

Guidelines on Appropriate Behavior at Skate Facilities



There are a host of unwritten or informal rules which govern skateparks. This is called “skatepark etiquette”. Skatepark etiquette is in place not only for fairness, but for safety. Below is a list of some common issues / things to be aware of if you are new to visiting skateparks. This list is not definitive however it is designed to provide guidance to new skaters and parents, and a refresher to return skaters.

It’s a skatepark, not a playground

Not a free day care – children must be supervised. Ensure that your child is aware of the etiquette rules and adheres to them. They keep everyone safe and ensures everyone gets to use the park.

Flow

Flow refers to the directions people go in a park. Each park has a flow or “lines” comparable to traffic. If you’re new to a park, take a few minutes to watch how people are using it so you can learn the flow. Go with the flow, not against it!

Beginners

Don’t just drop a new skater off by themselves at a skatepark. You can hang out as well. As an adult it can be easier to observe the flow the park and provide suggestions to your skater. For beginners, we suggest going to the skatepark at non-peak hours. That means go early and avoid going in the afternoons– especially on weekends. Heavy afternoon sessions at the skatepark can be intimidating, especially if your child is just learning. In general if your skater is just learning, have them stay closer to the sides of the park. Center areas can look wide open, but are often right in the middle of popular lines (paths) that most advance skaters may be flying through at any moment.

It’s even better if your child can learn how to push and balance before going to the skatepark.

If you’re an experienced skater, give beginners extra room and time. Respect them because we were all beginners at one point. And if their parents are around, maybe give them some advice, too, on how their kid can safely ride the park with everyone else.

Sitting

Don’t sit in areas that can be used for skating. This includes ledges, stairs, rails, and coping. The park has designated spectator seating. Standing on the edge of the bowl or half-pipe is also a big no-no. If you’re unsure, watch the “flow” or ask somebody if it’s okay to sit in a certain spot.

No Snaking

A big part of skate park etiquette is being aware of what everyone around you is doing. “Snaking” means going when it’s not your turn. Everyone needs to wait their turn at a skatepark. Watch the other skaters before you jump in, and wait your turn. Don’t snake!





“Board!”

If your board shoots out or away from you, you should yell “Board!” as a courtesy to other users.

No Marathon Runs

This is especially common among the little kids and scooters. A marathon run is where someone just keeps going and going without taking any breaks. This is particularly problematic when skating a bowl or ramp where there is typically only one user at a time. Keep runs short and when you bail, get out of the way so the next person can skate.

Scooters

Scootering is easy to do right away. Skateboarding is not. Learn the traffic patterns. Do not ride against the flow of other riders and don't hang scooters over coping.

Bikes

Smooth tire bikes (BMX, jump) scooters, inline skates are permitted. However, no muddy tires. Dirt and little pebbles are treacherous to skateboard wheels.

Mountain bikes are not permitted. There are many kilometres of trails to ride around Revelstoke. While the skate park looks fun to ride, your bike brings dirt and gravel – safety hazards for skaters. Happy riding on the trails!

All Users

Everyone has an equal right to be in the park whether it's Skateboards, BMX, inline skates, or scooters. Please be courteous of other users and treat them with the same respect you'd expect.

Respect The Park & Neighbourhood

You should be proud of your local skatepark, so do your bit to make sure it looks good. Put your garbage in the bins provided and absolutely no tagging / graffiti.

The Skatepark is located in a neighbourhood – be respectful of the neighbours – no foul language or loud music.

Don't Be Afraid To Apologize

If you slip up and break one of the rules above, don't be afraid to apologize to people when you realize it. If you get plowed over because you were in the way, dust yourself off, make sure the other rider is all right, and tell him you are sorry for not looking out. A simple apology goes a long way to fanning the flames of a hot head.

Have fun!

The most important part of being in the skatepark is to have fun and enjoy yourself. It doesn't matter about how good you are as long as you have fun! The more you practice the better you will be and there is no substitute for practice.

