



CAPE PENINSULA AND CEDERBERG: Sport Route Application Form

Introduction

The MCSA has come to an agreement with South African National Parks and CapeNature that will allow new sport routes to be bolted in the Cape Peninsula and Cederberg Wilderness Areas.

These areas are sensitive and important conservation areas and bolting is allowed subject to strict conditions. If these conditions are violated, it will jeopardise access for all climbers – sport climbers, traditional climbers and boulderers.

The aim of the agreement with South African National Parks and CapeNature is to develop an environmentally friendly, high quality climbing area without unduly impacting on the Wilderness areas and their special sense of place.

The application procedure is explained below. Please remember: bolting in the Peninsula and Cederberg is a privilege and not a right.

Applying

Approval for routes will be issued by a committee convened by the rock climbing sub-committee of the Cape Town section of the MCSA. In addition to the current application criteria, one of the committee members must visit the proposed route to confirm that everything is indeed in order and that it is a line worth bolting. This obviously means that the process will be slower (rock climbing sub-committee members get out to the Cederberg quite often, but not as often as they would like!), so applicants may have to wait for a few months. The upside of this is that permits will only be issued for routes of a high standard, addressing the concerns that mediocre lines were being allowed.

The procedure in a nutshell:

Stage One:

- The route must first be top-roped. Why?
You will ascertain whether:
 - 1) The rock is solid by testing with a hammer.
 - 2) The route is of good quality.
 - 3) Whether to use glue-ins or mechanicals or both
 - 4) Note what camouflaging colours will be required
- Take photographs of your proposed route, 2 photos required: 1 with a vector graphic line photoshopped (from base to lower-offs) as well as a 2nd photo of the general area. You need them for your application. Your photograph of the route must include the full wall, i.e. base to top, as well as be face on (no angular shots) and MUST have the proposed line drawn on it. If you think additional photographs or sketches will assist the committee in approving your application faster, please submit them.
- Check the published route guides (including online updates such as the ClimbZA wiki) to ensure that the chosen line isn't an existing trad line.

Stage Two:

- Complete the application form. All fields MUST be completed and all mandatory information attached. Incomplete forms will be discarded.



- Submit the application form via EMAIL to bolting application committee (bolting@mcsacapetown.co.za). The subject of the email must read: “Bolting Application for the Cape Peninsula/ Cederberg”. Any emails with other subjects will not be read.
- The approval committee will consider all complete applications within 30 days.
- The bolting application committee inform you of the outcome of your application.
- If successful, your permit will be emailed to you. You will have to sign the permit, signifying your agreement to abide by the conditions of the permit and that all information you have provided to the MCSA is accurate.

Note:

- You may only apply for a single route at a time. The committee will not consider any additional requests from a specific applicant until their previous route has been opened.
- You must bolt the route within six months of the permit being issued. If it is not bolted, the permit will no longer be valid and someone else may apply to bolt the route. Under certain circumstances, the committee may decide to extend this timeframe.
- You must open the route within one year of bolting. If this is not possible and you wish to continue to try, the committee will consider extending this period if you submit an application.

Permit Conditions

If your application is approved, you will be issued with a permit. Permission to bolt your route will be subject to the following conditions as a *minimum*:

- The permit is NOT transferable. It permits the person who applied to bolt the route and who signed the permit to bolt the route.
- You must have your permit with you when bolting the route.
- If this is your first route or you lack the high workmanship skills required then the committee will select a mentor to assist you.
- Either:

1) **Fischer** FBN II 10/10 A, M10 x 86mm bolts or

2) **Hilti** M10 HSA-R M10 20/10/-, M10 x 83mm bolts or

3) Suitable glue-in (Also known as ‘P’ Bolts or chemical anchors), supplied by recognised climbing equipment manufacturers.

4) **Hilti** ANCHOR ROD HAS-E-R M10X90/21 threaded bar.

Threaded bar bought in bulk & cut to length is **not allowed**.

5) No U-bolts allowed.

- Only stainless-steel hangers and double lower off rings supplied by recognised climbing equipment manufacturers are to be used.
- All bolts, hangers and anchors must be camouflaged (painted) so that they will blend in with the rock BEFORE you place them. (Refer to the addendum on how to camouflage/ paint your hangers and anchors)
- You may not drill if there are other non-climbers within audible range unless they give you permission to drill.
- Glue-in bolts are mandatory for the Peninsula.



Things to Consider

You've found the perfect route. Before sending your application in, think about the following:

- Is the route a good quality route (no loose rock, no moss, lichen, grass, etc.);
- Is a major new path required? South African National Parks and CapeNature have to issue permission to construct new footpaths. You will not get a permit to bolt a route that requires a new footpath unless South African National Parks and CapeNature have approved the footpath.
- How much vegetation (fynbos, trees, etc.) is there at the base of the route? You may not prune, trim, trample or break trees and shrubs. Routes where there is a lot of vegetation are less likely to be approved as they have a larger environmental impact.
- Is the base flat? Is there a rocky platform? Routes with flat rocky platforms as their base will result in fewer impacts than routes with 45° sandy slopes, and are more likely to be approved.
- Is there any rock art or are there any paintings? This can be hard to spot but have a close look. There are hefty fines for people defacing rock art and other archaeological sites (you remain responsible for this, regardless of whether the committee has approved your application).
- The rock climbing sub-committee has to do a site visit at the proposed area and route. Liaise with them so that you can accompany them on the site visit. Certain popular and well-known crags where climbing is already established may not require a site visit but this is purely at the discretion of the rock climbing sub-committee.

LASTLY:

The committee will approve routes based on the information you supply. If this is inaccurate and / or you are dishonest, the consequences will rest with you. These include but are not limited to hefty fines in terms of several different pieces of legislation (the National Heritage Resources Act and the National Environmental Management Act amongst others). Furthermore, you will not be allowed to open further routes and the climbing community will be informed of any irresponsible action.

Also: Climbing is an inherently dangerous activity and the Mountain Club of South Africa does not accept any responsibility for any accidents or injuries to anyone climbing routes approved by this committee.



Addendum A: Acceptable mechanical Bolts & hangers

The locally manufactured bolt below (note double sleeve and no marking on head of bolt) is BANNED because they break. The below par material, quality assurance and manufacturing process result in Stress Corrosion Cracking.



The following bolts are acceptable (Note the single sleeve and they will have a **letter stamp** on the head of the bolt):



FISCHER Bolt anchor FBN II:



Type: FBN II 10/10 A4

Part # (Art.-No.): 507558

Thread x Anchor length: M10 x 86mm

Letter code imprint/ stamp on head: B

Material: Stainless Steel 316



HILTI expansion anchor HSA-R:



Type: Std stud anchor HSA-R M10 20/10/-

Part/ Item # 2004202

Thread x Anchor length: M10 x 83mm

Letter code imprint/ stamp on head: w

Material: Stainless Steel 316

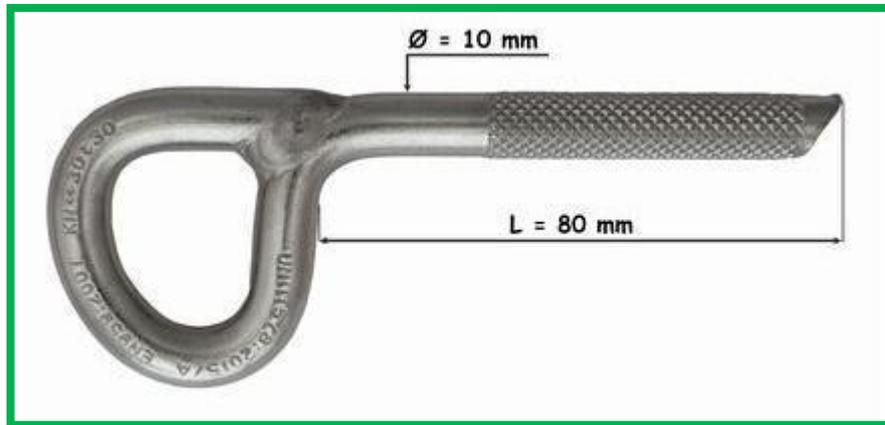
HANGERS:



Addendum B: Acceptable glue-in/ chemical Bolts



**Raumer anchor in stainless steel Ø10x80mm (or similar equivalent) with FISCHER V 360 S
CHEM MORTAR or HILTI equivalent glue**



Addendum C: Acceptable glue-in/ chemical threaded bar

Threaded bar bought in bulk & cut to length is not allowed.

HILTI ANCHOR ROD HAS-E-R

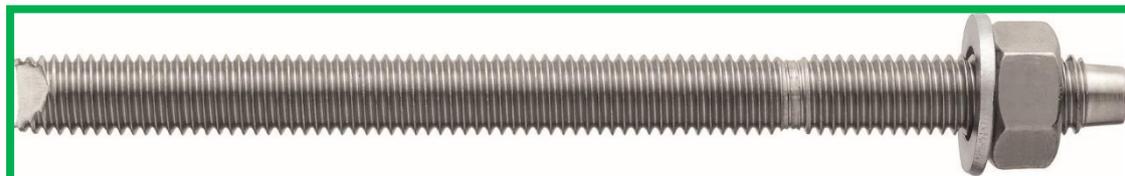
Standard anchor rod (A4 SS) for use with epoxy/ glue

Type: ANCHOR ROD HAS-E-R M10X90/21

Part/ Item # 333122

Thread x Anchor length: M10 x 130mm

Material: Stainless Steel 316





Addendum D: Camouflaging/ Painting Hangers

A dull finish to all hardware is preferable. When hardware is painted in order to render it less conspicuous, this should be done BEFORE placement, so as to avoid painting the surrounding rock. Brightly coloured hardware is not acceptable.

Painting hangers:

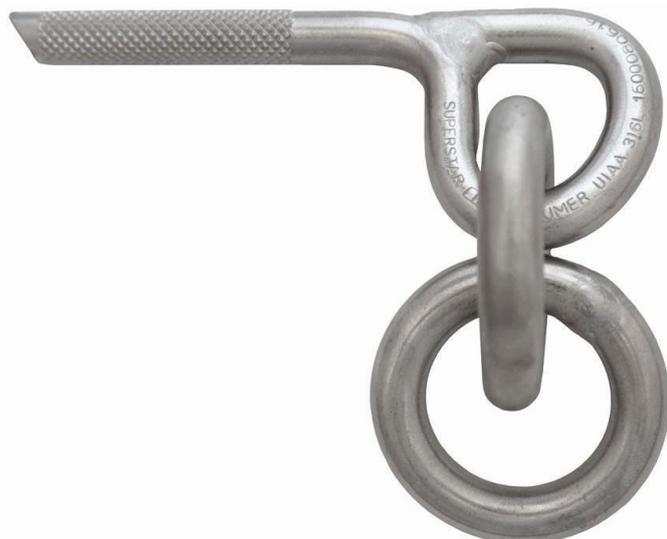
Remove all grease and oil from the surface. An easy way is to stick them all in a dishwasher and run it. Alternatives are soapy water, acetone, benzene, isopropyl alcohol.

Spread your hardware out on some old newspapers or string them up on coat hangers in a dry, well-ventilated location. An open garage works great. Warming the spray cans in a pan of hot (55° C) tap water for 10 minutes before using will make the spraying go much smoother. Spray the hangers and anchors with two to three coats of primer -- Four if you are not going to topcoat. Lower-offs may take an extra coat to get in all the nooks and crannies.

Allow hangers to dry at least 24 hours between coats. Drying times go up dramatically below 15° C. Check the label. Apply three layers of topcoat. Allow them to dry at least 24 hours between coats. After the final coat, let the hangers cure for at least three days before using them; a week is better. The longer you let the hangers cure, the less likely the paint will chip off.

Addendum E: Lower Offs

Only Double **RINGS** are to be used as lower-offs. 1) The rings allow climbers to put a bight through the rings which is the safest way to clean. 2) There is less wear on the rope 3) less wear on rope contact point as rings revolve. 4) Lastly less chance of rust settling in due to constant movement of the rings.





Addendum F: Good, safe bolting practises

Please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Bolt appropriately and safely above ledges (no run-outs).
- Even if the line is easy, remember that a beginner might be leading it at their limit, so don't run it out.
- A good guideline for bolt spacing is:
Bolt-1: 2.8m; Bolt-2: 0.9m; Bolt-3: 1.4m; Bolt-4: 1.9m; Bolt-5: 2.7m; Bolt-6: 2-->3m (use discretion above ledges/ slab/ protrusions, calculate length and position of fall and bolt accordingly)
- Do not end your route at the top of the crag just for the sake of making a long route. If the top section of climbing is not good or, worse, causes rope drag or damage due to running over edges, rather place the lower-offs lower down. A longer line is not necessarily a better line.
- If you are tall, consider shorter people when deciding where to place the bolts.
- Before placing a bolt, tap the rock with a hammer to ensure that the rock is solid.
- Do not place bolts close to edges or cracks. The Fischer handbook states that bolts should be a minimum of 1.5 x the anchor depth from an edge or crack. ARF recommends at least 120mm.
- In line with above criteria, lower-offs to be spaced a minimum of 240mm apart, this is so the pull out cones do not intersect. They can be staggered or horizontal
- Drill your hole the full length of the bolt (mechanical) this ensures that if there is a problem (or when time to ARF) you can just tap the remainder of the bolt into the hole without having to cut it off.
- Countersink glue-in/ chemical bolts.
- No more than 15mm of visible thread is allowed on a mechanical anchor/ bolt.
- If the hole drills really quickly, that means rock is soft and a glue-in is required.

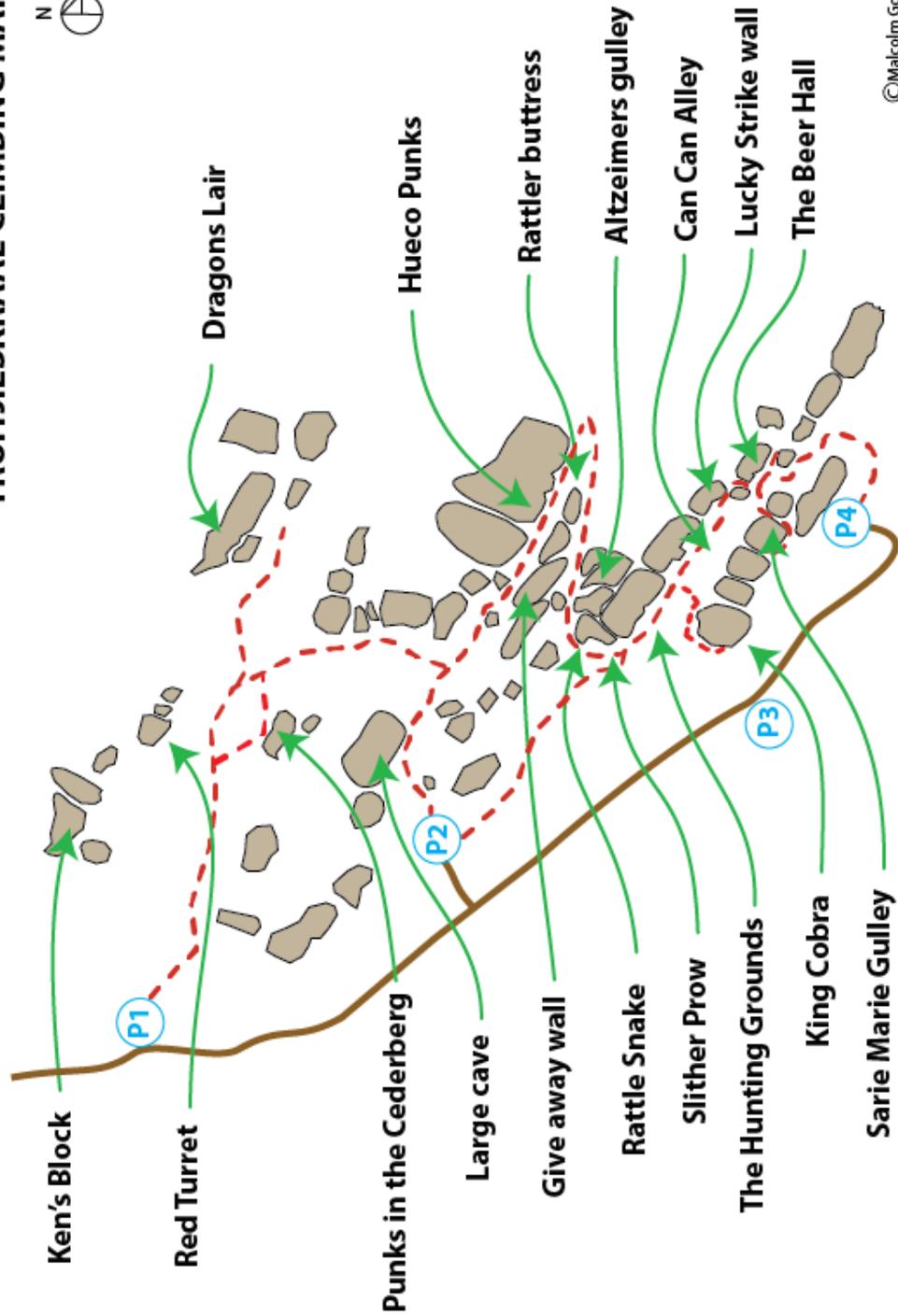
Addendum G: Workmanship

- All work is to be carried out to a high level.
- Do not let epoxy/ glue spill onto the route/ surrounding area.



Addendum H: Location

TRUITJIESKRAAL CLIMBING MAP



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CAPE PENINSULA AND CEDERBERG: New Sport Routes Application Form and Checklist

Applicants Details

Name: _____ Email: _____
 Contact No: _____

Route Details

Area / location: _____ GPS Co-ordinates (preferable): _____
 Grade (approx): _____ Length: _____ Approx number of bolts: _____

Which bolts are to be used (Glue-in, mechanical or both; Hilti or Fischer)

Has the route been top-roped? (Mandatory) _____ Proposed name (not essential): _____

Do you declare you have read the addendums A-F carefully? _____ Do you declare you will use safe and correct bolting practices? _____

Please attach a photograph of the route with the proposed line – from base to lower-offs – marked on it, and a photograph of the general area around the climb. Additional photographs or sketches may be attached to clarify the answers to the questions below.

Environmental Details

| | Yes | No | Description / comment |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Paths | | | |
| Is there an existing clear path to the general climbing area? If yes, please provide a brief description. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Is there an existing clear path to the base of the climb itself? If yes, please provide a brief description. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| If no to either of the above, please describe the proposed access route and attach a map. | | | |
| Base of the route | | | |
| • Is there any vegetation at the base of the climb or on the route (including lichen)? If yes please describe. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Does it have a rock platform? If not a rock platform, what is the nature of the base and how stable is the base? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| • Is there at least 2m of flat ground at the base of the climb? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |



Archaeology and art

Is there any rock art in the vicinity of the route? If yes, what is the distance between them and your line?

Route equipping (bolting)

- Have your previous bolted routes bolts & hangers, all been camouflaged?
- Have you checked that your proposed new route is not over an existing traditional route?
- Do you declare that you will ensure safe and correct bolting practices are applied and that you, ultimately, take responsibility for the route you are bolting?

Yes

No

Description/ comment

Location

- Is your route within the existing climbing area? If yes please print out map (Addendum H), mark, scan and add to your application. If no, please describe the proposed area and attach your own map.

Yes

No

Description/ comment

Additional Comments: