

GLOSSARY

Interpretation

1. The following terms shall apply throughout these Rules:

Shall, and the alternative **must**, states a mandatory requirement;

Shall not, and the alternative **must not**, states a prohibition;

Should and **should not** state recommendations, there may be reasons to ignore a recommendation but the full implications must be understood and the case carefully weighed before choosing a different course;

May references a discretionary matter;

2. The following definitions shall apply throughout these Rules:

Applicable Standards has the meaning given in Article 3.5 of these Rules;

Appeal Fee means the amount published by the IFSC in relation to making in-competition appeals regarding compliance with and interpretation of these Rules;

Artificial Aid means Controlling or Using any of the following:

- a) any "T-Nut" placements provided for the fixing of artificial holds;
- b) any part of the Climbing Surface demarcated as out of bounds by the use of continuous black tape;
- c) any advertising or informational placards fixed to the Climbing Surface;
- d) any open side or top edges to the Climbing Surface;
- e) any bolt hanger fixed to the Climbing Surface; or
- f) any Protection Point or the climbing rope;

Artificial Hold means a manufactured climbing hold and attached to the Climbing Surface by means of screws or bolts;

Calendar Event means an international event:

- a) including competitions in one or more of the Disciplines recognised by the IFSC and governed by these rules; and/or
- b) listed on the calendar of events published by the IFSC;

Call Zone means any designated area to which competitors must report prior to commencing their attempt(s) any round of competition;

Category means a group of competitors within one specific Discipline, gender and age group;

Championship refers to the highest tier individual event(s) authorised by the IFSC (or a subordinate

continental council of the IFSC) in each of the Boulder, Combined, Lead and Speed Disciplines, open to competitors either:

- a) aged 16 or over in the year of the Championship, in which case the relevant events will be referred to as either [the](#) “World Championships” (where authorized by the IFSC) or [the](#) “[Council name] Championships” where authorized by a continental council of the IFSC (generically “Continental Championships”); or
- b) open to competitors aged 19 and under in the year of the Championship, in which case the relevant events will be referred to as either [the](#) “Youth World Championship(s)” (where authorized by the IFSC) or [the](#) “[council name] Youth Championships” where authorized by a continental council of the IFSC (generically “Continental Youth Championships”),

and in each case listed on the calendar of events published by the IFSC;

Climbing Surface means the usable surface of a climbing wall:

- a) including any Natural Holds; but
- b) excluding any Artificial Holds, volumes or other temporary Structures fixed onto the usable surface.

Competition Area means that part of the event venue allocated for sporting activities forming part of a competition, including:

- a) Any Isolation Zone or Warm-up Area(s);
- b) Any Call/Transit Zone(s);
- c) Any Competition Zones, including:
 - i) the Climbing Surfaces(s) used within any round of a competition;
 - ii) the area immediately in front of and next to the climbing wall(s), and
 - iii) any other area assigned specifically for the safe and fair conduct of a competition, such as additional areas needed for video recording or playback;

Control means, for the purposes of judging and scoring, that a competitor has made use of some object/structure to:

- a) achieve or change a stable body position; or
- b) successfully brake any dynamic movement,

and the terms “Controls”, “Controlled” and “Controlling” should be interpreted in context;

Cup or Cup Series refers to the highest tier annual competition series authorised by the IFSC (or a subordinate continental council of the IFSC) in each of the Boulder, Lead and Speed Disciplines, open to competitors either:

- a) aged 16 or over in the year of the Cup, in which case these events will be referred to as “World Cups” (where authorized by the IFSC) or “[council name] Cups” where authorized by a

continental council of the IFSC (generically “Continental Cups”); or

- b) open to competitors aged 19 and under in the year of the Cup, in which case these events will be referred to as either Youth World Cups (where authorized by the IFSC) or [Council name] Youth Cups where authorized by a continental council of the IFSC (generically “Continental Youth Cups”),

and in each case listed on the calendar of events published by the IFSC;

Discipline means a specific format for competition climbing which conforms to specific rules and standards;

Did Not Start or **DNS** means:

- a) in respect of any specific boulder, route or race within any round or stage of a competition, that a competitor failed to attempt that boulder, route or race, [recorded as either as such or as Not Started](#); and
- b) in respect of any round or stage of a competition, that a competitor either:
 - i) where that round of the competition is conducted under Isolation Conditions, failed to report to the Isolation Zone by, or was not present within the Isolation Zone at, the time set out on the Start List for that round;
 - ii) failed to report to the Call Zone when called for that round or stage; or
- (ii) was otherwise recorded with a Did Not Start IRM pursuant to the relevant provisions of Part 2 of these rules,

and will be recorded as such on the relevant results. Competitors recorded as Did Not Start in any round or stage will not be eligible to compete any subsequent round or stage of the same competition;

Disqualified or **DSQ** means a disqualification from competition for breach of these rules;

Disqualified for Behaviour or **DQB** means a disqualification from competition for a violation of the World Anti-Doping Code (or, where applicable, the Olympic Charter), or any other serious breach of applicable regulation issued by the IFSC, or where relevant the IOC or a NOC, including but not limited to:

- a) serious unsporting behaviour or other serious disturbance; and
- b) abusive, threatening or violent behaviour to any person;

Event Organiser means the body responsible for the organisation and preparation of any Calendar Event;

IFSC Official means any and all of the officials listed in paragraph 1.10, appointed by the IFSC at a relevant Calendar Event;

International Licence means an approval granted by the IFSC to an individual to:

- a) participate in any World Championship, Youth World Championship, Continental

Manual Belay Device means a device meeting the EN-15151-2 standard.

Member Federation means any National Federation that is a member of the IFSC;

Official Results means the results published by the IFSC at the conclusion of a competition (or any round of that competition) which must be marked as “Official” and signed by the appropriate IFSC Official;

Original Decision has the meaning given in Article 6.8 of these Rules;

Provisional Results ([otherwise referred to as Unofficial Results](#)) means any results published or circulated by the IFSC prior to the publication of the Official Results for any competition, or any route/round within that competition;

Protection Point means an assembly comprising:

- a) A Quick-Link connector, connected to a bolt fixed to the load-bearing structure of the Climbing Surface;
- b) A Karabiner into which a competitor can clip the rope when climbing. The orientation of this karabiner shall minimise the possibility of cross loading; and
- c) A single continuous machine-sewn sling of appropriate length (as determined by the Chief Routesetter) connecting (a) and (b).

Qualifying Event means any Calendar Event counting toward the World Ranking, as set out in Annex 1;

Ranking means the relationship between a set of results such that, for any two items, the first is either 'ranked higher than', 'ranked lower than' or 'ranked equal to' the second. All Rankings referred to in these rules are calculated using the *standard competition ranking* scheme unless stated to the contrary;

Registration Date means the date or dates following which additional Team Members may not be registered to participate in a Calendar Event.

Reaction Time means the difference between the time at which a competitor leaves the Starting Pad and the commencement of the Starting Signal, measured to at least 1/100s, and may be zero, positive or negative;

Safety Hold has the meaning given in paragraph 7.3;

Seeding means the preliminary ranking of a competitor used for the purpose of fixing their position in the initial Starting List for a competition;

Single Rope means a climbing rope meeting the EN-892 standard.

Starting Group means some subdivision of the competitors participating in a round of competition who all compete on the same routes/boulders;

Starting List means a list of all competitors eligible to start a competition round or some subdivision of that round, at the time noted on the document. Each Starting List will show:

- a) the relevant Category and round;
- b) the starting order;
- c) the name and IOC Country Code of each competitor;
- d) the time:
 - i) at which the Isolation Zone and/or any Warm-up Area will be opened and closed;
 - ii) of any observation or demonstration; and
 - iii) for the start of the round.

Starting Signal means a unique tone broadcast by the automated timing system to indicate the start of a measured climbing time;

Structure means any hollow or solid object providing either a single or multiple holds for either hands or feet and which is attached to the Climbing Surface for the duration of at least one round.

Team Manager means the senior Team Official appointed by a Member Federation to any Calendar Event, responsible for the conduct of all Team Officials and competitors within their team. The IFSC may, where a Calendar Event includes competitions in more than one Discipline, permit the nomination of a Team Manager for each Discipline;

Team Member means both Team Officials and competitors;

Team Officials means individuals appointed by a Member Federation to act in the capacity of Team Manager, coach, trainer, medical or para-medical staff at any Calendar Event;

Technical Incident means any event or circumstance that results in a disadvantage or unfair advantage to a competitor and which is not the result of that competitor's action(s).

Top Hold has the meaning given in Article 8.2 of these Rules;

Topo means a symbolic map of a route, marking the scoring value for each handhold on a route;

Transit Zone means a specific area(s) within the Competition Area arranged to permit competitors to prepare for (or recover from) their attempts on a boulder/route.

Use means, for the purposes of judging and scoring, that a competitor has made use of some object/structure to effect both a progressive movement of their centre of mass or hips; and a movement of either or both hands toward:

- a) the next sequential handhold along the line of progression; or
- b) any other handhold further along the line of progression which has been successfully Controlled by another competitor from the same handhold; or

and the terms "Used", "Uses" and "Using" will be interpreted in this context.

Valid Appeal has the meaning given in Article 6.5 of these Rules;

Valid Results Mark or **VRM** means a scoring result;

Warm-up Area means any part of the Competition Area designated and equipped for the purposes of athletic preparation;

World [Ranking Cup](#) means to the highest tier competition series sanctioned by the IFSC in each of the Boulder, Lead and Speed Disciplines, open to competitors aged 16 or over in the year of the relevant series;

Youth A means the age group comprising competitors who are or will be 16 or 17 years of age in the year of the relevant Calendar Event;

Youth B means the age group comprising competitors who are or will be 14 or 15 years of age in the year of the relevant Calendar Event;

Z-Clip means a situation where the climbing rope is connected to two Protection Points out of sequence;

National Team Rankings, Continental Youth Series Rankings, and other official information;

- G) appointment of all IFSC Officials to any Calendar Event.

Competitions

- 1.7 Only the members of the IFSC, or organisations specifically recognised by the IFSC, shall be eligible to apply to organise Calendar Events.
- 1.8 Only IFSC members shall be eligible to apply to enter their competitors in any Calendar Event.
- 1.9 Among the Calendar Events requiring the specific approval of the IFSC are the following:
- A) the World Cup series;
 - B) World [Championships](#) and ~~each~~ Continental Championships~~(s)~~;
 - C) Youth World [Championships](#) and Continental [Youth](#) Championships~~(s)~~;

Competition Officials

- 1.10 The IFSC may appoint the following officials to any Calendar Event:

- A) Technical Delegate

The Technical Delegate deals with all IFSC-related organisational matters during the running of any Calendar Event. The Technical Delegate has the authority to ensure that the facilities and services provided by the Event Organiser (such as registration of Team Members; scoring and results service; and medical, media and other facilities) are in accordance with the Event Organiser's Handbook and/or any other specific provisions agreed between the Event Organiser and the IFSC. The Technical Delegate has the right to attend all meetings with the Event Organiser. In the absence of the Jury President and before their arrival at the event venue, the Technical Delegate acts on their behalf in respect to the organisation of the event within the Competition Area. In exceptional circumstances, the Technical 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. The Technical Delegate shall submit a detailed report on the relevant Calendar Event to the IFSC.

For Calendar Events where a Technical Delegate has not been appointed or in case of absence of the Technical Delegate, the Jury President will take over the duties of the Technical Delegate.

- B) Jury President

The Jury President has overall authority within the Competition Area. This authority extends to covering the activities of the media and all persons nominated by the Event Organiser. The overall authority of the Jury President covers all aspects of the running of a competition. The Jury President presides over all meetings of IFSC Officials and over organisation and technical meetings with the Event Organiser and Team Members. Although the Jury President does not normally have a judging role, they may at any time choose to carry out any judging task generally assigned to the IFSC Judge or other judges should they deem that necessary. The Jury President is responsible for briefing all officiating National Judges on the application of

- D) authorised Team Officials (the Isolation Zone/Warm-Up area only);
- E) other persons specifically authorised by the Jury President. Such persons shall, throughout their stay in the Competition Area, be escorted and supervised by an approved official to ensure the maintenance of security of the Competition Area and prevent any undue distraction of, or interference with, any competitor,

3.13 Animals are not be allowed in the Competition Area. Exceptions from this rule can be authorised by the Jury President.

Clothing and equipment

3.14 All technical equipment used by a competitor shall comply with the relevant Applicable Standard. Each competitor:

- A) must wear climbing shoes and (where relevant) a harness during their attempts;
- B) may use:
 - 1) [a chalk bag and commercially available dry or liquid climbing chalk for their hands. No other performance enhancing agents may be used \(e.g. resin/rosin\);](#)
 - 2) [commercially available athletic compression supports \(for arms/legs\) and/or climbing knee-pads; and/or](#)
 - 3) [athletic support tape where necessary for the prevention or management of injury;](#)
- C) may wear a climbing helmet.

Competitors must not wear or carry audio equipment when climbing.

3.15 An alphanumeric bib provided by the Event Organiser shall be displayed prominently on the back of the top. The size of the bib shall not exceed the dimensions specified in the Event Organisers' Handbook. The Event Organiser may provide additional bibs to be placed on competitors' trouser leg.

Team Uniforms

3.16 Team Members representing their Member Federation at official ceremonies and meetings (including interviews, and press conferences staged by the IFSC or Event Organizers) shall, unless otherwise agreed by the Technical Delegate, wear a distinctive team uniform, which shall include a long-sleeved top bearing:

- A) the name of the country or its official IOC three-letter code; and
- B) (optionally) the logo of the Member Federation; and
- C) (optionally) a representation of the relevant national flag.

3.17 Competitors representing their Member Federation shall, when climbing, wear a distinctive team uniform:

- A) which shall include a uniform top (which may be either long or short sleeved) in the national

competition shall be final, and no appeal shall be accepted in respect to this decision.

Rankings and records

3.21 The IFSC publishes the following rankings:

- A) World Cup Rankings for each year and Category, calculated in accordance with the relevant section of these Rules;
- B) a continuously updated World Ranking for each of the Boulder, Lead and Speed Disciplines, which shall be calculated as the weighted sum of the Ranking Points awarded to competitors in each Qualifying Event within the preceding ~~24~~ months period; and
- C) World Records for the Speed Discipline.

- 3). Non-participation of the medallists in the award ceremony;
- 4.5 A Team ~~Member~~ Official in receipt of a Yellow Card shall not, for the duration of the relevant Calendar Event, be permitted access to any area set aside within the Competition Area for the benefit of Team Members.

Disqualification (DSQ)

- 4.6 The Jury President is authorised to Disqualify any Team Member registered for a competition. A Disqualification will be accompanied by the showing of a Red Card.
- 4.7 The following infringements of the rules will result in immediate Disqualification of the person from the relevant Calendar Event and may be accompanied by referral to the IFSC Disciplinary Commission:
 - A) ~~gathering information about the routes/boulders other than as considered by the definition of Isolation Conditions (when such conditions are in force)~~not used);
 - B) the use of non-approved equipment;
 - C) unauthorised use while in the Competition Area of any device capable of communicating or receiving communication;
 - D) in respect of any round conducted under Isolation Conditions, gathering or providing information other than as contemplated by the definition of Isolation Conditions, including but not limited to:
 - 1) from any person outside the Competition Area;
 - 2) from any person who has already attempted a relevant route/boulder.

For the avoidance of doubt, in competition rounds where Isolation Conditions do not apply, competitors may receive information from other team members who are outside the Competition Zone both prior and during their attempts;

Disqualification for Behaviour (DQB)

- 4.8 The Jury President is authorised to Disqualify for Behaviour any Team Member registered for a competition. Any Disqualification for Behaviour will be accompanied by the showing of a Red Card and referral to the IFSC Disciplinary Commission; and will have effect for all competitions at the relevant Calendar Event.
- 4.9 The following matters will result in immediate Disqualification for Behaviour:
 - A) failing to comply with the instructions of the judges, Event Organiser or IFSC officials when in the Competition Area ;
 - B) refusal to submit to an in-competition Body Mass Index (BMI) test when directed by the Jury President;
 - C) distracting or interfering with any competitor who is preparing for or is attempting a route;
 - D) refusing to conform with the advertising regulations governing clothing and equipment;

period for the relevant route and only once the Team Officials have left the Isolation Zone.

7.20 Each route shall be judged by at least one (1) National Judge assisted by a Time Keeper, who shall record for each competitor:

- A) their climbing time to the nearest (lower) second;
- B) their achieved score, which shall be either:
 - 1) where the competitor has remained in a Legitimate Position throughout their attempt:
 - a) “TOP”, where the competitor has clipped the final Protection Point on the route within the fixed climbing period; ~~and/or~~
 - b) the scoring value on the Topo for the last hold Controlled or Used by the competitor prior to their:
 - i) falling; or
 - ii) attempt being terminated; ~~or,~~
 - 2) where the competitor has not remained in a Legitimate Position throughout their attempt, the scoring value on the Topo for the last hold Controlled by the competitor whilst in a Legitimate Position,
and in each case:
 - 3) ~~considering only~~ holds used by either hand will be considered for scoring purposes, where the scoring value for Using a hold (designated by the postfix “+”) will be better than that for Controlling the same hold; ~~and-~~
 - 4) scoring of a competitor’s attempt will be paused at the last hold marked on the Topo from which the Chief Routesetter has deemed it possible to clip any unclipped Protection Point when the competitor Controls (or passes) this hold, unless or until the relevant Protection Point has been clipped.

7.21 Where a competitor Controls/Uses a hold not marked on the Topo, the IFSC Judge and Chief Routesetter shall determine what scoring value should be assigned to this new hold. For the avoidance of doubt, this value may be the same as an existing hold or some new value.

Ranking

7.22 Each competitor attempting a route will be ranked on that route in the following order:

- A) all competitors scored as TOP;
- B) all other competitors in descending order of the score awarded to that competitor,

7.23 Qualification Ranking:

- A) any competitor who fails or is ineligible to start both routes in their Starting Group will be unranked in the round and their result marked Did Not Start or with another appropriate IRM.

- B) each competitor starting at least one route in the Qualification round shall be awarded Ranking Points for each Qualification route equal to their *fractional ranking* on the relevant route.
- C) the ranking of competitors within their Starting Group will be calculated in ascending order of the Qualification Points awarded to each competitor (i.e. lower Qualification Points is better) according to the following formula

$$QP = \sqrt{(P1 * P2)}$$

where:

QP = Total Points, rounded to three (3) decimal places.

P1 = Ranking Points on first Qualification route.

P2 = Ranking Points on second Qualification route.

- D) points data presented on the Official Results shall be presented rounded to two (2) decimal places.

7.24 Semi-final & Final rankings.

- A) any competitor who fails or is ineligible to start the route will be unranked in the relevant round and their result marked Did Not Start or with another appropriate IRM
- B) ~~if following the completion of any~~ in relation to the Semi-Final round, ~~if~~ any competitors are tied following the ranking procedure of ~~in~~ Article 7.22, their relative ranking shall be determined by count-back to their Qualification Ranking (unless the Qualification round was held with two Starting Groups).
- C) ~~if following the completion of~~ in relation to the Final round, ~~if~~ any competitors are tied following the ranking in-procedure of Article 7.22, their relative ranking shall be determined:
 - 1) by count-back to their rankings from the preceding round; and
 - 2) if following count-back, any competitors are tied in joint first, second or third place, these places shall be determined by the climbing time for each competitor (lower times are better).

7.25 General Ranking

The General Ranking shall be determined on the following basis:

- A) competitors having a Final ranking, in that order; and
- B) where applicable, competitors having a Semi-Final ranking, in that order; and
- C) competitors having only a Qualification ranking, in that order, provided that where the Qualification round takes place with two Starting Groups, their General Ranking shall be determined by merging the rankings from each group, treating competitors having equal rankings between the two groups as tied.

Ranking

8.19 On each course of boulders:

- A) any competitor who fails or is ineligible to start the course will be unranked in the relevant round and their result marked with the appropriate IRM.
- B) each competitor starting the course shall be ranked using the following criteria:
 - 1) in descending order, the number of Successfully completed boulders (“Tops”);
 - 2) in descending order, the number of boulders on which the competitor has either:
 - a) Controlled or Used (in either case, with one or other hand) the Zone Hold; or
 - b) successfully completed the boulder without having Controlled or Used the Zone Hold,
 this number being the “Zone Points” awarded;
 - 3) in ascending order, the total number of attempts to achieve these Tops;
 - 4) in ascending order, the total number of attempts to achieve these Zone Points;

8.20 Semi-Final & Final rankings

If ~~following the completion of any Semi-Final or Final round~~ any competitors are tied following the ranking procedure of Article 8.19, their relative ranking shall be determined:

- A) by count-back to their rankings from the previous round (unless the previous round was held with two Starting Groups);
- B) if, in respect of the Final round (or where the Final round was cancelled, the Semi-Final round), any competitors are tied in equal 1st, 2nd or 3rd place following count-back, the relative ranking of these competitors will be determined by comparing the best results for each such competitor:
 - 1) starting with the number of Tops attained on the 1st attempt, then the number of Tops attained on the 2nd attempt, and so on; and
 - 2) where the comparison in (a) cannot break any tie, by comparing the number of Zones attained on the 1st attempt, then the number of Zones attained on the 2nd attempt, and so on,

where competitors remain tied following (1) and (2), the results of such competitors shall be considered equal.

8.21 General ranking:

The General Ranking shall be determined on the following basis:

- A) competitors having a Final ranking, in that order; and

- 2) in respect of the Final round, upon the display of the relevant competitor's Provisional Result (or where no Provision Result is displayed, the Official Result).

8.26 Where a confirmed Technical Incident or an Appeal covered by Article 8.25(A):

- A) can be resolved/determined ~~within~~ prior to the commencement of the next ~~the relevant~~ rotation period, the relevant competitor shall be offered the opportunity to continue their attempts:
 - 1) if the competitor chooses to continue, then the incident will be considered concluded.
 - 2) if the competitor chooses not to continue, then the competitor shall resume their attempts at a time determined by the Jury President, having due regard to:
 - a) any recuperation period appropriate for the affected competitor;
 - b) minimising the impact on other competitors;
 - c) the overall competition schedule.
- B) cannot be resolved/determined prior to the commencement of the next ~~within the relevant~~ rotation period:
 - 1) in the case of a Technical Incident only, the round shall be suspended for the affected competitor and for all competitors on preceding boulders until the matter is resolved/determined; and
 - 2) the affected competitors shall resume their attempts as directed by the Jury President once the matter is resolved/determined,

and in each case, the affected competitors will act as directed by the Jury President. For the avoidance of doubt, any competitor who leaves the Competition Area prior to the matter being resolved/determined will not be permitted to resume their attempts.

8.27 When a competitor who has suffered a Technical Incident or who has been the subject of an Appeal resumes climbing:

- A) they shall be allowed the time remaining when the relevant incident occurred, with a minimum of two (2) minutes; and
- B) their next attempt:
 - 1) in the case of a Technical Incident, shall be deemed a continuation of the prior attempt; and
 - 2) in the case of a determined Appeal, may be deemed as either:
 - a) a continuation of the prior attempt; or
 - b) as a new attempt,

in each case as the circumstances dictate.

- 2) for Lane B, in the same order as Lane A with a stagger of 50%. e.g. where the Starting List includes 20 or 21 competitors, the competitor starting 11th on Lane A will start 1st on Lane B.
- B) for each stage of the final round shall be as set out Annex 2, which also sets out the lane allocation for each race. If two or more competitors are tied following the Qualification round, their starting order in the first stage of the Final round shall be determined by random selection.

Competition procedure

- 9.6A Each route will be cleaned between following the completion of the Practice Period, and following the completion of the Qualification round for each Category.
- 9.7 Where a Practice period is held, competitors should be entitled to one practice run on each route. Competitors will not be stopped in the event of a False Start. The Practice period:
- A) should include a demonstration of the false start signal and of the timing equipment; and
 - B) should take the form of a pre-run of the Qualification round, each competitor eligible to participate in the Qualification round making their attempts in the starting order published for the Qualification round. The Jury President may vary the timing and format of any Practice period to reflect circumstances specific to a competition.
- 9.8 In the Qualification round:
- A) each competitor may make one attempt on each lane, other than:
 - 1) where a re-run is required following a False Start or a Technical Incident, in which case an additional attempt shall be permitted; or
 - 2) where they fail to report to the Call Zone when called, in which case the relevant race shall proceed without them.
 - B) each competitor shall remain in the Competition Area as directed by the Jury President until they have completed their attempts on both lanes.
 - C) a competitor making a False Start their first scheduled race will not be eligible to start their second scheduled race. In all cases where a False Start occurs, the competitor who has not made their any race of the Qualification round shall be eliminated from the Qualification round (and shall lose any valid time previously recorded). The competitor who has not made a False Start may re-run without a partner, this re-run taking place before the next scheduled race.
- 9.9 The Final round:
- A) shall take place as a series of stages each consisting of a number of "elimination" races, the winner of a race in any stage proceeding forward to the next stage. The number of stages and races in each stage will be determined by the quota for the Final round.
 - B) in any race in the Final round, winner shall be determined as follow:

- 1) where both competitors record a valid time, the competitor who records the lowest valid time;
 - 2) where one competitor is determined to have made a False Start, the other competitor;
 - 3) where both competitors record the same time or neither competitor records a valid time (other than where a False Start has occurred):
 - a) the competitor with the better qualification ranking; or
 - b) if both competitors have the same qualification ranking, the relevant race shall be re-run;
 - 4) where any competitor fails to report to the Call Zone when called, the other competitor;
- C) a presentation of all Semi-Finalists shall be made before the first race of the Semi-Final stage.
- D) the ~~competitors eliminated in the~~losers of the Semi-Final ~~stage races shall will~~ compete for 3rd and 4th place in a "**Small Final**".
- E) the winners of the Semi-Final races ~~shall will~~ compete for 1st and 2nd place in a "**Big Final**", which will follow the completion of the Small Final (or where multiple Categories are competing in parallel, following the completion of all Small Final races). If a False Start occurs in any Big Final, the winning competitor may elect to race alone for the purpose setting a World or, where applicable, any championship record.
- F) each competitor shall remain in the Competition Area as directed by the Jury President until eliminated.

Climbing procedure

9.10 All races shall be started with a clearly audible signal initiated by an assigned Starter, who shall not be an IFSC Official. The Starter shall select a position where he is not visible to the competitors. The source of the starting signal should be positioned as near possible equidistant from all competitors.

9.11 Each race shall use a common starting protocol:

- A) on being called to the start of a route, each competitor:
 - 1) should, within 10 seconds of being called, position the starting pad as appropriate for their preferred starting position. During this period competitors may touch (only) the first holds on the route without leaving the ground;
 - 2) will present themselves to the belayer, who shall confirm that
 - a) the competitor's harness is properly fastened; and
 - b) the competitor's harness is safely connected to the automatic belay system or top-rope.
 - 3) will take up an assembly position as designated by the Starter, not more than two (2) meters in front of and facing away from the wall.

- B) at the command 'At your marks', each competitor will without delay take a position with both hands and one foot on their preferred starting holds, and one foot on the starting pad.
- C) once all competitors are motionless in their starting positions, the Starter shall announce 'Ready' and following this will initiate the timing system.
- D) if for any reason following the command 'At your marks' but prior to the Starter announcing 'Ready':
 - 1) the Starter is not satisfied that the race can proceed; or
 - 2) a competitor raises a hand to indicate that they are not ready to start,
 the Starter shall order all competitors to return to the assembly position.
- E) if a competitor fails to comply with (A) or (B), or by any action disturbs other competitors, the Starter shall order all competitors to return to the assembly position. The Jury President may issue a Yellow Card to the offending competitor.

9.12 False Starts

- A) where in any race, following the Starter declaring 'Ready!':
 - 1) one competitor has a Reaction Time less than 0.100s, that competitor shall be recorded as having made a False Start;
 - 2) both competitors have a Reaction Time less than 0.100s:
 - a) the competitor with the lowest (fastest) reaction time shall be recorded as having made a False Start; and
 - b) if both competitors have the same Reaction Time, the relevant race shall be re-run and no False Start shall be recorded.
- B) in addition to any recall signal made by the timing system following a False Start, the Starter shall also declare 'Stop!' as soon as possible.
- C) No Appeal may be made in relation to the validity of a Reaction Time recorded by an automatic timing system approved by the IFSC.

9.13 A result will be recorded as:

- A) a "Valid Time" where the relevant competitor:
 - 1) has struck the top timing pad/switch; and
 - 2) stopped the timer,
 except where a False Start has been made by any competitor in the relevant race;
- B) a "Fall" or "No Result" where the relevant competitor:
 - 1) fails to stop the timer;

- 2) arrests any fall/slip other than using the highest hold Controlled/Used prior to the fall/slip;
- 3) uses the side edges or the top edges of the wall for climbing;~~or~~
- 4) touches the ground with any part of the body after having started; or
- 5) fails to start the relevant race.

9.14 Other than following a False Start, competitors shall be afforded a minimum resting time of five (5) minutes between attempts on the route(s).

Judging and scoring

9.15 The climbing time for each competitor shall be defined as the period between the Starting Signal and the completion of the competitor's attempt. The timing system shall:

- A) record and display the climbing time for each competitor separately.
- B) be capable of measuring times to an accuracy of at least 1/1000s.
 - 1) times shall be recorded to the nearest 1/1000s for the purposes of ranking;
 - 2) displayed on the Official Results rounded down to the nearest 1/100s other than where necessary to show a tie-break.

9.16 Not used

Ranking

9.17 Qualification ranking:

- A) any competitor who fails or is ineligible to start both races in the round will be unranked in the round and their result marked Did Not Start or with another appropriate IRM.
- B) each competitor starting at least one Qualification race will be ranked in the following order:
 - 1) competitors not having made a False Start in either race, in order of their best (or only) result, considering results in the following order of precedence:
 - a1) any Valid Time (lower times being better), measured to 1/1000s.
 - b2) Fall or No Result;
 - 23) any competitors having made a False Start in either race.;
 - 4) any IRM awarded as a race result.
- C) where two or more competitors have the same best result (other than a False Start), any second result will be compared to break the tie, using the same order of precedence as in (B), provided that:
 - 1) where a competitor has only a single result, their second result will be considered as "No Result" for the purposes of this comparison; and

- 2) where this comparison is unable to break the tie, the relevant competitors will be ranked equal
- D) if, following the above ranking procedure, the quota for the Final round is exceeded as a result of ties, the tied competitors shall re-run on Lane A until all relevant ties are broken. The times recorded in these attempts will be used only to determine which competitors qualify for the Final round and for no other purpose.

9.18 Final ranking:

- A) any competitor who fails or is ineligible to start their first scheduled race will be unranked in the round and their result marked Did Not Start or with another appropriate IRM.
- B) Competitors will be ranked in the Final round in order of the last stage in which they competed and ~~then~~ within each stage:
 - 1) the race winners in that stage, ranked relative to each other in order of their Qualification ranking~~first, the race winner(s) in each such stage~~; and
 - 2) the race losers in that stage, ranked relative to each other in order of their Qualification ranking~~second the competitors eliminated in each stage, ranked in order of their times in that stage (climbers having no valid time being ranked last in that stage and where eliminated climbers are tied, ranked relative to each other using their times from the preceding stage (and if necessary in successively preceding stages and/or the Qualification round))~~.

9.19 General Ranking:

The General Ranking shall be determined on the following basis:

- A) competitors having a Final ranking, in that order; and
- B) competitors not having a Final ranking, in order of their Qualification ranking,

where any stage in the Final round is cancelled, the competition will be considered concluded and the General Ranking will be calculated after the last completed stage, the race winners in the last completed stage being ranked relative to each other based on their respective times.

Technical Incidents and Appeals

9.20 Only Official Video Recordings, and at the discretion of the Jury President any official IFSC broadcast video recording, shall be used for the purposes of determining Technical Incidents and Appeals. The Official Video Recordings must as a minimum record:

- A) the starting position for both lanes;
- B) the top timing pad/switch for both lanes; and
- C) the attempt of each pair of competitors in each race.

9.21 If a competitor or Team Official considers that a Technical Incident has occurred, they must notify

11. COMBINED

General

11.1 This article shall be read in conjunction with [Articles 3 \(General Rules\), 7 \(Lead\), 8 \(Boulder\) and 9 \(Speed\)](#) of these Rules.

11.2 Combined competitions should include:

- A) a Qualification round with a fixed quota of 20 competitors in each Category; and
- B) a Final round with a fixed quota of eight (8) competitors in each Category,

where each of the Qualification and Final rounds will include Speed, Boulder and Lead stages in that order, with each stage conforming to the relevant provisions of Articles 7 (*Lead*), 8 (*Boulder*) and 9 (*Speed*) of these rules, with the amendments and additions noted in this Article 11 (*Combined*).

11.3 The Qualification and Final rounds should be held on separate days.

11.4 The Qualification round will be organised such that:

- A) the period between the scheduled end of the Speed stage and the commencement of the stage following shall not be less than 30 minutes; and
- B) the period between the scheduled end of the Boulder stage and the commencement of the stage following shall not be less than 120 minutes.

11.5 The Final round will be organised such that:

- A) the period between the scheduled end of the Speed stage and the commencement of the stage following shall not be less than 15 minutes; and
- B) the period between the scheduled end of the Boulder stage and the commencement of the stage following shall not be less than 15 minutes.

Competition procedure (excluding starting order and rankings)

11.6 With the exception of procedures relating to the starting order and ranking of competitors, the procedures for the organisation and conduct of the Qualification round shall:

- A) in respect of the Speed stage, conform to the provisions of Article 9 (*Speed*) of these rules, as these relate to the organisation and conduct of the qualification round for Speed competitions.
- B) in respect of the Boulder stage, conform to the provisions of Article 8 (*Boulder*) of these rules, as these relate to the organisation and conduct of the semi-final round for Boulder competitions.
- C) in respect of the Lead stage, conform to the provisions of Article 7 (*Lead*) of these rules, as these relate to the organisation and conduct of the semi-final round for Lead competitions.

[in each case interpreting references to “round” within such articles as meaning “stage” for the](#)

[purposes of this article 11.6.](#)

11.7 With the exception of procedures relating to the starting order and ranking of competitors, the procedures for the organisation and conduct of the Final round shall:

A) in respect of the Speed stage, conform to the provisions of Article 9 (*Speed*) of these rules, as these relate to the final round for Speed competitions [with the following amendments](#):

1) [article 9.9\(A\) is replaced by the following: “shall take place using the race pairings set out in Annex 3 with race winners and losers progressing through ¼ final, ½ final and final races as indicated in that annex”;](#)

2) [article 9.9\(B\)\(3\) is replaced by the following: “where in any race both competitors either record the same Valid Time or No Result, the relevant race shall be re-run. If following this re-run the competitors remain tied, this tie will be broken by comparing the competitors’ Combined Ranking following the Qualification round”;](#)

3) [articles 9.9\(C\), 9.9\(D\) and 9.9\(E\) are inapplicable.](#)

B) in respect of the Boulder stage, conform to the provisions of Article 8 (*Boulder*) of these rules, as these relate to the final round for Boulder competitions, [with the following amendments except that](#):

1) [article 8.1\(B\) is replaced by the following: “be organised with a single course of three \(3\) boulders. For the avoidance of doubt the Jury President will not be entitled to cancel any boulder in the round”.](#)

2) [article 8.11\(A\) is inapplicable;](#)

C) In respect of the Lead stage, conform to the provisions of Article 7 (*Lead*) of these rules, as these relate to the final round for Lead competitions [with the following amendments:-](#)

1) [article 7.13\(A\) is inapplicable,](#)

[in each case interpreting references to “round” within such articles as meaning “stage” for the purposes of this article 11.7.](#)

Starting order and Starting Lists

11.8 The starting order for the Boulder and Lead stages in the Qualification round and for Lane A of the Speed stage in the Qualification round will be the reverse of the Seeding List for the relevant competition, i.e. the highest (best) Seeded competitor will start last, the Seeding being:

A) where competitors have qualified for the relevant competition through a single Calendar Event in which all qualifying competitors have participated, in ascending order of the Combined Rankings calculated for the relevant competitors; and

B) where competitors have qualified for the relevant competition through a qualification system comprising multiple Calendar Events, as published by the IFSC for the relevant competition.

The starting order for Lane B will be the same order as Lane A with a stagger of 50%. e.g. where the Starting List includes 20 or 21 competitors, the competitor starting 11th on Lane A will start 1st

on Lane B.

11.9 The starting order for each stage of the Final round shall be determined as follow:

- A) in respect of the Speed stage, in the order set out at Annex 3. e.g. Race 1 shall be between the competitors ranked 1st and 8th within the Speed stage of the Qualification round.
- B) in respect of the Boulder stage, the starting order shall be the reverse of the ranking order from the equivalent stage of the Qualification round, i.e. the highest (best) ranked competitor from that stage will start last.
- C) in respect of the Lead stage, the starting order shall be the reverse of the ranking from the equivalent stage of the Qualification round, i.e. the highest (best) ranked competitor from that stage will start last.

Stage ranking

11.10 The ranking within each stage shall be calculated as follow:

- A) in respect of each Speed stage, according to the provisions of Article 8 (*Speed*) of these rules with the following amendments and additions in respect of the Final round:

~~1) the race pairing set out in Annex 3 will be used;~~

~~2) where, in any race both competitors either record the same Valid Time or No Result, the relevant race shall be re-run. If following this re-run the competitors remain tied, this tie will be broken by comparing the competitors' Combined Ranking following the Qualification round;~~

~~31) article 9.18(B) is replaced by the following: "Each competitor starting the round shall be ranked using the following criteria:~~

~~a) the results of races 1 – 4;~~

~~b) the results of races 5 – 8;~~

~~b) the results of races 9 – 12,~~

~~in each case ranking a race win ahead of a race loss, ahead of any IRM";~~

~~42) any competitor who fails or is ineligible to start:~~

~~a) any race in the stage, they will not be eligible to start any subsequent races; and/or~~

~~b) the stage, they will be will be unranked in the stage and their result marked with the appropriate IRM,~~

~~for the purposes of this Article 11.10(A), references to 'qualification ranking' within Article 9 (*Speed*) shall be taken to refer to the ranking following the Speed stage of the Qualification round.~~

- B) in respect of each Boulder stage, according to the provisions of Article 8 (*Boulder*) of these

rules with the following amendments and additions:

- 1) ~~Article article 8.20 is replaced by the following is-disapplied; and~~ “in the event that two or more competitors are tied following the ranking procedure of Article 8.19, the relative ranking of the tied competitors ~~will~~shall be determined:
 - a) by comparing the best results for each such competitor, starting with the number of Tops attained on the 1st attempt, then the number of Tops attained on the 2nd attempt, and so on;
 - b) where the comparison in (a) cannot break any tie, by comparing the number of Zones attained on the 1st attempt, then the number of Zones attained on the 2nd attempt, and so on; and
 - c) in respect of the Final round only, where following (a) and (b) any competitors remain tied, their relative ranking will be determined by comparison of their ranking within the Boulder stage of the Qualification round”.
 - 2) any competitor who fails or is ineligible to start the course will be unranked in the relevant stage and their result marked with the appropriate IRM.
- C) in respect of each Lead stage, according to the provisions of Article 7 (*Lead*) of these rules with the following amendments and additions:
- 1) article 7.24(B) is inapplicable;
 - 2) article 7.24(C) is replaced by the following: “if any competitors are tied following the ranking procedure of Article 7.22~~in the event that any two or more competitors are tied on height, their~~ relative ranking ~~of the tied competitors~~ shall be determined:
 - a) —by comparing their climbing times to the nearest second (lower time is better);
 - b2) in respect of the Final round, where following (~~a1~~) any competitors remain tied, their relative ranking shall be determined by comparison of their ranking within the Lead stage of the Qualification round”~~; and~~
 - 3) any competitor who fails or is ineligible to start the stage will be unranked in the stage and their result marked with the appropriate IRM.

in each case interpreting references to “round” within such articles as meaning “stage” for the purposes of this article 11.10.

Combined ranking

11.11 Subject to Article 11.13, a Combined Ranking will be calculated following the conclusion of each round for those competitors having started in all three stages of the round. The Combined Ranking will be determined on the following basis:

- A) each competitor will be awarded “Ranking Points” for each stage equal to their fractional ranking for that stage. Ranking Points will be:

- 1) calculated rounded to 3 decimal places;
- 2) displayed to 2 decimal places, and

for the avoidance of doubt, Ranking Points calculated for any stage will not be recalculated where any competitor is awarded an IRM following completion of the relevant stage.

- B) a Ranking Point Total will be calculated for each relevant competitor by multiplying together the Ranking Points awarded.
- C) each relevant competitor will be ranked in ascending order of the Ranking Point Total (i.e. lower values are better), provided that where any competitors have the same Ranking Point Total, the relative ranking of the tied competitors shall be determined for any round:
 - 1) by comparing the head-to-head performance of such competitors within the round; and
 - 2) where following (1) any competitors remain tied, by comparing:
 - a) where applicable, the Combined Ranking following the Qualification round; and/or
 - b) if necessary, the Seeding of the relevant competitors.

11.12 An interim ranking may be calculated in each round:

- A) during or following the Speed stage; and/or
- B) during or following the Speed and Boulder stages,

in which cases only the results of these stages will be used for the Combined Ranking calculation.

11.13 Where any competitor

- A) fails [or is ineligible](#) to start the Speed stage of any round of the competition in accordance with the relevant provisions of [Articles 9.17\(A\) or 9.18\(A\) \(~~Speed~~\)](#), the relevant competitor will be marked as DNS and unranked in that round; or
- B) is Disqualified or Disqualified for Behaviour during or following any round of the competition, then the relevant competitor will be unranked in all rounds and the ranking (but not any Ranking Points calculation) for all other competitors adjusted accordingly.

General Ranking

11.14 The General Ranking shall be determined on the following basis:

- A) competitors having a Combined Ranking from the Final round, in that order; and
- B) competitors having only a Combined Ranking from the Qualification round, in that order.

Technical Incidents and Appeals

[11.15 Technical Incidents and Appeals in relation to each stage of each round will be managed as set out in Articles 7 \(Lead\), 8 \(Boulder\) and 9 \(Speed\). e.g. the relevant provisions for the Boulder stage of the Qualification round are articles 8.22 through 8.27 as relevant to the Qualification round. For](#)

the avoidance of doubt:

- A) Once the results for any stage have been made Official and, if relevant, any Appeals determined, the results for that stage will not be capable of subsequent appeal;
 - B) Upon the completion of each round, the Combined Ranking and Ranking Points calculation for that round will be published as the Official Results for the round. Any appeal on the Combined Ranking and Ranking Points calculation must be made in writing and:
 - 1) in respect of the Qualification round, within five (5) minutes of the publication of the Official Results; or
 - 2) in respect of the Final round, upon publication of the Official Results.
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