

Belk Climbing Tower

Zip Line Ladder Operating Procedures

The following procedures must be followed when operating the zip line ladder at Belk Scout Camp.

- (1) The ladder must always be operated by 2 people. Preferably these 2 people are adults but at a minimum they must be strong and responsible enough to follow these procedures.
- (2) Helmets must be worn at all times.
- (3) The ladder must remain on the cement pad.
- (4) The tall end of the ladder must face the gravel camp road. The steps of the ladder face the BMX track.
- (5) The ladder must be pushed all the way toward the gravel road when not in use or waiting for a participant to zip. This is the ladder's standby position. The brake below the first step of the ladder must be lowered when the ladder is stationary and before anyone climbs on the ladder. (Step on the first step of the ladder to engage the brake. Step on the release lever under the first step to release the brake.)
- (6) The participant will yell "ZIP LINE CLEAR" your response is "CLEAR" with one arm raised in the air. This signals not only that the line is clear but that you are paying attention and aware that a participant is about to zip. Make sure that you are at least 6 feet away from the zip line before you give the CLEAR response. If the line is not clear or you are not ready, yell "NO" or raise both arms in a crossed pattern.
- (7) Remain clear of the line until the participant has come to a stop. All participants will come back down the line after reaching the end poles. Some will return very quickly and will go past the cement pad.
- (8) DO NOT move the ladder until the participant has come to a full stop.**
- (9) The participant will drop a length of paracord. Use this paracord to pull the participant over the cement pad. Then move the ladder under the participant. Have the participant begin to climb the ladder while you continue to pull the ladder under him/her. You must pull the ladder until the top step of the ladder is directly under the zip line.
- (10) If one ladder operator must ascend the ladder to help the participant unhook from the zip line lanyard the 2nd ladder operator must brace the ladder. Everyone must climb down the ladder backward.
- (11) Give the participant the END of the paracord and instruct them to run back to the tower staying to the right if using the right zip line (or to the left if using the left zip line). Instruct him/her to run past the tower staying in the grass. Do not walk on the pea gravel.
- (12) Return the ladder to its standby position of the cement pad – nearest to the gravel road.

When in doubt – **STOP**. Think safety first at all times.