforcement. Any spectator who fails to comply with this Code of Conduct may be subject to penalties, including, but not limited to, ejection from the event without refund and removal of future event privileges. USA Climbing members may also face further disciplinary action, including suspension of their membership.