



International Federation of
Sport Climbing

INTERNATIONAL CLIMBING COMPETITIONS

Rules 2007

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1 INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SPORT CLIMBING

1.1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 The International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) is the International Federation responsible for the administration and development of all international aspects of the sport of climbing.
- 1.1.2 The IFSC maintains authority in respect to all international climbing competitions as defined in Section 1.3 below. As such, it is responsible for:
- Controlling all technical and other aspects of the sport;
 - Receiving applications from member federations to organise international competitions;
 - Approving those applications that it deems in the interest of the sport and which it assesses as being in accordance with the IFSC rules and regulations governing such competitions.

All competitions approved by the IFSC shall at all times be organised, undertaken and executed in strict accordance with the rules and regulations governing such competitions.

- 1.1.3 The organisational structure of the IFSC is described in detail in its Statutes and Bylaws.

1.2 EXECUTIVE TASKS

- 1.2.1 For matters concerning the organisation of international climbing competitions, the tasks of the IFSC are as follows:
- Receipt of all applications to organise a competition approved by the IFSC;
 - Dealing with all enquiries - both of a general nature and with respect to approved competitions;
 - Issuing all information regarding competitions approved by the IFSC;
 - In particular, issuing all competition information and application forms to the member federations concerning each competition. Every member federation wishing to register competitors for a competition must send a copy of their application form to both the IFSC and the member federation responsible for organising the competition. All competitors and the associated team officials shall be registered by their member federation within the indicated deadlines, normally not less than 30 days before the start date of the competition;
 - Issuing IFSC rules, regulations and other notices;
 - Official publication of all competition results, the World Cup Rankings, and the World Ranking (WR), the Combined Rankings and the National Team Rankings and other official information;
 - Appointment of all IFSC officials to approved competitions

1.3 COMPETITIONS

- 1.3.1 Only the members of the IFSC, or organisations specifically recognised by the IFSC, shall be eligible to apply to organise a competition approved by the IFSC.
- 1.3.2 Only IFSC members shall be eligible to apply to enter their competitors in such competitions.
- 1.3.3 Among the international climbing competitions requiring the specific approval of the IFSC are the following:
- The World Cup series;
 - World Championships;
 - Continental Championships;
 - World and Continental Youth Championships;
 - Continental Youth series and competitions;
 - International events;
 - Regional competitions.
 - Promotional events;

1.4 IFSC COMPETITION OFFICIALS

1.4.1 The IFSC formally appoints the following officials to each competition approved by the IFSC:

a) Jury President

The Jury President has overall authority within the competition area, which is defined as the area covering the isolation zone, the call zone and the competition zone, the latter including the climbing wall(s), the area immediately in front of and next to the climbing wall(s), and any other area assigned specifically for the safe and fair conduct of a competition, such as additional areas needed for video recording or playback. This authority extends to covering the activities of the media and all persons nominated by the organiser. The overall authority of the Jury President covers all aspects of the running of the competition. The Jury President presides over all meetings of IFSC officials and over organisation and technical meetings with the competition organisers, team officials and competitors. Although the Jury President does not normally have a judging role, he/she may at any time elect to carry out any judging task generally assigned to the IFSC Judge or other judges should he/she deem that necessary. The Jury President is responsible for briefing all officiating National Judges on the application of the IFSC Rules before the start of a competition. The Jury President is required to submit a detailed report to the IFSC on the competition and on each Aspirant Judge undergoing the final phase of his/her training programme.

b) IFSC Judge

The IFSC Judge is an International Judge appointed by the IFSC to assist the Jury President in undertaking all aspects of judging a competition. Additional IFSC Judges may be appointed. The IFSC may also appoint Aspirant Judges who undergo the final, practical phase of their training programme by assisting the IFSC Judge in his/her judging duties. The IFSC Judge is responsible for announcing the publication of starting and result lists, appeals, and any important changes with regard to the competition programme.

The IFSC Judge is assisted in his/her judging by National Judges (Route Judges or Boulder Judges) appointed by the competition organiser or the member federation. The main role of the National Judges is to judge the performance of the competitors on routes and boulders respectively. National Judges shall be persons holding an international or a national licence. They shall be fully informed of the technical rules and regulations governing competitions approved by the IFSC, and shall be instructed in their duties by, and work under the direction of, the IFSC Judge.

c) Chief Routesetter

The Chief Routesetter consults with the members of the routesetting team appointed by the organiser prior to the event to plan and co-ordinate all matters concerning the route setting and route maintenance, including the design of each route or boulder; the installation of holds, protection points and other equipment in accordance with IFSC regulations; repair and cleaning of routes and boulders; and the design, installation and maintenance of warm-up facilities. He/she is responsible for checking the technical standard and safety of each route or boulder, advises the Jury President on all technical matters within the competition area, assists in compiling the route sketch of lead routes, and advises the judges on the positioning of video cameras and the maximum time allowed for each route. The Chief Routesetter is required to submit a report to the IFSC on the competition and a report on each Aspirant Chief Routesetter undergoing the final phase of his/her training programme.

d) IFSC Delegate

The IFSC Delegate deals with all IFSC-related organisational matters during the running of the competition. He/she has the authority to ensure that the facilities and services provided by the competition organiser (such as registration of competitors and others; height measurement and results service; and medical, media and other facilities) are in accordance with IFSC Regulations. The IFSC Delegate has the right to attend all meetings with the competition organisers, and takes part, in an advisory capacity, in all meetings of the Competition Jury. In the absence of the Jury President and before his/her arrival at a competition, the IFSC Delegate acts on his/her behalf in respect to the organisation of the competition within the competition area. Under exceptional circumstances the IFSC Delegate has the authority to decide to apply emergency measures, for instance an adjustment of the competition format. These measures are specified separately by the IFSC. He/she shall submit a detailed report on the competition to the IFSC.

The Jury President, the IFSC Judge(s), the Chief Routesetter and the IFSC Delegate together constitute the Competition Jury.

2 MEMBER FEDERATIONS

2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 The IFSC fully respects the autonomy of its member federations in respect to their national activities.

2.2 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBER FEDERATIONS AND TEAM MEMBERS

2.2.1 It is the obligation of member federations, all competition organisers and those associated with a competition approved by the IFSC, whether working directly with the IFSC or in association with a member federation or with a competition organiser, to:

- a) Unconditionally accept that the promotion, development and administration of the sport of international competition climbing are under the exclusive control of the IFSC;
- b) Ensure that no financial or other agreement shall be entered into with an organisation (e.g. television, competition sponsors, etc.), which may conflict with the IFSC's own agreements, without written approval of the IFSC;
- c) At all times seek the advice and agreement of the IFSC in respect to any decision which might conflict with the best interest of the sport.

2.2.2 It is the responsibility of the member federations of the IFSC to:

- a) Administer, promote and actively develop the sport in their country; and firmly uphold the principles of the Olympic Charter, the IOC Medical Code, and the IFSC rules and regulations governing the sport of international competition climbing;
- b) Understand and abide by the rules and regulations of the sport and promote, and ensure that their competitors and officials observe the principles of good sportsmanship;
- c) Constantly and actively work against the use of drugs or other prohibited substances by their competitors and officials, and follow all rules and guidelines in order to guarantee out-of-competitions tests, when requested;
- d) Prohibit any methods or practices that might involve risks to the health or physical development of their competitors;
- e) Undertake to set them firmly against any temptation to manipulate the rules and regulations to the advantage of their competitors and team officials;
- f) Ensure that their competitors and officials treat all other competitors, officials and others involved in the practice of the sport with full and due respect at all times, both during competitions and in the course of any non-competition activity.

2.2.3 It is the responsibility of all team officials and competitors to ensure that they are fully informed of all details relating to a competition.

2.3 ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER A TEAM

2.3.1 Each member federation of the IFSC shall be eligible to enter a team of male and female competitors subject to the following conditions:

- a) That they are in compliance with the regulations governing the nomination and registration of competitors;
- b) That they are not in default of any regulation governing financial obligations to the IFSC;
- c) That they are not in default of any decision, or subsequent required action, in respect to a decision under IFSC's disciplinary procedures;
- d) That all competitors registered hold an international competition licence, or an application for such licence has been received by the IFSC.

2.3.2 If a country has more than one federation that are members of the IFSC, the member federations concerned shall only be eligible to enter one nationally agreed team of male and female competitors, within the permitted quota to represent this country.

2.4 TEAM QUOTAS

- 2.4.1 Team quotas for competitors are specified under the particular type of competition, e.g. the World Cup, World Championships etc.
- 2.4.2 Each member federation shall be permitted to register up to a maximum of five (5) team officials who shall be granted free entry into the competition venue. These officials shall be named on the registration form and specifically nominated for one of the following roles:
- a) One (1) team manager;
 - b) Two (2) team coaches;
 - c) Two (2) qualified medical or para-medical personnel.

Team officials shall be permitted to enter and leave the isolation zone under the same conditions as those which apply to competitors.

2.5 REGISTRATION OF COMPETITORS

- 2.5.1 Deadlines for the registration of competitors stated in the competition information sheets published by the IFSC shall be respected by each member federation.
- 2.5.2 Registrations after the deadline are subject to an extra fee.
- 2.5.3 Registration fees for registered competitors who do not take part in the event concerned will be charged to the member federation unless the IFSC has been informed earlier than 4 days prior to the first day of the competition.
- 2.5.4 At the discretion of the IFSC Delegate, changes in the list of registered competitors may be accepted. These changes must be notified to the IFSC Delegate before the closure of the isolation zone.

2.6 INTERNATIONAL LICENCES

- 2.6.1 Each member federation shall ensure that each competitor registered for a competition approved by the IFSC holds a current IFSC international competition licence. Only member federations shall be permitted to submit an application form for the issue or renewal of an IFSC international licence.
- 2.6.2 In order to obtain an international licence, each federation shall submit for each competitor:
- a) A completed official application form;
 - b) The fee specified by the IFSC for the issue of a new licence, on receipt of the relevant invoice.
- 2.6.3 Each licence is valid for one calendar year; i.e. from 1st January to 31st December. Each federation may, on behalf of its competitors, renew the licence each year by completing the official application form and sending it to the IFSC.
- 2.6.4 Each competitor must be a member of a member federation of the country for which he/she holds a national passport. In the case of competitors who hold dual nationalities, such competitors shall select one member federation to represent in competitions approved by the IFSC. This chosen national association shall not be changed except with the agreement of the originally nominated member federation, the proposed new member federation, and the IFSC.

2.7 FEES

- 2.7.1 All fees (e.g. membership fees, competition entry fees, international licence fees, appeals fees etc.) and all other expenses are the sole responsibility of the member federations.
- 2.7.2 A member federation shall pay the IFSC the amount invoiced for fees before the date specified on the invoice. Failure to do so shall be dealt with as specified in 2.7.4 below.

- 2.7.3 Appeals fees are paid directly to the IFSC Delegate when an appeal is filed. The appeal shall not be considered until the appeals fee has been received.
- 2.7.4 A member federation which is in default of IFSC regulations governing payment of fees shall, in accordance with the regulations and bylaws, be liable to have its membership suspended and, ultimately, withdrawn.
- 2.7.5 The scale of all fees is decided and published annually by the IFSC.

3 GENERAL RULES

3.1 DISCIPLINES

3.1.1 International competition climbing includes the following disciplines:

- a) Lead: Routes are climbed on lead, with the competitor belayed from below, each quickdraw is clipped sequentially and the height attained (or, in the case of traverse or roof sections, the greatest distance along the line of the route) determines a competitor's ranking.
- b) Bouldering: A number of individual, short, technical routes (boulders) are attempted without a climbing rope but with landing mats for protection. The aggregate number of points achieved by a competitor, and the number of attempts to achieve these points, determines the competitor's ranking.
- c) Speed: Routes are attempted on top-rope, with the competitor belayed from below. The time achieved by the competitor in completing a route determines a competitor's ranking.

3.1.2 International competitions may consist of separate events for lead, bouldering and speed. All disciplines need not be included in all international competitions.

3.2 CLIMBING WALL

3.2.1 The entire surface of the climbing wall shall be permitted to be used for climbing, with the following exceptions:

- a) The holes provided in the climbing wall for the placement of bolt-on holds shall not be used for climbing by a competitor's hands;
- b) Neither the side edges nor the top edge of the wall shall be used for climbing.

3.2.2 If there is a need to demarcate holds or areas or features which are not allowed to be used for climbing, then the demarcation shall be made using a continuous and clearly identifiable black marking.

If any demarcation other than the above is made, this shall be announced to all competitors.

3.3 SAFETY

3.3.1 The competition organiser shall be responsible for maintaining safety within the competition area and in the public section of the arena, and in relation to all activities connected to the running of the competition.

3.3.2 The Jury President, in consultation with the Chief Routesetter, shall have the authority to take decisions in respect to any question of safety within the competition area, including declining to give permission to start or continue any part of the competition. Any official or other person deemed by the President of the Jury to have infringed, or being likely to infringe, on safety procedures shall be subject to removal from his/her duties and/or dismissal from the competition area.

3.3.3 Belayers appointed by the organisers shall be trained to belay in a competition manner. The IFSC Judge is authorised to instruct the organisers to replace any belayer at any time during the round of a competition. If replaced, the belayer shall not be permitted to play any further part in the belaying of any competitor at that competition.

3.3.4 Each route or boulder shall be designed so as to avoid the danger of a competitor's fall injuring the competitor, or injuring or obstructing any other competitor or third party.

3.3.5 The Jury President, the IFSC Judge and the Chief Routesetter shall inspect each route or boulder prior to the start of each round of a competition in order to ensure the maintenance of safety standards. In particular, the IFSC Judge and the Chief Routesetter shall ensure that all safety equipment and procedures comply with UIAA standards and IFSC regulations.

3.3.6 All equipment used in a competition shall comply with UIAA standards unless otherwise specified by the IFSC or, under exceptional circumstances, by the Jury President through the authority delegated to him/her by the IFSC. Within these general requirements, competitors in lead and speed competitions shall use a

UIAA-approved single rope provided by the organisers. The frequency with which the rope is changed shall be decided by the IFSC Judge.

3.3.7 The following safety precautions shall be observed in the equipping of routes:

- a) Each protection point to be used during a round of a competition shall be equipped with a quickdraw with a karabiner to which a competitor shall connect the rope. The possibility of cross loading the karabiner shall be minimised. The connection link between the quickdraw (with no intermediate karabiner) and the protection point shall be made by means of an approved 8 mm or 10 mm Maillon Rapide (EN12275 or UIAA121), the sleeve of which shall be closed and tightened in accordance with the manufacturer's specification.
- b) Where an extension of a normal quickdraw is required, a continuous (machine sewn) tape sling of at least the same strength shall be used in place of the normal, shorter quickdraw. Adhesive tape may be used to hold the loops of the sling together. Under no circumstances shall such slings be shortened or adjusted by means of knots. Under no circumstances shall a chain of normal length quickdraws (connected to each other by either Maillon Rapides, or locking or non-locking karabiners) be used. Knotted rope or tape slings shall not be permitted.

3.3.8 The Jury President shall verify that appropriately qualified medical personnel are in attendance in order to ensure a rapid response to any accident or injury to a competitor or official working inside the competition area.

3.3.9 If there are reasons to believe that a competitor is unfit to compete for any reason, such as injury or illness, then the Jury President has the authority to request a check-up of the competitor by the organisation doctor who will proceed with the following physical test:

- a) Lower extremity: the competitor shall be able to do five consecutive single-leg jumps with each leg.
- b) Upper extremity: the competitor shall be able to perform five consecutive push-ups using both arms.

If, following the results of this test, the organisation doctor is of the opinion that the competitor is unfit to compete; the Jury President shall stop the competitor from competing. Should there, at a later stage, be evidence that the competitor has recovered, then he/she may request to undergo the approved physical tests again. If, following the results of such tests, the organisation doctor is of the opinion that the competitor is fit to compete, then the Jury President shall allow the competitor to compete.

3.3.10 Under no circumstances shall special provisions be made at the request of any competitor, e.g. descent to the ground from the top of a boulder by a ladder.

3.4 STARTING LISTS

3.4.1 The provisional list of competitors participating in the qualification round shall be compiled and published on the IFSC web site at the latest 4 days before the start of the competition. The official starting list of the qualifying round shall be prepared, taking into account absences and additional registrations, immediately after the closure of the isolation zone.

The starting list shall be published on the official competition notice board and in the isolation zone, and be handed out to members of the competition jury, team managers, the competition speaker and media representatives.

3.4.2 The starting list for each following round of the competition shall be compiled and published in accordance with the above after the publication of the official results and following the conclusion of any appeals procedures. In addition, it shall be published on other appropriate notice boards, e.g. in the principal hotels where team managers and competitors are staying.

3.4.3 Starting lists shall provide the following information:

- a) The starting order;
- b) The name and IOC Country code of each competitor;
- c) The World Ranking of each competitor;
- c) Opening and closing time of the isolation zone;
- d) Observation and starting time;
- e) Any other information approved by the IFSC or the Jury President;

All starting lists shall be produced in a format stipulated by the IFSC as published on the IFSC website.

3.4.4 Method of preparing starting lists:

- a) The starting order of the qualification round of lead and bouldering competitions shall be the reverse of the current WR. Non-ranked competitors shall start last in the round in randomised order.
- b) If the qualification round takes place on two or more similar routes or sets of boulders, the competitors shall be allocated to each route or set of boulders in accordance with their respective positions in the current WR.

Firstly, the competitors ranked on the current WR shall be allocated successively between the routes or sets of boulders in the manner shown in the following example:

Starting order (among ranked competitors)	Relative position on the World Ranking	
	Route/Set of boulders 1	Route/Set of boulders 2
.....
5th last	9	10
4th last	8	7
3rd last	5	6
2nd last	4	3
Last	1	2

Non-ranked competitors shall then be allocated to each route or set of boulders by means of random selection such that an equal, or as close to equal as possible, number of competitors are allocated to each route or set of boulders. Following this allocation procedure, the starting order for each route or set of boulders shall be the same as described in Article 3.4.4 a).

- c) The starting order of the rounds following the qualification round, other than a superfinal or a bouldering semifinal, shall be the reverse order of the ranking of the previous round, i.e. the first shall start last. In the case of tied competitors from a previous round, the starting order between them shall be the reverse of the current WR or, in the case of non-ranked competitors, randomised. In case of a tie between a ranked competitor and a non-ranked competitor, the non-ranked competitor shall start first. In the case of a tie between two competitors with the same ranking, the starting order between them shall be randomised. In the case of a tie between two non-ranked competitors, a new randomisation shall determine the starting order between the two competitors. T

The starting order of a superfinal shall be the same as for the final round of the competition.

The starting order of a bouldering semifinal shall be the same order as the ranking of the previous round, i.e. the first shall start first. In the case of tied competitors from the previous round, the starting order between them shall be the same order as the current WR or, in the case of non-ranked competitors, randomised.

- d) The starting order of qualification and final rounds of speed competitions shall be compiled in accordance with specifications in Section 6.

3.5 ISOLATION

3.5.1 All competitors eligible to compete in a round of a competition shall register upon entering the isolation zone no later than the time specified by the Jury President and published/announced by the competition organiser.

3.5.2 Only the persons specified below shall be permitted to enter the isolation zone:

- a) IFSC officials;
- b) Organiser's officials;
- c) Competitors eligible to take part in the current round of the competition;
- d) Authorised team officials;
- e) Other persons specifically authorised by the Jury President. Such persons shall, throughout their stay in the isolation zone, be escorted and supervised by an approved official to ensure the maintenance of security of the isolation zone and prevent any undue distraction of, or interference with, any competitor.

Animals shall not be allowed in the isolation zone. Exceptions from this rule can be made if authorised by the Jury President.

3.5.3 Smoking is allowed only in specially designated areas, normally the area immediately outside the door to the isolation zone. When in this area, competitors or other persons are still under isolation conditions.

3.5.4 Competitors remain under isolation conditions throughout their stay in the competition area, including the call and competition zones. This means that they are not allowed to seek any information from persons outside the competition area, unless specifically authorised to do so by the Jury President. Failure to observe this rule shall result in the disqualification of the competitor.

3.5.5 No competitor or Team Official is permitted to carry or use any electronic communication equipment while in the competition area unless such equipment is permitted by the Jury President.

3.5.6 A competitor is not allowed to carry or use any audio listening equipment during observation and climbing.

3.6 OBSERVATION

3.6.1 Before the start of a round or attempt, competitors registered to take part in a particular round of a competition shall be permitted an observation period during which they shall be allowed to study the route(s) or boulder. The specific rules for such observation are defined in the respective Sections for lead, bouldering and speed competitions.

3.6.2 While in the observation area, all competitors remain under the rules governing the isolation zone. Team officials shall not be permitted to accompany the competitors during the observation period. Competitors shall remain within the designated observation zone during the observation period. They are not permitted to climb on the climbing wall or stand on any equipment or furniture. Competitors shall not communicate in any way with any person outside the observation area. They may seek clarification only from judges.

3.6.3 During the observation period, competitors may use binoculars to observe the route, and make hand-drawn sketches and notes. No other observation or recording equipment shall be permitted.

3.6.4 Competitors shall have no knowledge of the route or boulder other than that obtained during the official observation period or that communicated to them by the Jury President or the judges.

3.6.5 It is the sole responsibility of each competitor to fully inform him-/herself with respect to all instructions regarding the route or boulder.

3.7 PREPARATION PRIOR TO CLIMBING

3.7.1 On receiving an official instruction to leave the isolation zone and to proceed to the call zone, competitors shall not be accompanied by any person other than authorised officials.

- 3.7.2 On arrival in the call zone, each competitor shall make all final preparations for his/her attempt, such as putting on his/her climbing shoes, tying on to the rope etc., as relevant to the type of competition.
- 3.7.3 All climbing equipment used, including the tie-in knots in lead competitions, shall be inspected and approved by an authorised official both for safety and compliance with other IFSC regulations before the competitor shall be permitted to proceed to his/her attempt on the route/boulders. Each competitor shall be regarded as entirely and solely responsible for the equipment and clothing that he/she intends to wear during his/her attempt(s).
- 3.7.4 Each competitor shall be ready to leave the call zone and enter the competition zone when instructed to do so. Any undue delay in this regard may result in the issuing of a Yellow Card. Any further delay shall result in disqualification in accordance with Section 11.

3.8 TEAM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

- 3.8.1 All equipment used by a competitor shall comply with UIAA standards unless otherwise specified by the IFSC. Use of non-approved, or non-approved modification of, equipment, knots and clothing, or any non-compliance with the advertising rules, or any infringement of any part of IFSC rules and regulations governing team clothing and equipment, shall make the competitor liable for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 11.
- 3.8.2 Competitors representing their national teams shall, when climbing, wear a uniform official team top which shall contain (1) a representation of the national flag or the colours of the national flag or the national sports colour, and (2) the name of the country or the three-letter IOC country code. The team top may be different for male and female competitors. The official starting number bib provided by the competition organiser, which may not be cut or otherwise modified, shall be displayed prominently on the back of the top. The size of the starting number bib shall not exceed 18 x 24 centimetres (landscape orientation). The competition organiser may provide additional starting number bibs to be placed on the competitor's trouser leg.
- 3.8.3 Each competitor shall use a UIAA-approved harness (the wearing of a harness is compulsory in lead and speed competitions), and climbing shoes. Each competitor is free to use a chalk bag, a climbing helmet, and the clothing (in addition to the team top) he/she prefers. All equipment and clothing shall be in compliance with the following advertising rules:
- a) Headwear: Only the manufacturer's name and/or logo;
 - b) Team top: Sponsor's label(s) – no larger than 300 square centimetres in total;
 - c) Harness: The manufacturer's name and/or logo and sponsor's label(s) - no larger than 200 square centimetres in total;
 - d) Chalk bag: The manufacturer's name and/or logo and sponsor's label(s) - no larger than 100 square centimetres in total;
 - e) Legs: The manufacturer's name and/or logo and sponsor's label(s) - no larger than 300 square centimetres in total on each leg;
 - f) Shoes and socks: Only the manufacturer's name and/or logo.

Phrases and logos denoting the federation and/or the country to which the competitor belongs are allowed on all the above items, in addition to the specified size limits.

Any advertising name or logo placed directly on a competitor's body, e.g. a tattoo, shall be counted within the size limits specified for the respective part of the body in b) and e) above.

Failure to comply with these rules shall result in disciplinary action in accordance with Section 11.

- 3.8.4 Whenever possible, and particularly at award ceremonies, competitors and team officials shall wear a distinctive team uniform.
- 3.8.5 During their attempt on a route or a boulder, competitors are only allowed to use chalk (dry or liquid) for their hands.

3.9 WALL MAINTENANCE

- 3.9.1 The Chief Routesetter shall ensure that an experienced maintenance team is available throughout each round of the competition in order to perform any maintenance and repairs ordered by the IFSC Judge in an efficient and safe manner. Safety procedures shall be strictly enforced.
- 3.9.2 On the instruction of the IFSC Judge, the Chief Routesetter shall immediately arrange for any repair work. On completion of a repair, it shall be inspected by the Chief Routesetter who shall advise the Jury President whether the repair results in any unfair advantage or disadvantage to the following competitors. The decision of the Jury President to continue, or to stop and re-start, that round of the competition shall be final, and no appeal shall be accepted in respect to this decision.

3.10 TECHNICAL INCIDENTS

- 3.10.1 A technical incident is defined as any occurrence that results in a disadvantage or unfair advantage to a competitor which is not the result of an action on the part of the competitor. The types of technical incidents, and the procedures to follow when they occur, are specified further under the respective Sections for lead, bouldering and speed competitions.
- 3.10.2 Generally, a technical incident shall be dealt with as follows:
- a) Technical incident indicated by the IFSC Judge.
 - (i) If the competitor is still in a legitimate position, he/she may choose either to continue to climb or to accept the technical incident. If the competitor chooses to continue his/her attempt on the route or the boulder, no further appeal connected with that technical incident shall be accepted.
 - (ii) If the competitor is in a non-legitimate position due to the technical incident, the IFSC Judge shall make an immediate decision on whether to declare a technical incident and thereby terminate the competitor's attempt on the route or the boulder, and permit the competitor a subsequent attempt in accordance with the rules governing technical incidents for that particular discipline.
 - b) Technical incident indicated by a competitor.
 - (i) If the competitor is still in a legitimate position, the competitor shall specify the nature of the technical incident and, with the agreement of the IFSC Judge, may continue or cease climbing. If the competitor chooses to continue to climb, no subsequent appeal shall be accepted in respect to that technical incident.
 - (ii) If the competitor is in a non-legitimate position due to the incident, the IFSC Judge shall make an immediate decision and that decision shall be final.
- 3.10.3 The confirmation or non-confirmation of a technical incident is made by the IFSC Judge, if necessary in consultation with the Chief Routesetter. This decision shall be final.

3.11 USE OF VIDEO RECORDINGS FOR JUDGING PURPOSES

- 3.11.1 Official video recordings shall be made of competitors' attempts on lead routes and boulders.
- 3.11.2 At least one video camera, and preferably two, per lead competition route, and at least two (fixed) video cameras covering all boulders for a boulder competition, shall be used. It is advisable that the camera operators, who shall have appropriate experience in video recording of climbing competitions, are assisted by a National Judge. Prior to the round, the IFSC Judge or the Jury President shall brief the camera operators on the appropriate techniques and procedures. The position of the video camera(s) shall be determined by the Jury President in consultation with the IFSC Judge and the Chief Routesetter. Particular care shall be taken to ensure that the camera operators are not disturbed in carrying out their duties and that no-one is allowed to obscure the camera view.
- 3.11.3 A television monitor connected to a video playback system shall be provided for review of any incident for judging purposes. The playback monitor shall be placed such that the judges can observe playback material and discuss any incident without the video re-play being seen by any un-authorized person and without the judges being overheard or interrupted during their discussions, but conveniently close to the judges' table.

- 3.11.4 Only the official video recordings shall be used for judging purposes, and the viewing shall be restricted to the Jury President, the IFSC Judge, the Route Judges, the Chief Routesetter, and the IFSC Delegate.
- 3.11.5 At the end of each round of the competition, the video recording shall be given to the Jury President. No copies shall be made of these video tapes except with the specific authorisation of the IFSC. Competition video recordings shall be used solely for the purposes of judging the competition and for IFSC training courses. Under no circumstances shall they be made available to any other than IFSC officials.

3.12 RESULT LISTS

- 3.12.1 At the end of each round of a competition, a provisional result list showing the ranking and result of each competitor shall be prepared, based on the work of the judges. This provisional result list shall be published as unofficial information awaiting the finalisation of the official result list, and unofficial comments may be made by team managers and competitors. It is recommended that provisional results be projected on screens during all rounds of a competition.
- 3.12.2 After the provisional list has been checked, amended if necessary, and officially approved in writing by the IFSC Judge, this official result list shall be published.
- 3.12.3 At the end of a competition, an official consolidated result list showing the final ranking of all competitors, as well as their results in all rounds of the competition, shall be prepared, signed by the IFSC Judge and the Jury President, and published.
- 3.12.4 All official result lists shall be prepared in a format as stipulated by the IFSC, published on the official competition notice board, and copies handed out to members of the competition jury, team managers, the competition speaker, and media representatives.

3.13 RANKINGS AND RECORDS

- 3.13.1 The procedures for individual ranking of competitors during competitions are provided under the respective Sections for lead, bouldering and speed competitions.
- 3.13.2 National team rankings, and combined individual rankings for all disciplines included in a particular competition, shall be prepared, as relevant, for the following competitions:
- a) World Cup competitions;
 - b) World Championships;
 - c) Continental Championships;
 - d) World Youth Championships;
 - e) Continental Youth competitions;
 - f) Regional competitions.
- 3.13.3 The national team ranking shall be calculated by adding the ranking points (in accordance with Article 7.5.1) of the highest ranked individual national team members participating in the competition. The number of competitors whose points shall be used for calculating the national team ranking shall be limited to the team quota for each competition.
- 3.13.4 A combined competition ranking for all disciplines for a competition where more than one discipline is included may be prepared by adding the individual ranking points (in accordance with Article 7.5.1) for each discipline for competitors participating in all disciplines. The decision to prepare a combined competition ranking shall be announced beforehand by the competition organiser or the IFSC.
- 3.13.5 The IFSC publishes the following consolidated rankings:
- a) The World Cup Rankings;
 - b) The World Rankings (WR).

The procedures for calculating the World Cup Rankings are defined in Sub-section 7.5.

The WR is prepared on the basis of results achieved by competitors in all competitions approved by the IFSC and counting for the ranking during the previous 12 months. The detailed procedures for preparing the WR are published on the IFSC web site.

3.13.6 The IFSC publishes the World Records in speed.

3.14 ANTI-DOPING TESTS

3.14.1 The member federation/organiser shall arrange for anti-doping tests to be carried out in compliance with the national regulations governing international sport in their country, the World Anti-Doping Code, and the IFSC Anti-Doping Policy and Procedure and Disciplinary Rules.

3.14.2 All winners of World Cup, World Championship, Continental Championship, World Youth Championship, Continental Youth Championship and International Events competitions, and all competitors setting a new World Record in speed will be subjected to an anti-doping test.

3.15 CEREMONIES

3.15.1 Unless specifically authorised by the Jury President, all competitors shall attend the opening ceremony. Failure to observe this rule shall make the competitor liable to disciplinary action in accordance with Section 11.

3.15.2 The award ceremony at the end of a competition, which shall be organised immediately after the conclusion of the final rounds, shall comply with the IOC protocol for such ceremonies. National anthem playing and flag raising ceremonies are mandatory at IFSC Championships and World Cup final competitions.

3.15.3 Unless specifically authorised by the Jury President, all finalists shall attend the award ceremony. Failure to observe this rule shall make a competitor liable to disciplinary action in accordance with Section 11.

4 LEAD

4.1 GENERAL

- 4.1.1 These rules shall be read in conjunction with Section 3, General Rules.
- 4.1.2 Lead competitions shall take place on purpose-designed, artificial climbing walls having a minimum height of 12 metres, which shall permit routes to be constructed with a minimum length of 15 metres and a minimum width of 3 metres for each route. At the discretion of the Jury President, a width of less than 3 metres may be accepted for limited sections of the wall.
- 4.1.3 All lead competition routes shall be climbed on-lead with the competitor belayed from below.
- 4.1.4 Lead competitions may include routes that are attempted:
- 'On-sight': after an authorised period of observation of the route.
 - 'Flash': after demonstration of the route by a forerunner and/or after viewing other competitors' attempts.
 - 'After work': after authorised practice on the route.
- 4.1.5 A route shall be considered successfully completed if it has been climbed in accordance with the existing rules and if the rope has been clipped from a legitimate position into the karabiner on the final quickdraw.
- 4.1.6 A lead competition normally consists of:
- A qualification round, which shall take place on one route or on two identical or non-identical routes. In the case of two non-identical routes, these shall be of the same technical grade and similar route character;
 - Semifinal, final and, where necessary, superfinal rounds, which shall take place on one route.

In the case of unforeseen events, the Jury President may decide to cancel one of the rounds. If one round is cancelled, then the results of the previous round shall count for the ranking.

Alternative formats may be adopted for specific types of competitions as prescribed by the IFSC.

4.2 OBSERVATION

- 4.2.1 In accordance with the General Rules, competitors (as a group) shall be permitted to observe the on-sight route they are required to attempt.
- 4.2.2 The observation period shall be decided by the Jury President in consultation with the Chief Routesetter and shall normally not exceed six (6) minutes for each route. In the case of unusually long routes, the period may be extended.
- 4.2.3 Competitors are allowed to touch the first hold(s), without leaving the ground with both their feet.
- 4.2.4 At the end of the observation period, competitors shall immediately return to the isolation zone or, in the case of the first few competitors on the starting list, to the call zone as instructed by the judges. Any undue delay in doing so may result in the award of a Yellow Card; any further delay shall result in disqualification in accordance with Section 11.

4.3 PRE-PRACTICE

- 4.3.1 Where pre-practised (worked) routes form part of the competition, the Jury President, in consultation with the Chief Routesetter, shall decide the timetable, procedure and duration of the competitors' practice periods.

4.4 SAFETY AND BELAYING

- 4.4.1 The climbing rope shall be controlled by two belayers. The belayers shall, at all times during a competitor's attempt on a route, pay careful attention to the progress of the competitor to ensure:
- a) That the competitor's movements are not hindered in any way by the rope being too tight;
 - b) That when the competitor attempts to connect the rope to any protection point he/she is not hindered in doing so or, if the clipping of the rope to the protection point fails, any excessive slack in the rope is immediately taken in;
 - c) That all falls are stopped in a dynamic and safe manner;
 - d) That no excessive fall shall be experienced by the competitor being belayed;
 - e) That great care is taken to ensure that a falling competitor shall not be exposed to any danger of injury caused by the edge of an overlapping section or any other feature of the climbing wall.
- 4.4.2 The IFSC Judge may decide, in consultation with the Chief Routesetter and with the approval of the Jury President, to have the climbing rope pre-fixed to the first (and, where deemed appropriate, other) protection points. Wherever possible, the design of the route shall be such as to make such precautions unnecessary.
- 4.4.3 At the start of each attempt on a route:
- a) Each competitor shall be equipped in accordance with IFSC rules and regulations governing equipment;
 - b) The climbing rope shall be tied to each competitor's climbing harness using a 'figure of eight' knot, secured with an extra knot;
 - c) Before the competitor begins his/her attempt on a route, the belayers shall check (preferably in the call zone) that the competitor is equipped in accordance with the rules, and that the rope is secured to the competitor's harness in accordance with Article 4.4.3 b) above, and that the harness is properly fastened up;
 - d) Before accompanying the competitor to the start of the route, the belayers shall ensure that the rope is coiled or arranged in such a manner that it is ready for immediate and proper use;
 - e) The IFSC Judge shall, in consultation with the Chief Routesetter, decide whether the belayers shall have an assistant at the beginning of the route to provide additional security for a competitor (i.e. to 'spot') during the lower part of the attempt on the route.
- 4.4.4 The belayer shall leave an appropriate amount of slack in the rope at all times. Any tension on the rope may be deemed as an artificial aid or hindrance to a competitor and a technical incident shall be declared by the IFSC Judge.
- 4.4.5 After having connected the rope to the final protection point (quickdraw) or after a fall, the competitor shall be lowered to the ground. Care shall be taken to ensure that the competitor does not come into contact with any ground-based equipment.
- 4.4.6 While the competitor is untying the rope from his/her harness, the belayer shall pull the rope down in as fast a manner as possible without unduly disturbing the quickdraws. It is the responsibility of the belayer to ensure that the competitor vacates the climbing zone as quickly as possible.

4.5 CLIMBING PROCEDURE

- 4.5.1 Each route shall be allocated a fixed period in which a competitor may attempt the route. This time period shall include a 40 second final preparation period at the base of the route, described in Article 4.5.2 below. The length of the climbing period shall be decided by the IFSC Judge in consultation with the Chief Routesetter, and announced to the competitors during the technical briefing in the isolation zone preceding the route observation and/or indicated on the starting list published in the isolation zone.
- 4.5.2 At the point where the competitor enters the competition zone at the base of the climbing wall, recording of the time taken by the competitor in attempting the route shall be started. Each competitor shall be permitted 40 seconds to commence his/her attempt on the route. This 40 second final observation period shall be part of the overall time for the route. If the competitor has not started his/her attempt at the end

of this 40 second period he/she shall be instructed to start immediately. Any further delay shall make the competitor liable to disciplinary action in accordance with Section 11.

- 4.5.3 Each competitor's attempt shall be deemed to have started when both feet have left the ground.
- 4.5.4 A competitor may ask the IFSC Judge at any time during his/her attempt on the route how much of the allotted route-time remains, and the IFSC Judge shall immediately inform, or give instruction to inform, the competitor of the remaining time. The IFSC Judge shall also inform, or give instruction to inform, a competitor when only 60 seconds of the allocated route-time remains. When the route-time has ended, the IFSC Judge shall instruct the competitor to stop climbing. A competitor who fails to obey the IFSC Judge's instruction to stop climbing shall be liable to disciplinary action in accordance with Section 11.
- 4.5.5 During his/her attempt on a route:
- a) The competitor shall clip the quickdraws in sequence. A competitor is in a legitimate position to clip a quickdraw either as long as his/her entire body has not moved beyond the lower karabiner of the quickdraw in the line of the route, or as long as the competitor can clip the quickdraw without having to back climb along the line of the route. Back climbing means that a competitor leaves holds with both hands when moving from the original position. Any violation of this rule shall result in the competitor's attempt on the route being terminated and a measurement taken in accordance with Article 4.7 below. The refusal by a competitor to obey the instruction of an IFSC Judge to terminate his/her attempt shall make the competitor liable to disciplinary action in accordance with Section 11.
 - b) A competitor shall be allowed to un-clip and re-clip the last clipped karabiner, except the karabiner of the final quickdraw.
 - c) In special circumstances, for instance in the interest of safety, the Jury President may amend Article 4.5.5 a) and decide that a particular quickdraw shall be clipped from a particular hold, or earlier. This information shall be announced to the competitors during the technical briefing in the isolation zone, and the actual hold and the quickdraw shall be clearly marked, preferably with a blue cross, and pointed out during the route observation. Any movement made by a competitor after the marked hold without him/her having clipped the marked quickdraw shall not be taken into account for scoring.
 - d) If a competitor clips the rope into a karabiner in accordance with Article 4.5.5 a) above after a technical error has occurred (e.g. a 'Z-clip'), the competitor shall be permitted to un-clip and re-clip (if necessary, by down-climbing) the previous karabiner. At the end, all the protection points shall be clipped in.

The IFSC Judge may order that the attempt be terminated and the greatest height (or greatest distance) measured if he/she decides that further progress on the route would be dangerous.

- 4.5.6 The holds on the route shall be cleaned at a frequency and with a method determined by the IFSC Judge in consultation with the Chief Routesetter before the start of each round. It is recommended that the maximum number of attempts made before a route is cleaned should be 20, and that the cleaning operations should be evenly distributed during the round. The frequency of cleaning shall be announced to the competitors during the technical briefing in the isolation zone and/or indicated on the starting list published in the isolation zone.

Competitors are not allowed to clean any hold on the route during their attempt.

4.6 TECHNICAL INCIDENTS

- 4.6.1 A technical incident in lead competitions is defined as:
- a) A broken or loose hold;
 - b) An improperly positioned quickdraw or karabiner;
 - c) A tight rope which either assists or hinders a competitor;
 - d) Any other occurrence that results in a disadvantage or unfair advantage to a competitor which is not the result of an action on the part of the competitor.

- 4.6.2 If a competitor falls and claims that a technical incident has caused the fall, the competitor shall be immediately escorted to a separate isolation zone to await the outcome of the investigation of the claimed technical incident.
- 4.6.3 The competitor subjected to a confirmed technical incident shall be allowed a recuperation period in a separate isolation zone, with access to warm-up facilities, during which he/she is not permitted to communicate with any person other than IFSC and organiser's officials.

The maximum recuperation time before the competitor's next attempt shall be approximately equal to 2 minutes for each hand hold he/she has made use of prior to the technical incident. The concerned competitor is entitled to a minimum recuperation time of 20 minutes. The IFSC Judge will take a decision on when the next attempt of the competitor shall be slotted, based on the competitor's requested recuperation time within the maximum limit. All concerned competitors shall be informed about the re-slotting.

In the case of the final round of a competition, the recuperation time shall not extend beyond 20 minutes after the last competitor has finished his/her attempt.

If a new attempt is, or would be, slotted after the last competitor in any round of the competition and the competitor who has suffered the technical incident has already been placed first in the round, then the competitor shall not be allowed a new attempt on the route.

- 4.6.4 On completion of the next attempt on the route, the competitor shall be recorded as having achieved the best result of his/her attempts on the route.

4.7 SCORING

- 4.7.1 In accordance with Article 4.10 below, in the event of a fall or the IFSC Judge instructing a competitor to stop climbing, the furthest hold held or touched in the line of the route shall determine the competitor's result.
- 4.7.2 Each hold shall be deemed as such by the Chief Routesetter before the start of a round of the competition, and marked on the route sketch used by the Route Judge(s) for judging, or following positive use by a competitor during that round of the competition.

If a competitor touches a point devoid of holds (as specified by the Chief Routesetter), this point shall not be considered when determining the competitor's score.

Only holds used by the hands shall be considered.

Only such parts of an object which are usable for climbing shall be considered when determining the score of a competitor.

- 4.7.3 As determined by the IFSC Judge, a hold that is 'held' shall be considered as having a higher value than a hold that is 'touched':
- A hold that is 'held' shall be given the height of the hold with no suffix;
 - A hold that is 'touched' shall be given that height with a minus (-) suffix;
 - A hold which is 'held' and from which a climbing movement is made in the interest of progressing along the route shall be given the height of the hold 'held' with a plus (+) suffix.

It is at the IFSC Judge's discretion to set the limit between 'touched' and 'held', and between 'held' and '+' for each hold in order to separate competitors with markedly different performance..

- 4.7.4 In the event of a superfinal, the Jury President may decide that in the case of two or more competitors having the same result at the end of the superfinal round, the time used to achieve the result shall determine the ranking in such a way that a competitor with a shorter climbing time shall be ranked before

a competitor with a longer climbing time. This decision shall be announced beforehand to the superfinal competitors, their team managers and to the public.

4.8 RANKING AFTER EACH ROUND

- 4.8.1 After each round of the competition, the competitors shall be ranked in accordance with Article 4.7.3.
- 4.8.2 In the case of tied places, the results of the successively preceding rounds shall be taken into account in the countback procedure. In case the tied competitors have competed on different routes in an earlier round, the countback procedure shall not be applied to that round.
- 4.8.3 Organisers of competitions with 'after authorised work' finals may decide that Article 4.8.2 may be suspended and that the countback procedure shall not be used to determine ranking at the end of the final round. This decision shall be included in the information distributed by the IFSC.
- 4.8.4 Unless specified otherwise in the competition format, if a qualifying round of a competition requires that the competitors be allocated between two or more non-identical routes having the same technical grade, for those competitors who do not qualify for the following round, the final ranking shall be determined by the aggregate place achieved on the ranking of the combined routes.
- 4.8.5 If, after applying the countback procedure at the end of the final round of the competition or in accordance with Article 4.8.3, there is a tie for the first place, a superfinal shall be held. The superfinal may be held on the same route as in the final round. If a tie exists at the end of a superfinal, the competitors that remain tied shall be deemed equal and the competition will be terminated.

4.9 QUOTAS FOR EACH ROUND

- 4.9.1 Sub-section 4.9 shall be read in conjunction with Sub-section 4.8 above; i.e. the ranking procedure shall first be completed before Sub-section 4.9 is applied.
- 4.9.2 In case the number of competitors who have successfully completed the route in the preceding round of the competition is lower than the fixed quota of the following round, the remaining places shall be filled by the next best ranked competitors.
- 4.9.3 The fixed quota of competitors qualifying for the semifinal and final shall be 26 and 8 competitors, respectively,.
- 4.9.4 If the fixed quota for the semifinal and final rounds of the competition is exceeded as a result of tied places following the application of the countback procedure, this higher number of competitors shall qualify for the next round of the competition.
- 4.9.5 If there are two groups in the qualification round, the fixed quota for the next round shall be equally divided and applied to both groups.

4.10 TERMINATION OF AN ATTEMPT ON A ROUTE

- 4.10.1 A competitor shall be deemed to have successfully completed an attempt on a route if that attempt is in accordance with Article 4.1.5 above.
- 4.10.2 A competitor shall be deemed to have unsuccessfully completed an attempt on a route if he/she:
 - a) Falls;
 - b) Exceeds the permitted time for the route;
 - c) Makes use for climbing of any part of the wall, holds or features which have been demarcated against use for climbing;
 - d) Makes use for climbing, with his/her hands, of holes provided in the climbing wall for the placement of bolt-on holds;
 - e) Makes use of the side edges or top edges of the wall for climbing;
 - f) Makes use of hangers (including its bolts) or quickdraws for climbing;

- g) Fails to clip a quickdraw in accordance with existing rules;
- h) Touches the ground with any part of the body after having started;
- i) Uses any artificial aid.

4.10.3 In case of infractions related to Articles 4.10.2 b-i, the IFSC Judge shall instruct the competitor to stop climbing, and the height shall be measured at the highest point reached before the infraction has taken place.

The competitor or his/her team manager may make an immediate appeal against this decision. If such an appeal is made, the competitor shall be taken to a separate isolation zone. The appeal shall follow the procedures specified in Section 12 and shall be acted upon as early as circumstances allow by the appeals jury. If the appeal is upheld, the competitor shall be given a new attempt. The competitor shall be allowed to rest under conditions similar to those specified in Article 4.6.3 for competitors recuperating after a technical incident. On completion of the new attempt, the competitor shall be recorded as having achieved the best result of his/her attempts on the route.

4.11 USE OF VIDEO RECORDING

4.11.1 If the IFSC Judge deems it appropriate to examine the video recording of the attempt on a route by a competitor before making a decision, the IFSC Judge shall permit the competitor to complete his/her attempt in accordance with the rules. On completion of his/her attempt, the competitor shall be immediately informed by the IFSC Judge that his/her ranking in that round of the competition shall be subject to confirmation following an examination, at the end of the round, of the video recording.

4.11.2 The official video recordings may be used by the judges to confirm the “held/touched” rules in respect to scoring and the ranking of competitors at the end of each round.

5 BOULDERING

5.1 GENERAL

- 5.1.1 These rules shall be read in conjunction with Section 3, General Rules.
- 5.1.2 Bouldering competitions consist of a series of short routes, called boulders. All boulders shall be climbed without ropes. The maximum number of handholds for one boulder shall be 12 and the average number of handholds for the boulders in one round shall be between 4 and 8.
- 5.1.3 All boulders shall be protected by landing mats. It is the responsibility of the Chief Routesetter to position the mats provided by the organiser, and to adjust the number and character of the boulders to the mats available. If mats are joined, the gaps shall be covered in order to avoid that competitors can fall in between them.
- 5.1.4 Bouldering competitions shall consist of three rounds, named qualification, semifinal and final rounds.
- In the case of unforeseen events, the Jury President may decide to cancel one of the rounds. If one round is cancelled, then the results of the previous round shall count for the ranking.
- 5.1.5 The semifinal and final rounds shall be run on the same day. There shall be a minimum time gap of 2 hours between the end of the semifinal round and the beginning of the final round. The isolation closing time shall be a maximum of one hour before the start of the final round.
- 5.1.6 The number of boulders in the qualification round shall be 6. The number of boulders in the semifinal and final rounds shall be 4.
- The number of boulders in the qualification round may be reduced at the discretion of the Jury President.
- 5.1.7 For safety reasons, the boulders shall be made in such a way that the lowest part of the body of the competitor shall never be higher than 3 metres above the landing mat.
- 5.1.8 For safety reasons, downward jumps shall not be designed.
- 5.1.9 The jury of each boulder shall consist of one Boulder Judge and one Assistant. The Boulder Judge shall be a National Judge.
- 5.1.10 Each boulder shall have a pre-designated starting position from which all attempts shall start. It shall consist of at least fixed positions for the two hands, and may include fixed and marked positions for either one or both feet. These starting positions shall be clearly marked, and the marking shall be the same for all boulders. The colour used shall be different from those used to mark the bonus holds, and demarcations in accordance with Article 3.2.2. At the discretion of the Chief Routesetter the pre-designated starting holds may be labelled left and right.
- 5.1.11 One bonus point will be awarded for holding a specified hold on the boulder. The positioning of this hold will be at the routesetter's discretion. This hold shall be clearly marked, and the marking shall be the same for all boulders. The colour used shall be different from those used to mark the starting and finishing holds, and demarcations in accordance with Article 3.2.2. The bonus point will be awarded also in the case of a competitor having successfully completed an attempt without having held the bonus hold.
- 5.1.12 The finishing hold shall be clearly marked in the same colour as the starting hold(s). In some cases it is possible that successful completion of the boulder can be attained by a standing position on the top of the boulder.
- 5.1.13 The markings used in relation to Articles 5.1.10, 5.1.11 and 5.1.12 shall be the same for the entire duration of a competition. An example shall be installed on the isolation zone practice wall.

5.1.14 In the interest of the spectators, all boulders shall be constructed on an elevated platform. At least the last four boulders in the qualification round, and all boulders in the semifinal and final rounds, shall be aligned in such a way that they are visible from any point in the public arena.

5.1.15 The final round shall be run simultaneously for both the male and female categories.

5.2 OBSERVATION

5.2.1 No separate observation period is allowed as the observation period is part of the allocated time for the boulder.

5.2.2 Competitors shall remain within the designated observation zone during the observation period. They are not permitted to climb on the climbing wall or stand on any equipment or furniture. Competitors shall not communicate in any way with any person outside the observation area. They may seek clarification only from the Jury President, the IFSC Judge or the Boulder Judge or Assistant assigned to the boulder. Touching with hands or feet, or chalking, holds other than the starting holds, or adding tick marks, during observation shall be counted as one attempt on the boulder.

5.3 CLIMBING PROCEDURE

5.3.1 In the qualification and semifinal rounds of a competition, competitors shall attempt the boulders in the prescribed order. After each boulder the competitor has a resting period equal to the allocated boulder time, called the rotation period, which shall be 6 minutes. Each boulder shall include a clearly marked area from which the competitor can see the boulder, and which shall include the safety matting.

5.3.2 At the end of the rotation period, the competitors that are climbing shall stop climbing and enter the resting area. This area shall not allow observation of any boulder. The competitor who has finished his/her resting period shall move on to the next boulder.

5.3.3 In the final round, each boulder shall be attempted by all competitors, in the order of their starting numbers, before moving on to the next boulder.

5.3.4 The rotation period during the final round shall be 6 minutes. If a competitor finishes his/her attempt before 6 minutes have passed, he/she shall return to separate isolation in the transit area and the next competitor shall start his/her rotation period immediately. Warm-up facilities shall be available in the transit area.

5.3.5 When all competitors have finished their attempts on the first boulder during the final round, they shall move to the second boulder. A similar procedure is followed for the remaining two boulders.

5.3.6 A competitor must start from the marked hand and foot holds before climbing on. Every try to get into the designated starting position shall be counted as an attempt when every part of the body of the competitor has left the ground.

5.3.7 The beginning (and the end) of every rotation period in the qualification and semifinal rounds shall be announced by a loud and clear signal. When one minute remains of the rotation time, this will be announced by a different signal.

5.3.8 All holds shall be cleaned by the Boulder Judge or the Assistant before the competitor begins his/her first attempt on a boulder. A competitor may also request that holds be cleaned before any attempt on the boulder. Brushes or other materials may be used by competitors to clean holds that may be reached from the ground. Only brushes or other materials that are provided by the organisation and that are available at every boulder shall be used for this purpose.

5.4 END OF AN ATTEMPT

- 5.4.1 An attempt is considered successful when the finishing hold is held with both hands and the Boulder Judge announces "OK".

In the case where a successful completion of a boulder is attained by a standing position in accordance with Article 5.1.12, an attempt is considered successful when a competitor is established in the specified standing position and the Boulder Judge announces "OK".

- 5.4.2 An attempt is considered finished in the case of a return to the ground or at the end of the allocated rotation time.
- 5.4.3 The competitor shall be stopped if he/she violates demarcations in accordance with Article 3.2.2.

5.5 TECHNICAL INCIDENTS

- 5.5.1 A technical incident in bouldering competitions is defined as:

- a) A broken or loose hold;
- b) Any other occurrence that results in a disadvantage or unfair advantage to a competitor which is not the result of an action on the part of the competitor.

- 5.5.2 If, during the qualification and semifinal rounds, a confirmed technical incident concerns a broken or loose hold or any other occurrence which can be repaired or fixed before the end of the current rotation period, the competitor involved will be offered the opportunity to continue with his/her attempts. If the competitor chooses to continue, then the technical incident is finished and no further appeals shall be allowed. If the competitor chooses not to continue his/her attempts within the current rotation period, then the competitor will resume his/her attempts after completing the competition round. In this case, the Jury President will decide when a break shall be made to allow the competitor to continue his/her attempts. The competitor shall be allowed the time remaining at the moment when the incident occurred, with a minimum of two minutes.

- 5.5.3 If, during the qualification and semifinal rounds, the repair can not be effectuated before the end of the rotation time, at the signal announcing the end of the rotation time, the round will be stopped for the competitor who has suffered the technical incident as well as for all competitors on the preceding boulders. For all the other competitors, the round continues. After repair, the competitor who has suffered the technical incident, shall be allowed the time remaining at the moment the incident occurred, with a minimum of two minutes in a rotation time. After this, the competition starts again at the rotation signal for all the competitors.

- 5.5.4 If a technical incident occurs during the final round, the competitor suffering the technical incident shall return to separate isolation in the transit zone and await the repair. When the repair has been effectuated, the competitor shall re-commence his/her attempts. The competitor shall be allowed the time remaining at the moment when the technical incident occurred, with a minimum of two minutes.

- 5.5.5 In case of a technical incident, the first attempt made by the competitor who has suffered the technical incident, on the same boulder, after the attempt in which the technical incident occurred shall be deemed a continuation of that attempt.

5.6 RANKING AFTER EACH ROUND

- 5.6.1 After each round of the competition, the competitors shall be ranked according to the following criteria:
- a) The number of successfully completed boulders;
 - b) The total number of attempts to complete these boulders;
 - c) The total number of bonus points;
 - d) The total number of attempts to achieve these bonus points.

5.6.2 In case of tied places, the results of the successively preceding rounds shall be taken into account in the count-back procedure. The countback procedure shall not be applied to an earlier round in case the tied competitors have competed in different groups in that round.

5.6.3 If, after applying the count-back procedure, there is a tie for the first place at the end of the final round, a superfinal shall be held on one boulder.

Each tied competitor shall make only one attempt in the same order as for the final. A pre-designated period is fixed in consultation with the Chief Routesetter and the attempt shall be started within 40 seconds. The performance of each competitor will be judged in accordance with Articles 4.7.1, 4.7.2 and 4.7.3 of the lead competition rules. After their attempts, the competitors are ranked. If several competitors have reached the top, they are deemed equal and the final ranking is announced. If nobody has reached the top and if there are still tied competitors in the first place, the competitors in the first place shall make another attempt following the same procedure until they are separated, up to a maximum of 6 attempts. If a tie still exists after the 6th attempt, the competitors shall be deemed equal.

5.7 QUOTAS FOR EACH ROUND

5.7.1 Sub-section 5.7 shall be read in conjunction with Sub-section 5.6 above, i.e. the ranking procedure shall first be completed before Sub-section 5.7 applies.

5.7.2 In case the number of competitors who have successfully completed the boulders in the preceding round of the competition is lower than the fixed quota of the following round, the remaining places shall be filled by the next best ranked competitors.

5.7.3 The fixed quota for the semifinal round shall be 20, and for the final round 6. If the fixed quota for the semifinal or final rounds is exceeded as a result of tied places following the application of the countback procedure, this higher number of competitors shall qualify for the round.

5.7.4 If there are two groups in the qualification round, the fixed quota for the next round shall be equally divided and applied to both groups.

5.8 USE OF VIDEO RECORDING

5.8.1 The official video recordings made of the competitors' attempts, may be used by the Appeals Jury for the purpose of assessing official appeals.

6 SPEED

6.1 GENERAL

- 6.1.1 These rules shall be read in conjunction with Section 3, General Rules.
- 6.1.2 Speed competitions shall normally consist of a qualification round and a final round.
- 6.1.3 Speed competitions shall be carried out on either:
 - a) two routes of the same length and of similar profile and difficulty (Format A), or
 - b) four parallel routes of identical length, profile, design and difficulty (Format B).
- 6.1.4 The recommended height of a route is between 12 and 20 metres, with a total overhang of less than 5 metres. If the route includes a roof, it is recommended that its width be less than 1 metre.

6.2 SAFETY

- 6.2.1 All routes shall be climbed with the competitor secured by top-rope, belayed from below. The rope shall be a UIAA approved single rope.
- 6.2.2 The top-rope shall pass through two separate protection points, each consisting of one locking karabiner secured to the protection point by a quickdraw sling and a 10mm Maillon Rapide closed in accordance with the manufacturer's specification.
- 6.2.3 The position of the final protection point shall be above the switch controlling the timing device or finishing signal for the route.
- 6.2.4 The position of the protection points shall be such as to neither assist, hinder nor endanger a competitor during his/her attempt on a route.
- 6.2.5 The climbing rope shall be connected to each competitor's harness. Connection shall be either:
 - a) by the approved knots (i.e. tying-in), or
 - b) by clipping a pre-tied approved knot in the rope to the harness by a screwgate karabiner of a type that minimises the possibility of cross loading and of the possibility of 'roll out' of the rope through the gate, or by using two screwgate karabiners in opposition.
- 6.2.6 Each rope shall be controlled by two belayers. The belayers shall be situated in a position at the bottom of the wall such as to prevent accidents due to falling holds or other equipment, which may occur during climbing.

The belayers shall at all times during a competitor's attempt on a route pay careful attention to the progress of the competitor to ensure:

 - a) That the competitor's movements are not hindered in any way by the rope being too tight or too loose;
 - b) That all falls are stopped in a safe manner;
 - c) That no excessive fall shall be experienced by the competitor being belayed;
 - d) That great care is taken to ensure that a falling competitor shall not be exposed to any danger of injury caused by the edge of an overlapping section or any other feature of the climbing wall.
- 6.2.7 After having completed the attempt or after a fall, the competitor shall be lowered to the ground. Care shall then be taken to ensure that the competitor does not come into contact with any ground-based equipment.
- 6.2.8 All excess equipment (karabiners, quickdraws, hangers, etc.) shall be removed from the routes.
- 6.2.9 The routes shall be designed in such a way that the competitors cannot interfere or unduly distract each other. If the lines of the routes are not vertical, they shall be diverted towards opposite directions.

6.3 ROUTE TIMING

- 6.3.1 The climbing time shall be determined either by mechanical-electrical timing or by manual timing.
- 6.3.2 If mechanical-electrical timing is used, the switch controlling the route timing system shall have an accuracy of 0.01 of a second. Should this timing system fail during any attempt, a technical incident shall be called for both/all competitors in the heat. Manual timing shall then not be used to determine the result of the attempt.
- 6.3.3 If manual timing is used, each route shall be equipped with a switch operating a red-coloured indicator light and, preferably, an audible signal. Each route shall be timed by a judge and two assistants, operating a stopwatch each. The time of each competitor for completing his/her attempt shall be recorded by the IFSC Judge taking into account the average of the stop watches, and eliminating obvious timing errors.

6.4 COMPLETION OF A ROUTE

- 6.4.1 A route shall be considered successfully completed if it has been climbed in accordance with the existing rules and if the competitor has struck the timing switch with his/her hand.
- 6.4.2 A competitor shall not be deemed to have successfully completed an attempt on a route if he/she:
- a) Falls;
 - b) Makes use of areas, holds or features demarcated in accordance with Article 3.2.2;
 - c) Uses the side edges or the top edges of the wall for climbing;
 - d) Touches the ground with any part of the body after having started;
 - e) Uses any artificial aid.

6.5 PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

- 6.5.1 Information on the preliminary ranking place and climbing times of each competitor in each round of the competition shall be provided to spectators and coaches directly after determining results
- a) on electronic display (board or screen), or
 - b) on the official competition notice board if a) is not possible.
- 6.5.2 Overall result lists shall show the competitors' achieved climbing times on all routes and in all rounds.

6.6 STARTING ORDER AND RANKING – FORMAT A

- 6.6.1 The starting order of the qualification round shall be the reverse of the current WR. Non-ranked competitors shall start first in the round in randomised order.
- 6.6.2 If qualification and final rounds are held on the same day, then the routes for both rounds shall be the same. If qualification and final rounds are held on different days, then the routes for each round may be slightly different. Competitors shall be informed about this in advance.
- 6.6.3 Each competitor shall proceed by first climbing Route 1. Following the successful completion of this he/she shall proceed to Route 2.
- 6.6.4 Each competitor shall be ranked in accordance with the aggregate climbing time achieved on both routes.
- 6.6.5 If a competitor fails to complete one of the qualification routes, he/she shall be eliminated and ranked in the last position.

6.6.6 Number of competitors in the final round:

- a) If the number of competitors completing the qualification round is 16 or more, then 16 competitors shall qualify for the final round;
- b) If the number of competitors completing the qualification round is less than 16, then 8 competitors shall qualify for the final round;
- c) If the number of competitors completing the qualification round is less than 8, then 4 competitors shall qualify for the final round;
- d) If the number of competitors completing the qualification round is less than 4, then the qualification shall be re-run until 4 competitors qualify for the final round.

The final round may thus consist of the following stages: an eighth final, a quarter final and always a semifinal and a final.

6.6.7 The final round shall take place as a series of knock-out heats, decided by the aggregate climbing time achieved by the competitors on both routes.

Overall results of the losers of the pairs in the eighth final (places 9 – 16) and in the quarter final (places 5 – 8) shall be decided in accordance with their climbing times in the heat.

6.6.8 The starting order for the first stage of the final round shall be based on the final ranking of the qualification round, as follows:

Scheme 1:16 competitors

Heat number	Competitor ranked	with	Competitor ranked
1	1		16
2	8		9
3	4		13
4	5		12
5	2		15
6	7		10
7	3		14
8	6		11

Scheme 2:8 competitors

Heat number	Competitor ranked	with	Competitor ranked
1	1		8
2	4		5
3	2		7
4	3		6

Scheme 3: 4 competitors

Heat number	Competitor ranked	with	Competitor ranked
1	1		4
2	2		3

The starting order for other stages of the final round is shown by the schemes in Figure 1 below.

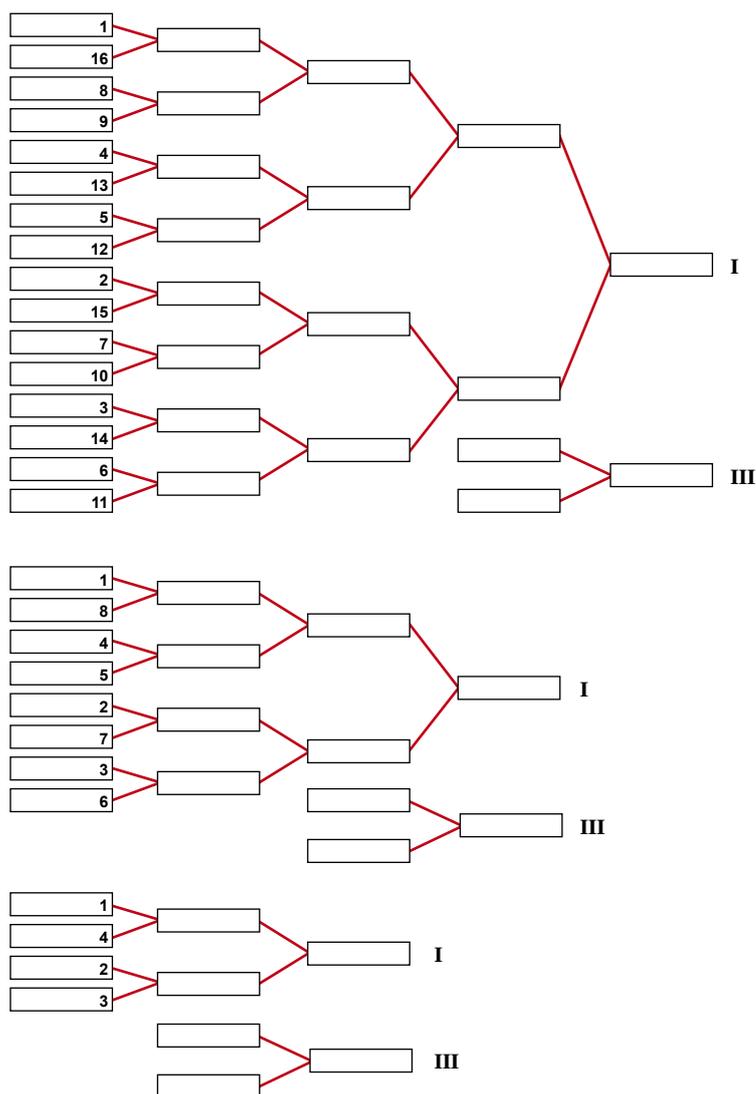


Figure 1:
Starting order for different stages of the final round with 16, 8 and 4 competitors respectively
(Roman figures indicate the final ranking of that competitor).

The competitor with a higher position in the box scheme shall start on Route 1.

6.6.9 Failure to complete a route in the final round:

- a) If one competitor in a final round heat fails to complete either route, he/she is eliminated and the other competitor is declared the winner among the two. If both competitors fail to complete either of the routes, then the heat(s) shall be re-run immediately until a winner is decided;
- b) The heats to determine the third and fourth places shall always take place and shall always produce a winner.

6.6.10 Tied competitors:

- a) If, because of tied competitors on the last qualifying place(s) for the final round, the number of qualified competitors exceeds the fixed number in accordance with rule 6.6.6, none of these tied competitors shall proceed into the final round. They shall be ranked equally;

- b) If two or more competitors are tied in the qualification round for any other place in the final round than the last, then they shall be separated at random for placement in the starting order;
- c) If two competitors are tied in the semifinal and final stage of the final round, then the winner shall be determined by additional elimination heats between the two competitors;
- d) If two competitors are tied in any other stage of the final round, then the winner shall be determined by their results of the preceding stage of the final round or, for the first stage of the final round, by their results in the qualification round.

6.7 STARTING ORDER AND RANKING – FORMAT B

6.7.1 The qualification and final rounds are carried out in heats, the number of heats being determined by the number of competitors as shown in the Table below:

Number of competitors	Number of heats
1-4	1
5-8	2
9-12	3
13-16	4
17-20	5
21-24	6
etc.	etc.

The number of competitors in each heat shall be such that the number of competitors is distributed as evenly as possible between the heats, and each heat shall consist of at least two competitors.

If there are 4 registered competitors or less in the category, there shall be no qualification round.

6.7.2 The starting order of the qualification round shall be prepared in accordance with the following procedure:

- a) A seeding list shall be prepared with the competitors placed in accordance with the current WR and non-ranked competitors added at random in the later part of the list;
- b) The competitors shall then be placed in heats in the order of seeding in a zigzag distribution in the manner shown in the following example with 17 competitors:

Heat	Seeding number			
A	1 ▼	10 ▶	11 ▼	
B	2	9	12	
C	3	8	13	
D	4	7	14	17
E	5 ▶	6 ▲	15 ▶	16 ▲

The order of running the heats shall be drawn.

6.7.3 Number of competitors qualifying for the final round:

- a) If the number of registered competitors is 16 or more, then 16 competitors may qualify for the final round;
- b) If the number of registered competitors is between 8 and 15, then 8 competitors may qualify for the final round;
- c) If the number of registered competitors is between 5 and 7, then 4 competitors may qualify for the final round.

6.7.4 All winners of heats in the qualification round shall qualify for the final round. The remaining places in the final round shall be filled by those competitors who have achieved the lowest climbing times among the remaining competitors. If two or more competitors are tied for the last place or places to qualify for the final round, there shall be one or several elimination heat(s) between the tied competitors until they achieve different results.

If there are more than 16 heats in the qualification round, then the 16 winners with the best times shall qualify for the final round.

6.7.5 If a competitor fails to successfully complete his/her attempt on the route in the qualification round, he/she shall be eliminated and ranked in the last position.

6.7.6 The final round may consist of the following stages: a quarter final, a semifinal and always a final. Each stage shall consist of one or several heats depending on the number of competitors as shown in Article 6.7.1.

6.7.7 The starting order of the first stage of the final round shall be prepared in accordance with the following procedure:

- a) A seeding list shall be prepared with the winners of all heats ranked highest and listed in accordance with their result in the qualifications so that the winner with the lowest climbing time is seeded first, followed by the remaining qualified competitors placed in accordance with their ranking in the qualification round.
- b) The competitors shall then be placed in heats in the order of seeding in a zigzag distribution in the following manner:

16 Competitors/Quarter Final Stage

Heat	Qualification Rank			
A	1 ▼	8 ▶	9 ▼	16
B	2	7	10	15
C	3	6	11	14
D	4 ▶	5 ▲	12 ▶	13 ▲

8 Competitors/Semi Final Stage

Heat	Qualification Rank			
A	1 ▼	4 ▶	5 ▼	8
B	2 ▶	3 ▲	6 ▶	7 ▲

4 Competitors/Final Stage

Heat	Qualification Rank			
A	1	2	3	4

For reasons of competitors having failed to successfully complete their attempt on the route in the qualification round, a smaller number of competitors than that indicated in the above tables may actually qualify for the final round. However, the starting order scheme shall remain unchanged for those competitors who have qualified.

6.7.8 The two competitors who have successfully completed their attempt with the lowest climbing time in each heat shall qualify for the subsequent stage of the final round. The other competitors shall be ranked in accordance with their climbing time in that stage of the final round.

6.7.9 Competitors qualifying for the semifinal stage from heat A in the quarter final stage shall be placed in the same semifinal heat as the competitors qualifying from heat D, and competitors qualifying from heat B shall be placed in the same heat as the competitors qualifying from heat C.

6.7.10 The competitors in the final heat of the final round shall be ranked in accordance with their climbing time in that heat.

6.7.11 If a competitor fails to complete the route in the final round, he/she shall be ranked in the last position of that stage of the final round, and be eliminated from any following heat.

6.7.12 If two or more competitors are tied for the first place in the final heat of the final round, the winner shall be determined by one or several additional elimination heat(s) between the tied competitors until they achieve different results.

If two or more competitors are tied in any other heat of the final round their ranking position shall be determined by their results in the preceding stage of the final round or - for the first stage of the final round - by their results in the qualification round. If ties remain, successively earlier stages shall be taken into account in the countback procedure.

6.8 DEMONSTRATION AND OBSERVATION

6.8.1 The route(s) shall be demonstrated by the Chief Routesetter or any member of the route-setting team.

6.8.2 Each route shall be demonstrated twice, first at slow speed and then at race speed. This shall be followed by an observation period for each demonstrated route.

6.8.3 If Format B is applied or if Format A is applied and the Jury President in consultation with the Chief Routesetter so decides; only one of the routes shall be demonstrated.

6.8.4 The length of the observation period shall normally be 4 minutes, which can be extended by the Jury President.

6.8.5 Competitors are allowed to touch the first hold(s), without leaving the ground with both their feet.

6.9 CLIMBING PROCEDURE

6.9.1 On being called to the start of a route, each competitor shall take up a starting position with one foot on the floor and the other on the first foothold, and with one or both hands on the first handhold.

6.9.2 If both/all competitors are in position, the IFSC Judge shall ask "Ready?". Unless any of the competitors clearly calls that he/she is not ready, the IFSC Judge shall call "Attention!" and after a short pause (< 2 seconds) the IFSC Judge shall give a short (< 0.2 second) and loud, clearly audible starting signal, or call "Go!" where manual timing is used. All verbal instructions given shall be loud and clearly audible.

6.9.3 The position of the starting signal should be equidistant from both/all competitors.

6.9.4 On being given the instruction or signal to start, each competitor shall commence his/her attempt on the route. No appeal against the starting instruction shall be allowed unless the competitor clearly calls that he/she is not ready when the IFSC Judge asks "Ready?".

6.9.5 If the IFSC Judge is giving starting instruction, there shall not be any kind of noise or other distraction which might prevent the starting signal being clearly heard by competitors and/or judges.

6.9.6 In the case of a false start, the IFSC Judge shall stop both/all competitors immediately. This instruction shall be loud and clearly audible. A competitor committing two false starts in the same heat shall be eliminated.

6.9.7 At the top of the route each competitor shall stop the timing device by striking the switch with his/her hand.

6.9.8 After having successfully completed their attempt(s) on the route(s) in the qualification round, the competitors shall return to a separate isolation zone where they shall remain until the Route Judge requests them to leave it.

6.9.9 When a heat in the final round is completed, the following procedure shall be followed:

- a) If Format A is applied, competitors qualified for the following heat shall return to the separate isolation zone;
- b) If Format B is applied, all competitors who have successfully completed their attempt on the route shall return to the separate isolation zone.

6.10 TECHNICAL INCIDENTS

6.10.1 A technical incident in speed competitions is defined as:

- a) A broken or loose hold;
- b) A tight rope which either assists or hinders a competitor;
- c) A failure of the timing system;
- d) Any other occurrence that results in a disadvantage or unfair advantage to a competitor, which is not the result of an action on the part of the competitor.

6.10.2 If a competitor suffers a technical incident and interrupts his/her attempt, he/she shall start his/her new attempt after the repair has been effectuated.

If a competitor suffers a technical incident during any heat other than in the qualification round where Format A is applied, and interrupts his/her attempt, his/her opponent competitor(s) shall continue to climb. If the technical incident is confirmed, then both/all competitors shall re-start the heat.

A competitor affected by a technical incident shall wait in a separate isolation zone until the repair has been effectuated. This is applicable also to competitors in the qualification round where Format A is applied, who have finished their attempt on a route where the technical incident has not occurred, and who still have to finish their attempt on the other route.

A minimum recuperation time of 5 minutes shall be allowed for competitors affected by a technical incident.

7 WORLD CUP SERIES

7.1 INTRODUCTION

- 7.1.1 In accordance with the Statutes of the IFSC, a World Cup series of international competitions shall be organised each year.
- 7.1.2 The IFSC may approve up to a maximum of ten (10) World Cup competitions each year for each discipline (lead, bouldering and speed).
- 7.1.3 Each World Cup competition approved by the IFSC shall include categories for male and female competitors. Only competitors who are or will be at least 16 years of age in the year of the competition shall be eligible to compete in a World Cup competition.
- 7.1.4 Each World Cup competition shall include one or several of the three disciplines lead, bouldering and speed.
- 7.1.5 World Cup competitions shall normally take place during weekend periods. The maximum duration of a World Cup competition shall be two (2) days if there is only one discipline, three (3) days for two disciplines (e.g. lead and speed), and four (4) days for all three disciplines (lead, bouldering and speed).
- 7.1.6 At the end of each World Cup competition, the winners of the men's and women's lead, bouldering and speed events shall be awarded a trophy by the member federation/organiser.
- 7.1.7 At the conclusion of the final competition of the annual series, the World Cup shall be awarded to the competitor(s) who have accumulated the highest number of points in accordance with the rules.
- 7.1.8 On completion of each World Cup series of competitions, the winner of both the male and female categories shall be awarded a World Cup trophy. In addition, the competitors ranked first, second and third shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively.

7.2 LEAD

- 7.2.1 Each World Cup lead competition shall include qualification, semifinal, final and, where necessary, superfinal rounds.

7.3 BOULDERING

- 7.3.1 Each World Cup bouldering competition shall normally include, in accordance with the rules governing this type of competition, three rounds, named qualification, semifinal and final rounds.

7.4 SPEED

- 7.4.1 Each World Cup speed competition shall, in accordance with the rules governing this type of competition, include a qualification round and a final round.

7.5 WORLD CUP RANKINGS

7.5.1 At the end of each World Cup competition, the first thirty (30) competitors in each of the male and female categories shall be awarded the following points:

Rank	Number of points	Rank	Number of points	Rank	Number of points
1st	100	11th	31	21st	10
2nd	80	12th	28	22nd	9
3rd	65	13th	26	23rd	8
4th	55	14th	24	24th	7
5th	51	15th	22	25th	6
6th	47	16th	20	26th	5
7th	43	17th	18	27th	4
8th	40	18th	16	28th	3
9th	37	19th	14	29th	2
10th	34	20th	12	30th	1

7.5.2 The points awarded after each World Cup competition shall be aggregated as specified in Article 7.5.3 below. The aggregate points shall be recalculated after each World Cup competition and the competitors having World Cup points shall be ranked in descending order of points accumulated. The World Cup Ranking for lead, bouldering and speed shall be published after each round of the World Cup series of competitions.

7.5.3 The maximum number of points a competitor can accumulate towards the final World Cup ranking shall be as follows:

- a) when 5 or less competitions are organised, all competition results shall count;
- b) when more than five competitions are organised, all competition results except one shall count.

7.5.4 The combined rankings for the World Cup series shall be calculated by adding the highest ranking points achieved by each competitor in accordance with Article 7.5.1 in the competitions constituting the series. The maximum number of competitions in each discipline to be used in this calculation shall be the lowest number of counting results for any of the three disciplines in accordance with Article 7.5.3. Only competitors who have accumulated ranking points in at least one competition in each discipline are eligible for the combined World Cup ranking.

7.5.5 If a tie between two competitors for the first place in the World Cup exists at the completion of the final World Cup competition of the year, the tied competitors shall be assessed with a view to breaking the tie by comparing the individual rankings in those competitions in which the competitors have been in direct competition with each other - i.e. the number of 'better' places in competitions in which they have competed against each other. If a tie remains unbroken following this assessment, then the highest number of best results, starting with the number of 1st places, then the number of 2nd places and so on, shall determine the first place

7.5.6 The national team ranking for the World Cup series shall be calculated by adding the points achieved by the national teams in accordance with Article 3.13.3 for each competition constituting the series. The maximum number of competitions to be used in this calculation shall be the number of counting results in accordance with Article 7.5.3.

7.6 REGISTRATION OF COMPETITORS

7.6.1 Member federations shall be permitted to register, on the official IFSC registration form, the following competitors (where applicable):

- a) National team quota - non-host country

Each member federation shall be permitted to register three (3) official team members in both the male and female categories.

b) National team quota - host country

The member federation responsible for hosting and organising a World Cup competition shall be permitted to register six (6) official team members in both the male and female categories. If a member Federation organises more than two competitions in the same discipline, this rule applies to two competitions only. Competitions will be chosen by the member federation before the start of the season, otherwise the rule (double quota) automatically applies to the first two competitions staged in that country.

c) Extra quota

The first 10 men and the first 10 women listed on the WR at the registration deadline for a given competition, and those placed first in the latest World Championships and the latest Youth Continental Championships and who fulfil the age requirement in accordance with Article 7.1.3, shall have the status of extra-quota competitors. Member federations may register these competitors in addition to those specified in Article 7.6.1 a) and 7.6.1 b) above.

d) Supplementary lists

Each Member federation shall be permitted to register, on the official IFSC registration form, additional competitors in a "Supplementary List". The registration of these competitors will be confirmed by the IFSC provided that the total number of competitors proposed by the organising federation has not been exceeded. In such cases, available places, exceeding the places filled by competitors registered as national team competitors and extra-quota competitors, will be equally distributed among the requesting federations.

All official team members and extra-quota competitors must be accepted by the organisers.

The minimum number of competitors that each organiser must accept is established at 100 men and 100 women.

7.7 PRIZES

7.7.1 The minimum amount of prizes is established by the IFSC Plenary Assembly for each season. The list of prizes is established by the IFSC Board in accordance with the Organising Committee when exceeding this minimum, as described in the relevant Appendix.

8 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

8.1 INTRODUCTION

- 8.1.1 In accordance with the Statutes of the IFSC, a World Championship competition shall be organised every second, odd-numbered, year.
- 8.1.2 Each World Championship competition approved by the IFSC shall include categories for male and female competitors. Only competitors who are or will be at least 16 years of age in the year of the competition shall be eligible to compete in a World Championship competition.
- 8.1.3 Each World Championship competition shall include lead, bouldering and speed disciplines, and shall be organised in accordance with the format approved by the IFSC.
- 8.1.4 World Championship competitions shall normally take place during weekend periods. The maximum duration of a World Championship shall be five (5) days.
- 8.1.5 The competitors ranked first, second and third in the male and female categories of the lead, bouldering and speed disciplines shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. In addition, the competitors ranked first shall be awarded a World Championship trophy.
- 8.1.6 A combined competition ranking shall be prepared for World Championship competitions. The competitors ranked first, second and third in the male and female categories in the combined competition ranking shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. In addition, the competitors ranked first shall be awarded a Combined World Championship trophy.
- 8.1.7 Member federations are eligible to stand as candidates to organise a World Championship competition only when they have organised a World Cup competition in the two years prior to the Championship.

8.2 LEAD AND BOULDER

- 8.2.1 Each World Championship lead and boulder competition shall include qualification, semifinal, final and, where necessary, superfinal rounds.
- 8.2.2 The IFSC may specify alternative formats for the qualification round of a World Championship competition.

8.3 REGISTRATION OF COMPETITORS

- 8.3.1 Member Federations shall be permitted to register, on the official IFSC registration form, the following competitors (where applicable):
 - a) Five (5) official team members in both the male and female categories;
 - b) The current reigning World Champions, in both the male and female categories;
 - c) The current reigning Continental Champions in both the male and female categories.

9 WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

9.1 INTRODUCTION

- 9.1.1 In accordance with the Statutes of the IFSC, a World Youth Championship competition shall be organised every year.
- 9.1.2 Each World Youth Championship competition approved by the IFSC shall include categories for male and female competitors.
- 9.1.3 Each World Youth Championship competition shall include both lead and speed disciplines.
- 9.1.4 Member federations are eligible to stand as candidates to organise a World Youth Championship only when they have organised an IFSC International Youth competition in the two years prior to the Championship.
- 9.1.5 World Youth Championship competitions shall normally take place during weekend periods. The maximum duration of a World Youth Championship competition shall be four (4) days. Special consideration shall be given to determining the dates of such competitions in order to minimise problems associated with attendance at educational institutions.
- 9.1.6 The competitors ranked first, second and third in the male and female categories of the lead and speed disciplines shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. In addition, the competitors ranked first shall be awarded a World Youth Championship trophy.

9.2 AGE GROUPS

- 9.2.1 The World Youth Championship shall include lead and speed disciplines for the following age groups:
- Youth B: competitors eligible to register for this age group shall have been born either 14 or 15 calendar years before the year of the competition, e.g. those competing in the World Youth Championship in 2007 shall have been born in either 1992 or 1993.
 - Youth A: competitors eligible to register for this age group shall have been born either 16 or 17 calendar years before the year of the competition, e.g. those competing in the World Youth Championship in 2007 shall have been born in either 1990 or 1991.
 - Juniors: competitors eligible to register for this age group shall have been born either 18 or 19 calendar years before the year of the competition, e.g. those competing in the World Youth Championship in 2007 shall have been born in either 1988 or 1989.

Year of event	Year of birth					
	Youth B		Youth A		Juniors	
2007	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988
2008	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
2009	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990
2010	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991
2011	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992
2012	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993

Table 1. World Youth Championship age groups.

9.3 LEAD AND SPEED

- 9.3.1 The lead and speed events shall be organised in accordance with the format approved by the IFSC with the exceptions given in Articles 9.3.2 and 9.3.3.
- 9.3.2 The lead event shall consist of 3 rounds, namely:
- A qualification round consisting of 2 different routes;
 - Semifinal and final rounds.

The qualification round shall be run in accordance with European Youth Series rules. The semifinal and final rounds shall be run in accordance with the lead rules in Section 4 of the IFSC Rules.

- 9.3.3 In the speed event, all heats in a previous stage of the final round (eighth final, quarter final, semifinal, and heats to determine the third and fourth places) shall be completed, for all age groups in both categories, before any heat in the next stage shall commence.

9.4 REGISTRATION OF COMPETITORS

- 9.4.1 Member Federations shall be permitted to register, on the official IFSC registration form, the following competitors (where applicable):

- a) Four (4) official team members in each of the male and female categories in each age group;
- b) The current reigning World Youth Champions;
- c) The current reigning Continental Youth Champions, or Continental Youth Cup winners where applicable.

10 CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

10.1 INTRODUCTION

10.1.1 In accordance with the Statutes of the IFSC, the following continental championships may be organised each year:

- a) Asian Championship;
- b) European Championship;
- c) North American Championship;
- d) Oceanian Championship;
- e) South American Championship.

10.1.2 In accordance with the Statutes of the IFSC, the Continental Councils are entirely responsible for the organisation of these championships which shall be undertaken in accordance with the IFSC rules.

10.1.3 Only members of the countries who are members of each Continental Council shall be eligible to take part in these championships.

10.1.4 Each Continental Championship competition approved by the IFSC shall include categories for male and female competitors. Only competitors who are or will be at least 16 years of age in the year of the competition shall be eligible to compete in a Continental Championship competition.

10.1.5 Each Continental Championship competition shall include lead, bouldering and speed events, which shall be organised in accordance with the format approved by the IFSC.

10.1.6 Continental Championship competitions shall normally take place during weekend periods. The maximum duration of a Continental Championship shall be five (5) days.

10.1.7 The competitors ranked first, second and third in male and female categories of the lead, bouldering and speed disciplines shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. In addition, the competitors ranked first shall be awarded a Continental Championship trophy.

10.1.8 A combined competition ranking shall be prepared for Continental Championship competitions. The competitors ranked first, second and third in the male and female categories in the combined competition ranking shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. In addition, the competitors ranked first shall be awarded a Combined Continental Championship trophy.

10.2 REGISTRATION OF COMPETITORS

10.2.1 Member Federations shall be permitted to register on the official IFSC registration form the following competitors (where applicable):

- a) Five (5) official team members in both the male and female categories.
- b) The current reigning Continental Champions in both the male and female categories.
- c) The current reigning World Champions in both the male and female categories, if they are members of eligible federations.

11 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

11.1 INTRODUCTION

11.1.1 The Jury President has overall authority for all activities and decisions affecting the competition within the competition area (see Article 1.4.1.a).

11.2 COMPETITORS

11.2.1 Both the Jury President and the IFSC Judge shall be authorised to take the following actions in respect to infringements of the competition rules and with regard to matters of indiscipline by any competitor:

- a) An informal, verbal warning;
- b) An official warning accompanied by the showing of a Yellow Card.

11.2.2 A Yellow Card warning in accordance with Article 11.2.1(b) above may be issued for any of the following infringements of the rules:

Regarding instructions from the Jury President or the IFSC Judge:

- a) Failure to obey any instruction by the Jury President or the IFSC Judge, such as:
 - i) Undue delay in returning to the isolation zone following the instruction of the IFSC Judge or the Jury President;
 - ii) Undue delay in leaving the call zone and entering the competition zone when instructed to do so;
 - iii) Failure to start in accordance with the IFSC Judge's instruction.

Regarding equipment and ceremonies:

- b) Failure to comply with IFSC rules and regulations governing equipment and clothing;
- c) Failure to wear the starting number bib provided by the competition organiser;
- d) Non-participation of competitors in the opening ceremony;
- e) Non-participation of finalists in the award ceremony;

Regarding conduct:

- f) Use of obscene or abusive language or behaviour of a relatively mild nature;
- g) Unsporting behaviour of a relatively minor nature.

Appeals against such decisions shall follow the procedure specified in Section 12.

11.2.3 The issue of a second yellow card in one competition shall result in the disqualification of the competitor from the competition itself.

The issue of a third yellow card in the same season will result in one of the following:

- a) If the competitor is already registered for the next IFSC competition counting for the WR, then the competitor will not be eligible to enter this competition;
- b) If a) is not applicable, then the competitor is ineligible for registration in the next IFSC competition counting for the WR, in the same discipline the third yellow card was issued.

11.2.4 The Jury President alone shall be authorised to disqualify a competitor from a competition. The disqualification shall be accompanied by the showing of a Red Card.

Disqualification without Further Sanction

The following infringements of the rules shall result in issuing of a Red Card and the immediate disqualification of the competitor from the competition without further sanction:

- a) Observing the routes from outside the permitted observation zone;
- b) The use of non-approved equipment;
- c) Unauthorised use of any means of communication while in the isolation zone or in other restricted area.

Appeals against such decisions shall follow the procedure specified in Section 12.

Disqualification with referral to the IFSC Disciplinary Commission

The following infringements of the rules shall result in the issuing of a Red Card and the immediate disqualification of the competitor from the competition, with referral to the IFSC Disciplinary Commission:

Infringements committed in the competition area by an athlete or team member:

- d) Gathering information regarding a route which the athlete is to attempt beyond that which is permitted by the competition rules;
- e) Gathering and/or communicating information to other athletes beyond that which is permitted by the competition rules;
- f) Distracting or interfering with any athlete who is preparing for or is attempting a route;
- g) Failing to comply with the instructions of the judges or organisers or IFSC officials;
- h) Refusing to conform with the advertising regulations governing clothing and equipment;
- i) Unsporting behaviour or other serious disturbance during a competition;
- j) Abusive, threatening or violent behaviour to IFSC officials, organisers, team members (including athletes) or to any other person.

Infringements committed outside the competition area but in the public arena or at the competition venue or at any accommodation or facilities used in connection with the competition by a athlete or team member:

- k) Serious unsporting behaviour or other serious disturbance;
- l) Abusive, threatening or violent behaviour to IFSC officials, organisers, team members (including athletes) or to any other person.

The proceedings followed in the case of referral to the IFSC Disciplinary Commission are issued separately in the IFSC Disciplinary and Appeal Rules.

11.2.5 At the earliest convenient time after issuing a Yellow or Red Card, the Jury President shall:

- a) Submit a written statement to the competitor's team manager (or in the absence of a team manager, to the competitor concerned) regarding the offence and whether the Jury President proposes to refer the matter for consideration in respect to further disciplinary action in accordance with the rules;
- b) Submit a copy of this written statement together with a detailed report of the offence against the rules, any evidence, and any recommendations regarding consideration of additional sanction to the IFSC for referral to the IFSC Disciplinary Commission.

11.3 TEAM OFFICIALS

11.3.1 Team officials shall be regarded in the same manner as competitors and shall be treated accordingly.

11.4 OTHER PERSONS

11.4.1 The Jury President is authorised to demand the immediate dismissal from the competition area, of any person in contravention of the rules and, if necessary, suspend all competition activities until this demand has been complied with.

12 APPEALS

12.1 GENERAL

12.1.1 All verbal and written appeals and official responses to appeals shall be made in English.

12.1.2 An appeal shall only be accepted if accompanied by the official appeals fee.

12.2 COMPETITION APPEALS JURY

12.2.1 In the case of a written appeal, or in the case of a verbal appeal in accordance with Articles 12.3.1 and 12.4.2(b) below, the Jury President shall convene an Appeals Jury. The members of the Appeals Jury will be the Jury President and the IFSC Delegate. If the Jury President has been involved in the original decision and the IFSC Judge has not, then the IFSC Judge will take the place of the Jury President. If the Jury can not come to a unanimous decision on the appeal, the original decision shall stand. A decision shall be made as rapidly as circumstances allow. In the case of written appeals, the decision of the Appeal Jury shall be made in writing and handed by the Jury President to the person who officially lodged the appeal or, in the case of an appeal under 12.4.2(b) below, the team manager and/or competitor shall be informed.

12.2.2 The decision of the Appeals Jury in respect to Articles 12.3 and 12.4 below of these rules shall be final and not subject to further appeal.

12.3 APPEALS AGAINST A DECISION CONCERNING A COMPETITOR'S ATTEMPT

12.3.1 In respect to an appeal regarding Article 4.10.3, this shall be made to the IFSC Judge, who will immediately inform the Jury President, in order to proceed in accordance with the above procedure.

12.4 APPEALS AGAINST PUBLISHED RESULTS

12.4.1 An appeal against the ranking of a competitor after the completion of any round of the competition other than the final or superfinal round, and after the official results have been published, shall be made no later than 20 minutes after the publication of the results. In the case of the final or superfinal round it should be made no later than 10 minutes after the publication of the results. The appeal shall be made only following the publication of the results at the end of each round of a competition. The appeal shall be made in writing to the Jury President by the team manager or, where an official team manager is not present, by the competitor. The appeal shall be accompanied by the relevant appeals fee stipulated by the IFSC, which shall be paid to the IFSC Delegate.

12.4.2 Speed Competitions:

- a) In the case of an appeal against the published ranking of a competitor, an appeal shall be made in accordance with Article 12.4.1 above.
- b) In the case of an appeal during a knock-out elimination heat, an appeal shall be made immediately after the announcement of the result at the completion of the heat. The IFSC Judge shall immediately refer the matter to the Jury President. The next heat of the competition shall not commence until the Jury President has announced his/her decision. No fee shall be payable in respect to such appeals.

12.5 COMPLAINTS TO THE DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION

12.5.1 In those cases where the Jury President assesses that an infringement of the rules merits consideration by the IFSC Disciplinary Commission, the matter shall be referred to the disciplinary body together with the Jury President's report, copies of written communications between the Jury President and the team manager/ competitor concerned, and all relevant evidence.

12.6 DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION

12.6.1 The composition and the procedures of the Disciplinary Commission are defined in the IFSC referred documents, including the IFSC Disciplinary and Appeal Rules..

12.7 APPEALS FEE

12.7.1 The appeals fee payable shall be in accordance with the list of fees published annually by the IFSC.

12.7.2 If an appeal is upheld, the appeals fee shall be returned. If an appeal is rejected, the appeals fee shall not be returned.

13 ANTI DOPING

13.1 ADOPTION

13.1.1 The IFSC has adopted the World Anti-Doping Code (the Code).

13.2 APPLICATION

13.2.1 The Code applies to all competitions that are organised under the authority of the IFSC. Any person who enters, prepares for or participates in any manner – as athlete, coach, trainer, official, medical or para-medical personnel – in such competitions is deemed to have agreed to comply with and be subject to the Code and Article 13.4.1 of these rules.

13.3 COMPETENT BODIES WITHIN THE IFSC

13.3.1 The competent bodies within the IFSC for the application of the Code for competition climbing - which includes lead, bouldering and speed - are the Anti-Doping and the Disciplinary Commissions.

13.4 VIOLATIONS AND SANCTIONS

13.4.1 Doping violations will be dealt with in accordance with the IFSC Anti-Doping Policy and Procedure, and the IFSC Disciplinary and Appeal Rules.