

Dry tooling at Calshot

What is Dry tooling?

Dry tooling in essence is the use of climbing axes and crampons to get to the top of a rock face that would normally have been un-climbable and which has no snow or ice on it. The reason for its inception was to allow climbers to continue training when the ice routes had thawed out in the spring and provide them with good practice until the next winter season.

Techniques such as 'Stein pulls', 'short tooling' and figures of 'four' and 'nine' are but some of the ways that ground is ascended or traversed. Climbing leash-less is the order of the day, which gives the ability to swap tools from hand to hand (essential on many moves), let go to 'shake out', etc.

Dry tooling as a sport indoors is a fun way to try or practice the skills and movements essential for when you go outside and allow you to bring a new aspect to your climbing. Indoors Axes are used with the adze or hammer removed or covered and rock or approach type shoes are used instead of big boots and crampons.

Calshot Dry Tooling Event

April 23rd & 24th 2010

This dedicated Dry tooling event is following on from the successful Dry Tooling tasters we ran at our Climbing Festival in November. We will have a series of dry tooling routes on the main overhang the easy walls facing the entrance (routes 50-65 aprox) and on the blue traverse walls. These will be used for Workshops, Tasters and a Competition. The remainder of the wall will be open as usual.

No Previous experience is necessary and participants can chose which option(s) are best for them. Axes will be supplied if needed although you are welcome to use your own if you have them. The cost for each option also includes a Event T-Shirt (pre-booked only) and entry to the wall. Places will be limited so pre-booking is recommended and is required for the workshops.

Workshops

£25 includes entry to the competition as well. Must be pre-booked.

Two hours of expert tuition for all levels of climber. No previous dry tooling experience necessary as they are open to all levels of climber providing you are a competent belayer *. Techniques such as Stein Pulls, Short tooling,, Figures of Four and Nine will be covered. Pre booking of these sessions is required.

Tasters sessions

£12 pre booked £17 on the day

A chance to have a go at indoor dry tooling on 'easy' bottom roped climbs set up especially for the tasters. No previous dry tooling experience necessary as they are open to all levels of climber providing you are a competent belayer*. These 1½ hour sessions include an induction but no coaching is included. Pre-booking is recommended (and cheaper)

Competition

£15 pre booked £20 on the day

An alternative to the taster sessions for those wanting a bit more of a challenge. Again no previous experience is necessary as this is open to all levels of climber providing you are a competent belayer*. You can warm up on the taster session routes before attempting the 10 problems & routes set for the competition these will vary in difficulty from 'fairly easy' to 'Hard'. All of the routes will be bottom roped.

The competition is a fun event which will be peer –scored. Highest score wins with spot prizes also available during the day.

An induction is provided but no coaching is included. Pre-booking is recommended (and cheaper)

Equipment

Equipment is available if required. However you may bring your own tools but must have the adze/hammer removed/covered and be leashless. Helmets, gloves and face/eye protection must be worn. Rock or approach shoes should be worn. Routes will have in-situ ropes and will be bottom roped by a fellow dry tooler.

Non-members/ Competent belayers *

Participants in the workshops, tasters and Competition must either be current members of the climbing wall or will need to demonstrate that they can put their harnesses on correctly, tie on to the end of the rope and belay another climber safely. This assessment will normally be done as part of the induction.

Under 18's

Minimum age for workshops, tasters and the competition is 10. Under 18's must either be 16-17 year old members or be accompanied by an adult who is a member or competent belayer

Time Table

Friday 23rd April

Work shop 6-8pm

Taster 6.30-8pm

Taster 8-9.30pm

Saturday 24th April

Workshop 10-12am

Taster 10-11.30am

Taster routes open to competitors for practice/warm up 11.30am- 1.30pm

Competition 12-6pm

Taster 1.30-3pm

Taster 3-4.30pm

Taster 4.30-6pm

Prize giving 6pm