

Mecklenburg County Council (MCC) C.O.P.E. & Climbing Instructor Training

Course Name	MCC Climbing Instructor Level I (Natural Rock) Training Course
Course Dates	August 29 th , 2026
Course Duration	8:00 am to 6:00 pm – Bring your own lunch
Course Location	Rocky Face Mountain Recreational Area 3451 Rocky Face Church Road, Hiddenite, NC 28636
Course Fee	\$10 (pay in cash on arrival)
Course Eligibility	- Scouting America Registered Adult (at least 18 years old) - Scouting America Registered Youth (at least 16 years old and have earned the Climbing Merit Badge) - Must be a current Level I or II COPE or Climbing Instructor
Course Prerequisites & Required Reading Prior to Start of Course	- Scouting America SAFE Guarding Youth Training - Scouting America Climb On Safely ¹ - Scouting America Weather Hazards ¹ - Scouting America Annual Medical and Health Form (Parts A & B) ² - Read Chapters 23-27 in the Scouting America “Belay On” Manual ³
Course Provided Equipment	A climbing harness and helmet will be provided for use by each participant during the training course. If you have your own climbing harness and helmet, you may bring them to the weekend course and request approval for use. <i>IMPORTANT NOTE:</i> Prior to granting permission for use, all personal climbing harnesses and helmets will be subject to inspection by the course staff to ensure they meet both Scouting America’s and the manufacturer’s safety and appropriate use standards.
Course References	- Scouting America “Belay On” Manual ³ - Scouting America “Climb On Safely” Training Outline ³ - Scouting America “Climbing” Merit Badge Pamphlet - Climbing Knots including but not limited to the following: Figure 8, Figure 8 Follow Through, Water Knot, Stopper Knot, and Clove Hitch. <i>An excellent on-line resource is “Animated Knots” by Grog (www.animatedknots.com).</i>
Course Registration	Add your name to the Sign Up Genius line item for this course.
Course Questions	Contact Sasha Timkovich, MCC COPE & Climbing Program Trainer, timkovich@gmail.com 704.340.0970

Course Description

The course will cover the basics needed to help facilitate a natural rock event including site specific details such as site management and standardized rigging. The course goal is to ensure that you can safely and effectively support MCC unit climbing/rappelling activities held at MCC approved natural rock locations. Training will be conducted following the Scouting America guidelines of “Climb On Safely”, “Belay On”, National Camp Accreditation Program (NCAP) Standards, and MCC’s Climbing/Rappelling Policies and Procedures.

This Level I course is intended for Scouting America registered adults who meet the above prerequisites and are interested in learning and teaching the basics of climbing and rappelling in an outdoor, natural rock setting. Upon successful completion of the course (to include demonstrating climbing/rappelling core competencies), adults will receive their MCC “Climbing Instructor Level I (Natural Rock)” training card.

Scouting America registered youth who meet the above prerequisites are also eligible to take the Level I course. Upon successful completion (to include demonstrating climbing/rappelling core competencies), youth will receive their MCC “Climbing Instructor in Training (Natural Rock)” card.

Please note that this course will focus on MCC’s approved natural rock climbing/rappelling locations and anchor set-up/safety.



¹ Scouting America prerequisite training must be current (i.e. within 2 years) or completed before the Climbing Instructor Level I Training Card can be issued

² Scouting America Annual Medical Form (Parts A & B) must be current (i.e. within 12 months)

³ MCC COPE/Climbing Website Address: <http://www.mccscouting.org/copeclimbing>