



RULES & REGULATIONS

OURAY ICE PARK

ANY OURAY ICE PARK, INC. (OIP) EMPLOYEE OR BOARD MEMBER CAN ENFORCE THE FOLLOWING RULES WITH SUPPORT FROM THE OURAY POLICE DEPARTMENT IF NECESSARY.

- 1 Crampons are required for all persons (climbers or otherwise) at all times in the established and posted "climber only" areas; this includes the bottom of the Gorge.
- 2 All persons under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult in the Ouray Ice Park (OIP). As of December 15th, 2019, all adults will be required to sign a waiver for each minor they accompany into the Park. These waivers are available on our website at www.ourayicepark.com/rules. Please email all completed copies to info@ourayicepark.com before accompanying minors into the Park.
- 3 Dogs must be leashed and not left unattended. No dogs will be allowed below the top of the gorge.
- 4 No anchoring to man-made structures including the pen stock unless clearly labeled by yellow wand or tag.
- 5 All climbing must be on designated anchors established and defined by the Ouray Ice Park.
- 6 Ouray Ice Park hours are 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. on weekends and 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. on weekdays.
- 7 Only Ouray Ice Park, Inc. (OIP) Ice Farmers shall adjust, turn off, or otherwise handle any part of the watering system - including pipes, valves, shower heads, or any other apparatus.
- 8 The maximum amount of time a group may occupy any one route is three hours.
- 9 A lead anchor must be established at the top of the climb before leading any route.
- 10 The Lead Only Area is for lead climbers and their followers only.
- 11 No climbing on closed routes or in closed areas.
- 12 Kids have ultimate priority to routes on the Kids' Wall. If any kids arrive and wish to climb there, you must yield your route to their climbing party, immediately.
- 13 It is your responsibility to observe and abide by both Ouray County Public Health regulations and industry best practices amid the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 14 Alcohol is NOT permitted within the Ouray Ice Park at any time.
- 15 Drones are NOT permitted in the Ouray Ice Park for climber safety. If you have a media request, please contact our Marketing Director Bayley Wood at bayleywood@ourayicepark.com.
- 16 BE COURTEOUS AND RESPECT YOUR FELLOW CLIMBERS!

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ICE PARK ETIQUETTE

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Just like on the ski slopes and hiking trails, there is some basic etiquette to follow at the Ouray Ice Park (OIP) that will make your experience and that of everyone around you a better one that is fair to all.

- 1 There is no reserving of anchors and there are no unattended ropes allowed.** Basically, if you are not climbing on a rope, or using an anchor, even for a couple of minutes, you should take it down so that others can enjoy that climb. Closed climbs and areas are closed for a reason, so please respect these closures at all times. Closed areas are clearly marked with bamboo, poly rope and signage.
- 2 Please set up only the number of routes you can efficiently use. For example, a party of two should only have one rope set up at a time.** You should be moving onto a new route at least every three hours. If you are planning on leading a route, you should have the anchor at the top of that route occupied so other climbers know that you are below and climbing. If you see an anchor with no rope on it, there is a potential that someone is leading the route below it. Soloing is discouraged.
- 3 For your own safety, it is a good idea to always be alert and aware of climbers near you.** Keep your head up, and never turn your back to the ice. Belayers should always position themselves in an area where they are out of the line of fire from falling ice. While you are climbing, whenever you knock loose a piece of ice you should be yelling "ICE!" to alert all of those around you to the potential danger, and never throw the ice to one side or the other. Instead, let it drop below you.
- 4 Knocking ice down for the sake of knocking it down is frowned upon.** The ice farmers are working hard to build that ice and try and get it to connect to the rest of the climb. Another thing to keep in mind is the proximity of yourself to other climbers. If someone is way up on a route and your rope is nearby, you should probably wait until they return to the ground until you start your ascent to minimize the potential of you getting hit by their ice chunks. This is also true when a climber is down low on a route and you are in the same proximity as them, where you will be lowering from the top; wait until they get back up to avoid knocking ice down on them. Often times climbing side by side is a convenient way to address the previous two situations.
- 5 There are many different styles of climb, belaying and setting anchors. If someone is doing something different than you are used to, that doesn't mean it is wrong.** If you are very concerned for their safety either contact the Ouray Ice Park, Inc. (OIP) staff or politely have a conversation with them.
- 6 Please use the outhouses and porta-potties to relieve yourself.** If you do take a pee in the Park, kick some snow over it and do so away from the ice, anchors and any other Park infrastructure.
- 7 Smokers, please be aware of and respect those around you.** There is no weed smoking allowed in the Park.
- 8 Parking is only allowed in town, at the turn on county road 361 between the rescue barn and the upper bridge, or at the large parking area located at the turn on U.S. Highway 550 across from the Five Fingers area.** Drop-offs in any area other than the two parking lots are not allowed; the ice farmers and staff need this access. The only exception to this are for handicap access and with special permission from Park staff.

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OURAY ICE PARK

RULES & REGULATIONS: COMMERCIAL GUIDING OPERATORS

ANY OURAY ICE PARK, INC. (OIP) EMPLOYEE OR BOARD MEMBER
CAN ENFORCE THE FOLLOWING RULES WITH SUPPORT FROM THE
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- 1 Only Commercial Guiding Operators (CGOs) with an Ouray Ice Park, Inc. (OIP) CGO Permit may operate in the Ouray Ice Park.
- 2 Any one CGO may not occupy more than two routes in any one area.
- 3 While providing climbing services in the Park, and in the interest of maximizing safety and minimizing the impact to other users of the Park, permitted CGOs shall adhere to a maximum guide to client ratio of 1 to 4, and a maximum group size of 10. If any CGO desires a larger group size, CGOs must give advance notice of 1 week to OIP.
- 4 No more than four routes in the “Schoolroom” area may be occupied by any combination of CGOs (i.e. if CGO #1 has 2 routes and CGO #2 has 2 routes, then CGO #3 must climb elsewhere).
- 5 The maximum amount of time a CGO can occupy any one route is 3 hours.
- 6 No unattended fixed top-rope lines.
- 7 CGOs acknowledge that it is their responsibility to observe and enforce Ouray County Public Health regulations as well as industry best practices amid the Covid-19 pandemic. CGOs and their employees acknowledge that they will aid the staff and Board of Directors of OIP in making sure all guides and climbers are complying with these regulations and practices. If there are any further updates from either OIP or the City of Ouray regarding ice climbing operations in the Ouray Ice Park for the 2021-2022 operating season, we will send out an update to you as soon as possible.

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**OURAY
ICE PARK**

RULES & REGULATIONS: INSTITUTIONAL GROUP EVENTS

**ANY OURAY ICE PARK, INC. (OIP) EMPLOYEE OR BOARD MEMBER
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- 1** Institutional Group Events (IGEs) can have a maximum group size of 6 with a participant/instructor ratio of 4:1 or 4:2.
- 2** IGE instructors must carry their Ouray Ice Park, Inc. (OIP) IGE Permit with them at all times while in the Park.
- 3** IGE groups may not occupy more than two climbing routes at a time.
- 4** IGE groups may not leave unattended fixed top-rope lines.
- 5** No more than one group from the same IGE is allowed in any area except for South Park.
- 6** IGEs may have up to three groups from the same IGE in South Park.
- 7** IGE groups in South Park from the same IGE need to separate from each other with at least five routes.
- 8** IGEs acknowledge that it is their responsibility to observe and enforce Ouray County Public Health regulations as well as industry best practices amid the Covid-19 pandemic. IGEs and their employees acknowledge that they will aid the staff and Board of Directors of OIP in making sure all guides and climbers are complying with these regulations and practices. If there are any further updates from either OIP or the City of Ouray regarding ice climbing operations in the Ouray Ice Park for the 2021-2022 operating season, we will send out an update to you as soon as possible.

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