

JA Climbing Team 2018 – 2019

Meet the Coaches and Volunteers

Tyler Bevington - Head coach. Mr. Bevington teaches Spanish at JA and is excited to return for his sixth year coaching the Climbing Team. Mr. Bevington started climbing his sophomore year of college at CSU in Ft. Collins. There he discovered the smooth yet grippy sandstone boulders at Horsetooth Reservoir and fell in love with the peace climbing brought him. Nowadays, he mainly climbs the numerous sport routes found in Clear Creek Canyon. He's also climbed in Spain and this past summer he even had the chance to climb at Railay Beach, a world-famous climbing spot on the Andaman Coast in Thailand.

Email: tbevington@jajags.com (room 138)

Phone: 303-877-5937

Maxine Morris - Assistant Coach. Ms. Morris teaches Chemistry at JA. This will be her first full season with the climbing team. Ms. Morris started climbing 4 years ago on a trip to Moab, Utah with some friends from graduate school. Climbing is now one of her favorite things to do on her free time, both in the gym and outside. In the past year she has started to take her climbing from sport to trad. She's been spending time learning to crack climb in places like Indian Creek, Vedauwoo, and Rocky Mountain National Park. Ms. Morris is trained as a dancer as well and loves to stretch and practice balance, which informs her climbing and coaching in a unique way!

Email: mmorris@jajags.com

John and Laura Prather – John is our Junior High coach. Started climbing about three years ago when his son Jay started climbing as a junior at JA. His daughter Marian is also on the team for the third year in a row – both competed in state finals and lettered last year. John will be a point person for junior high climbers at practice but also available to help out high school climbers when possible. Laura has taken over as our new comp coordinator this year!

Email: johnprather@q.com, lprather@q.com

Phone: 303-330-6423

Joni Jackson-Malavasi – Parent Volunteer. She will be helping on the 'logistics side' of things. Joni has helped the team with donations of food (see Burrito Thursdays) and gear. If you ever have questions about the Climbing Team, please feel free to contact her. This is her 8th year with the team and she has a son on the team: Jonathan (10th grade).

Email: joni.jackson@yahoo.com

Phone: 720-998-1454

How to join the team:

1. Fill out the [Climber Info Form](#) (Google Form)
2. Pay the \$50 [school fee](#)
3. Fill out all JA forms and waivers (distributed at info meeting or available at jaclimbing.weebly.com)
4. Climbers who plan to compete: [Register](#) with the ASCL
5. Fill out [Rock'n & Jam'n Waiver Form](#) if you are new or haven't done so in the past year

Visit us at jaclimbing.weebly.com

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Important Dates

- **All forms and payment due:** Oct. 15th
- **Mandatory new climber orientation days:** Oct. 16 and 18th
- **1st Official Practice:** Oct 23rd
- **Last practice:** Feb 21st
- **State Finals (HS Only):** Feb 23rd at **Übergrippen Indoor Climbing Crag**

JA Fees

Jefferson Academy charges fees for sports, clubs and activities. The fee for all climbers is **\$50**. Fees go toward a t-shirt, and some snacks at comps. A portion of the fees also go to our newly formed non-profit that governs our league - the **American Scholastic Climbing League** or ASCL. The ASCL oversees the new online scoring system that we will be implementing this year.

Fees do not include gym membership or comps. High school climbers who want to compete will be responsible for paying for their own comps, which typically cost around \$15 – 25 each. The fee can be paid online through the JA Secondary website (Jeffco Connect) or to Joan Larson by **Oct 16th**.

Free Trial: For students how are new to climbing and unsure if they want to join the team, they can also try it out for free during our orientation days (Oct. 16 - 18th). They can rent shoes and harness at the gym (\$10) but waivers must still be filled out prior to participation.

Forms, Waivers and Carpooling

Please be sure to fill out all forms that apply to you. See explanations below:

- **Parents:** please fill out the info form on the homepage of the JA Climbing website
- **All participants** must fill out the [student forms](#)
- **Parent volunteers** must fill out the [volunteer release form](#)
- Parent **and** student drivers must also fill out the [driver forms](#)
- Students who plan to ride with another parent or student must also fill out the [driver forms](#)
- Parents who plan to help carpool must stop by the office to have Angie Murray run a quick check on your license
- If you have filled out a waiver for Rock'n & Jam'n in the past year, it should still be current. If you are new to the gym you can fill it out online at <http://climbthebest.com/>

As some climbers may not be old enough yet to drive to practice, carpooling is strongly encouraged to help out busy parents. It is parents / students' responsibility to arrange rides to and from practice.

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Gym Fees / Memberships

Rock'n & Jam'n has a discounted price of \$10 / visit for JA students only. Based on the amount that climbers plan to use the gym outside of the regular practice schedule, they can purchase:

- Day use: \$10 for JA students
- Gear package (shoes and harness): \$10 per visit
- Punch cards for 10 - 30 visits: \$10 / visit
- Monthly unlimited membership (4 month minimum): \$84 / month

Please see the Rock'n & Jam'n pricing website at <https://climbthebest.com/pricing/> for more info on pricing to determine what is the best option for you.

Gear

Although climbing can be a fairly expensive sport, minimal gear is needed to get started. The most essential piece of equipment is a pair of climbing shoes, which range from about \$60 – 150 for a new pair. Sometimes you can find used or clearance shoes at places like Wilderness Exchange in Denver. REI also has member garage sales a few times a year, where they sell used items that were returned.

After a pair of shoes, a chalk bag and chalk are handy to keep climbers' hands from getting sweaty and slipping off of holds. This is fairly inexpensive and should cost around \$20. With shoes and a chalk bag, climbers will have everything they need for bouldering, which is climbing in its simplest form (no ropes, below 10 – 12 ft in height). Climbers that want to rope climb will need a harness and a belay device, which start around \$60 and can go all the way up to \$200 for top-of-the-line equipment (not necessary).

All of these items can also be rented at the gym if climbers want to try it out first.

Practices

Location:

Rock'n & Jam'n 1
9499C N. Washington St.
Thornton, CO 80229
303-254-4344

Practice days: Tue / Thu from 3:45 – 5:30 pm

Note: Please be aware that coaches will leave practice at 5:30 pm. If you need to coordinate a ride for your child, please get in touch with the other parents involved with the club. It is parents / students' responsibility to arrange rides to and from practice.

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Competitions

Comps are an optional aspect of the team, but are strongly encouraged to push climbers to be stronger, better climbers. While geared high school climbers, we may allow junior high climbers to compete at select competitions. Only high school scores are counted toward the state finals competition in February. Gyms typically set around 20 different climbing routes of varying difficulty. Points are awarded based on the top 5 most difficult routes that an individual is able to climb without falling. The top three boys and top three girls are recognized based on their overall points. Sometimes points are deducted for falls and / or points are awarded for “flashing” a route (completing it on the first try without falls or weighting the rope). The comp schedule will be posted on the Climbing Team website but below are the dates we have set thus far:

Jan 20th: EVO Rock+Fitness (Louisville)

Jan 26th: Rock’n & Jam’n 1 (Thornton)

More comps will be announced soon!

About our league

Our league is made up of over 50 teams and hundreds of athletes from around the state. For close to 15 years our league has grown organically and hosted a State Finals competition in February. In order to better manage our ever-growing league, we formed the **ASCL (American Scholastic Climbing League)** - a 501(c) nonprofit (pending). This step will enable us to streamline rules and scoring so all teams are on the same page when we meet at State Finals. We also hope to collaborate with other states that have climbing leagues and eventually host a national championship competition. The league is divided into 4 regions: SoCo, Western Slope, SE Denver, and NW Denver. We are part of the **NW Denver** region. All of our regular season comps are against other teams in our region. To find out more about our league, visit www.climbtheleague.org.

State Finals Competition

The State Finals Competition occurs at the end of February. The top high school climbers are invited based on their performance at comps throughout the season. Climbers must compete in at least **half** of our regular-season comps to be eligible to compete at State Finals.

Lettering in Climbing

High school students can earn a varsity letter in climbing. These are the requirements:

- Must climb in at least 3 regular season competitions (we usually have 5-6)
- Must receive an invite for State Finals AND compete
- Must maintain at least a 3.2 GPA throughout the climbing season (Nov - Feb). Mrs. Dejarlis will run weekly eligibility for all HS students of the climbing team. Students who have below the required GPA will be ineligible to compete until they bring their grade back up.
- Must attend official practices on a regular basis and inform coaches when they are not able to attend
- In general, climbers should have outstanding behavior at school as well as at practice, competitions, and team events

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Other Activities

Burrito Thursdays: On the 1st Thursday of every month immediately following climbing practice, we all meet to scarf burritos at the Chipotle on 92nd and Washington in Thornton (right by Rock'n & Jam'n).

Other activities: Outside of practice and comps, we typically plan other fun, optional activities for the team. Every year we try to organize an outdoor climbing trip so that our climbers can experience the unparalleled feeling of climbing on real rock. The money that we raise through our fundraisers goes towards covering or offsetting the costs of these activities.

Social Media

- Please check the team website regularly at jaclimbing.weebly.com for announcements on the home page
- For those who use Instagram, please use the hashtag **#JAClimbing** to share pictures from comps and practices
- We also have Shutterfly - a photo sharing site that everyone can use to upload photos: jaclimbingteam.shutterfly.com
- **Note about the FERPA Opt-out list:** If you choose to opt-out of having your child appear in 3rd party publications, they will not be photographed at comps or at practices. During group photos, they will be responsible for stepping out of the picture so that it can still be posted to social media.

SEND IT!