

**Contact:**

Madeline Pickering  
Public Relations Director  
madeline@paradoxsports.org

**Address:**

1911 11<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 201  
Boulder, CO 80302  
(720) 638-5593

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Paradox Sports Brings Adaptive Climbing to Shawangunk Ridge**

**Minnewaska State Park, NY** (Sep. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014) – On Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>, 25 disabled participants and volunteers will use cutting-edge adaptive climbing techniques to rock climb at Shawangunk Ridge, or “the Gunks”, in [Minnewaska State Park](#) in New York. Participants with amputations, blindness, or even paraplegia will overcome their perceived disabilities to find ways to accommodate their bodies to climb. The event is hosted by Paradox Sports, a non-profit organization committed to building adaptive sport communities across the country. This is the third year Paradox Sports is hosting a climbing event in the Gunks.

The weekend of climbing, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>, will kick off on Friday night at 8:00 pm with a celebration of adaptive climbing at [Rock and Snow](#), local gear shop and Paradox Sports supporter. The night will include presentations and fundraising festivities and is open to community members. Climbing will begin Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> at Peterskill Climbing Area and continue on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>. The participants will be supported by professional guides and volunteers, including cadets from West Point U.S. Military Academy.

Paradox Sports is a leader in the techniques needed for adaptive climbing. The organization has been running adaptive climbing trips and clubs since its foundation in 2007. Specialized gear, like prosthetic-specific footwear and the ARC Harness for seated climbing, are often hard to access for climbers. Paradox provides that gear, along with safety and climbing technique instruction.

In 2014, Paradox Sports introduced the first-ever Adaptive Climbing Handbook, which outlines the skills and gear used during events like this

one. The handbook, along with hands-on training, is part of an Adaptive Climbing Curriculum that the organization plans to take around the nation in 2015 to create a network of adaptive climbing clubs.

### **Paradox Sports**

Paradox Sports is a Colorado-based non-profit founded in 2007 by Tim O'Neill and D.J. Skelton to improve people's lives by creating physical adaptive sport communities built to inspire. Focusing on open-source curriculums, adaptive trips, and community building, the organization is breaking down barriers for veterans and people with paraplegia, amputated limbs, and other disabilities to help them climb, hike, and enjoy the outdoors. For more information, visit [paradoxsports.org](http://paradoxsports.org).

END

###