

Sport Climbing/Escalade Canada

2013/2014

RULES and REGULATIONS



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Version Control

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Preface

- The Alpine Club of Canada (ACC) is recognized by the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) as the National governing body for competition climbing in Canada in conjunction with the Provincial Sport Organizations (PSO).
- Canada follows the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) rules with the National amendments documented below.
- This document is intended to be read in conjunction with the IFSC rules.
- Each Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) is responsible for organizing local and provincial events and defines its own Provincial Team selection criteria.
- It is expected that PSOs will conduct all competitions which provide points to the National Ranking in Open and Youth in accordance with these rules. This is desirable, so that climbers are not impacted as they move up from local competitions to the Provincial, National and International competitions.
- It is expected that the amendments to these rules, where different from IFSC rules, will be related to administration (e.g. quotas, venues, legal requirements, etc.) and not the actual climbing rules.

The IFSC rules can be found at:

http://www.ifsc-climbing.org/images/World_competitions/Event_regulations/IFSC_Rules_2013_V1-2.pdf

Amendment Guidelines

1. Common practices are identified with '**Note: and the text in italics**'.
2. Within a rule (where differing from previous versions, or IFSC rules): additional words are shown in **bold**, deletions of words are shown as ~~struck-out~~.
3. New rules are shown in **bold**, including the rule number (e.g. **3.1.2 All Open....**).

Wording changes with respect to the IFSC Rules

1. References to 'IFSC' replaced with 'National' (or 'the PSO' for provincial competitions) where relevant.
2. Replaced: references to 'Member Federations' with 'PSO' where relevant.
3. Replaced: references to 'international' with local, provincial, regional or national where relevant.
4. Replaced: references to 'world rankings' with local, provincial, regional or national rankings where relevant.
5. Replaced: references to 'medical doctor' with 'first aid person'.
6. 'Lead' refers to both lead and top-rope.

1. ~~INTERNATIONAL FEDERAL OF SPORT CLIMBING / ESCALADE~~ CANADA

1.3 COMPETITIONS

1.3.3 Among the ~~international~~ climbing competitions requiring the specific approval of the National organization are the following:

- ~~a) The World Cup series;~~
- ~~b) World Championships;~~
- ~~c) World Youth Championships;~~
- a) Regional and National bouldering series**
- b) Regional and National lead series**
- c) Regional and National speed series**

Among the competitions requiring the specific approval of the PSOs are the following:

- a) Local and Provincial bouldering series**
- b) Local and Provincial lead series**
- c) Local and Provincial speed series**

1.4 ~~IFSC COMPETITION OFFICIALS~~

Note: It is common practice to have a Jury President and a Co-Jury President with the roles (Jury President & Judge) combined and shared between the two people. The Jury President has overall authority of the competition.

Note: The Delegate is often not assigned.

2. MEMBER FEDERATIONS

2.5 INTERNATIONAL LICENSES

2.5.4 Each competitor and team official **representing Team Canada** shall be a member of the ACC ~~a member federation of the country for which they~~ and hold a valid Canadian ~~national~~ passport. In the case of competitors who hold dual nationalities, such competitors and team officials shall select one member federation to represent in competitions approved by the IFSC. Mid-season change of teams is not allowed.

All competitors must register with the Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) or the National Organization (if no PSO exists in their province).

3. GENERAL RULES

3.1 Disciplines

Categories

3.1.2 All Youth competitions will include the following categories:

- Youth C – Age 12-13
- Youth B – Age 14-15
- Youth A – Age 16-17
- Youth Junior – Age 18-19

Local and Provincial competitions will usually include:

- Youth D – Age 11 and Under

A youth climber's category is determined by their age on December 31 of the year that the National competition is held. (e.g. A climber born any time in 1997 would be 17 by December 31 and therefore in Youth A for the 2013-2014 season).

3.1.3 Adult competitions may include the following categories:

- Open – age 16 and over (lead/boulder with finals)
- Other - the competition organizer may define other adult categories. These categories may include finals and can be in various formats. Two common formats are:
 - Format 1:
 - Recreational (usually top-rope)
 - Experienced (usually lead)
 - Format 2:
 - Sport (age 20-29 - top-rope and/or lead)
 - Master (age 30-44 - top-rope and/or lead)
 - Veteran (age 45+ - top-rope and/or lead)

3.2 Safety

Equipment

- 3.2.4 **Note:** *Climbing holds must be sourced from a reputable manufacturer, but do not specifically need to meet standard EN12572-3:2008.*

Medical Personnel

- 3.2.5 The Jury President shall verify that a **first aid person** ~~medical doctor (the Competition Doctor)~~ is in attendance to ensure a rapid response to any accident or injury to a competitor or official working inside the competition area. The ~~Competition Doctor~~ **first aid person** shall be present from the scheduled opening of the Isolation Zone/Warm-Up Area until the end of the attempt of the last competitor in any round of the competition.

3.3 The Competition Area

General

- 3.3.3 **Note:** *Smoking is allowed in designated areas only. Most venues do not have a smoking area.*

3.4 Clothing and Equipment

- 3.4.2 ~~Competitors representing their national teams shall, when climbing, wear a uniform official team top which shall contain~~

- ~~a) A representation of the national flag or the colours of the national flag or the national sports colour, and~~
- ~~b) The name of the country or its three-letter IOC Country Code.~~

~~The team top may be different for male and female competitors.~~

Competitors shall wear appropriate clothing including a top.

- 3.4.3 **Note:** *Bib rules apply only if the bibs are provided.*

3.6 RANKING AND RECORDS

- 3.6.3 **Each PSO and the National organization shall publish the Provincial/National team selection criteria and current rankings on their respective websites.**



6. LEAD & TOP ROPE

6.1 General

- 6.1.1 Lead competitions shall take place on purpose-designed, artificial climbing walls ~~having a minimum height of 12 metres.~~

Note: *Youth C & D compete on top rope only.*

Note: *Local competitions can be any format approved by the PSO (Redpoint, flash, onsight or a combination).*

Note: *For Provincial, Regional and National competitions, all walls must be stripped (holds that are not part of a route shall be removed from the wall). For locals the routes can be taped without stripping the walls.*

6.2 CLIMBING STRUCTURE

- 6.2.2 The climbing surface shall permit routes to be constructed with a ~~minimum length of 15 metres and~~ a minimum width of three (3) metres for each route. At the discretion of the Jury President, a width of less than three (3) metres may be accepted for limited sections of the wall. **Note:** *There is no minimum length for the climbing routes.*

6.3 SAFETY

- 6.3.2 All routes shall be climbed with the competitor belayed from below, securing themselves by clipping the rope to protection points during their attempt on the route using a climbing rope meeting the requirements of the Applicable Standard for single ropes. The **Jury President IFSG Judge** shall decide the frequency with which the rope is changed. **Note:** *Clipping rules only apply to lead.*

Belaying

- 6.3.13 **Note:** *UIAA approved belay devices must be used, whether manual or assisted braking, such as ATC or Gri-Gri. A Gri-Gri should only be used for top-rope.*

6.4 SCORING AND TIMING

- 6.4.1 The jury for each route shall be a Route Judge., ~~who shall be at least a National Judge.~~

Scoring

- 6.4.3 For the purposes of scoring:
- a) Each hold shall be deemed as such either:
 - i) By the Chief Route-Setter before the start of a round of the competition;
or
 - ii) Following positive use by a competitor, and shall be marked on the route sketch used by the Route Judge(s), numbered in sequential order along the line of the route, as defined by the Chief Route-Setter.
 - b) Only holds used by the hands shall be considered.
 - c) Only such parts of an object that are usable for climbing shall be considered.

Note: If a competitor touches a point where there are no holds (as determined by the Chief Route-Setter), then this point shall not be considered when determining the competitor's score.

Interpretation: As per the current IFSC interpretation, a hold not assigned by the route-setter (e.g. a foot hold), can only be assigned a value (e.g. 21.5) after any climber successfully uses it and moves on to control the next hold. A climber must have used the unvalued hold and controlled the next hold in order for the judge to assign new values. Once a climber successfully uses a hold, previous scores may need to be adjusted.

6.5 QUOTA FOR EACH ROUND

6.5.1 The quota of competitors qualifying for the Semi-Final and Final round shall be **as follows: 26 and eight (8) competitors respectively.**

# of Competitors in Qualifier	# advancing to Semi-Finals	# advancing to Finals
50+	26	8
40 to 49	22	8
30 to 39	16	8
20 to 29	12	6
15 to 19	10	6
10 to 14	8	5
8 or 9	6	5
Less than 8	5	4

*When there are non-Canadians in a Provincial, Regional or National competition that make up the Finals quota, the Finals quota will be increased to include the appropriate number of Canadians. The next highest ranked Canadian(s) will be included in the quota. A non-Canadian placing out of the Finals quota above will not advance to finals.

6.6 STARTING ORDER

Qualification

6.6.1 **Note:** World Ranking is not used when assigning the starting order.

6.9 CLIMBING PROCEDURE

The Start

- 6.9.1 An attempt shall be deemed to have started, and measurement of the climbing time shall start, when every part of the competitor's body has left the ground. **Where the Head Route Setter and/or Jury President deem it required (e.g. where the walls have not been stripped or a route starts with a traverse), the start holds will be taped as per bouldering rule 7.2.5. When the start holds are taped the climber must start the same as in bouldering using the taped holds (reference bouldering rule 7.9.1).**

Completion of Attempt

- 6.9.2 An attempt on a route shall be considered successful if the route has been climbed in accordance with these rules and if the rope has been clipped into the karabiner on the final quickdraw of the route within the fixed time period for attempts defined in Articles 6.7.13 and 6.7.18. **Top-roped competitors shall be considered successfully completed when the route judge determines the climber has control of the final hold with both hands.**
- 6.9.9 The attempt of a competitor on a route shall be considered unsuccessful if the competitor:
- c) Uses any part of the wall, holds or features demarcated using continuous and clearly identifiable black tape (or if another colour is required to be used, as specified by the Jury President in a technical briefing to competitors); **Interpretation:** *The purpose of the black tape is to stop the use of holds, volumes, features, walls, etc. on the other side of the tape, usually between two routes. The Jury President and the Chief route-setter will define if crossing the tape is acceptable. (e.g. A flag or dab across the black tape on a flat wall may not end the attempt. A hand or foot going past black tape on an arête (but not using the arête) would not end the attempt). This would be communicated during the technical meeting. .*
 - d) Uses with their hands, holes provided in the climbing wall for the placement of bolt-on holds; **Interpretation:** *Use of the bolt holes in a volume (as the volume is a hold) is allowed.*

6.12 USE OF VIDEO RECORDING

6.12.1 Official Video Recordings shall be made of all competitors' attempts.

Note: The video should be high definition where possible. Video recording is optional for local competitions.

6.12.2 Official Video Recordings shall be made using:

- a) For the Qualification round, not less than one (1) video camera for each route;
- b) For other rounds, not less than ~~two (2)~~ **one (1)** video cameras for each route,

which shall be capable of tracking a competitor's attempt on the relevant route from start to finish.

6.13 APPEALS

Appeals Process

6.13.4 In the case of a verbal or written appeal, the Jury President shall convene an Appeals Jury. The members of the Appeals Jury will be the Jury President, **Chief Route-setter** and the ~~IFSC Delegate~~ **National/PSO Judge**. ~~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 one of the jury was involved in the original decision or is not available, a qualified replacement will be selected by the Jury President, or if unavailable, by the remaining members of the Appeals Jury.



7. BOULDERING

7.1 General

7.1.2 Bouldering competitions shall normally consist of:

- a) A Qualification round with a course of five (5) boulders for each Starting Group and Category; **Note:** *Only Open Nationals follows this format; all other competitions normally use a scramble format for qualification (see below).*
- b) A Semi-Final round with a course of four (4) boulders for each Category; and **Note:** *Semi-Finals is optional.*
- c) A Final round with a course of four (4) boulders for each Category. **Note:** *Finals are usually held only for the open category. The classic format is also available (see below).*

7.1.4 Scramble Guidelines:

- a) **Format will usually be the redpoint (scramble) format. (This format consists of multiple boulder problems that are climbed by all competitors in any order, each problem receiving a point value only when completed, with values in ascending order of difficulty.)**
- b) **All competitors climb during a set time period determined by the Jury president and hosting gym (usually 3 hours).**
- c) **There is no isolation zone in effect. Competitors are allowed to observe other climbers prior to their attempts.**
- d) **Only completed ascents count towards the final score in the qualifying round.**
- e) **Ascents are only completed if they are successfully matched with two hands and the boulder judge deems the competitor has shown control.**
- f) **Competitors must have the route judge (or if no route judges for the competition, two competitors witness their climb) sign their score card for points to be awarded. It is expected that all sanctioned competitions will have route judges.**
- g) **The top hardest problems must have independent judges. The number of problems to be assigned judges will be determined by the Jury President in conjunction with the Head Route-Setter.**
- h) **The Head Route-setter, prior to the competition, assigns numbers to each problem. The more difficult the problem the higher the point value. (all competitions must use the official score sheet)**
- i) **Falls on problems that are not completed do not count against a competitor's final score.**

- j) If a competitor falls without controlling the starting hold(s) or feature they may be allowed a second try without going to the back of the line, however, the failed attempt does count on their scorecard.
- k) Competitors choose which and how many problems they will attempt.
- l) The ranking in each category will be determined from the competitor's top climbs (Top 5-8 problems, determined by the hosting gym). These numbers will be announced in the technical meeting. In the case of a tie between competitors, those competitors' next best score will be added to determine the finishing order.
- m) Winners for Youth, Recreational and Experienced competitors may be calculated at this point. The competition organizer may hold finals for one or all of these categories.

7.1.5 Classic Format:

- a) This is an alternative finals format, which the gym may select.
- b) The final round format is the same as the qualification round in Section 7. BOULDERING (5 minutes on, 5 minutes off).
- c) There will be four (4) problems in the finals.

7.2 CLIMBING STRUCTURE

The Climbing Structure

- 7.2.3 ~~All boulders shall be constructed on an elevated platform and aligned in such a way that they are visible from any point in the public arena. Each boulder shall include a clearly marked area from which the competitor can see the boulder, and which shall include the safety matting.~~

7.4 SCORING AND TIMING

- 7.4.1 ~~The jury for each boulder shall be a Boulder Judge who shall be at least a National Judge.~~

Timing

- 7.4.5 **If available**, an electronic timing system shall be used in each round to display the climbing time remaining for each competitor's attempts. The timing display(s) should show time remaining to the nearest second. The timing display(s) shall be of a number, position and size so that all competitors in the Competition Zone can see the display.

7.5 QUOTA FOR EACH ROUND

- 7.5.1 The quota of competitor qualifying for the Semi-Final and Final round shall be twenty (20) and six (6) competitors respectively. **When Semi-Finals is not held the quota will be eight (8). When the quota is eight (8) there will be a minimum of six (6) Canadians in Finals. When the quota is six (6) there will be a minimum of four (4) Canadians in Finals.**

Note: *When there are less than the minimum number (4 or 6) of Canadians in a Finals, the quota will be increased to include the appropriate number of Canadians. The next highest ranked Canadian(s) will be included in the quota. A non-Canadian placing out of the quota above will not advance to finals.*

7.6 STARTING ORDER

Qualification

- 7.6.2 The starting order for the Qualification round within each Starting Group shall be ~~all competitors in random order as follows:~~
- ~~a) First, any competitors having a Current World Ranking, in ascending order of their Current World Ranking (i.e. the highest ranked competitor starts first); and~~
 - ~~b) All un-ranked competitors in random order.~~

7.7 COMPETITION PROCEDURE

Isolation Rules

- 7.7.2 Articles 7.7.3 to 7.7.6 (the “Isolation Rules”) shall apply to all rounds of Boulder competitions. **Note:** *When a scramble format is used for qualifying rounds, the “Isolation Rules” only apply to the Final.*

Final

- 7.7.15 The Final round shall be preceded by a presentation of the competitors eligible to participate in the round. **Note:** *This requirement may be waived by the Jury President.*

Completion of Attempt

- 7.9.5 An attempt on a boulder shall be considered unsuccessful if the competitor fails to control with both hands the marked finishing hold or, if relevant, achieve a standing position on top of the boulder; or the competitor:
- b) Uses any part of the wall, holds or features demarcated using continuous and clearly identifiable black tape (or if another colour is required to be used, as specified by the Jury President in a technical briefing to competitors); **Interpretation:** *The purpose of the black tape is to stop the use of holds, volumes, features, walls on the other side of the tape, usually between two routes. The Jury President and the Chief route-setter will define if crossing the tape is acceptable. (e.g. A flag or dab across the black tape on a flat wall may not end the attempt. A hand or foot going past black tape on an arête (but not using the arête) would not end the attempt). This would be communicated during the technical meeting. .*
 - c) Uses with their hands any holes provided in the climbing wall for the placement of bolt-on holds; **Interpretation:** *The bolt holes in a volume (as the volume is a hold) are allowed.*

7.10 RANKING AFTER EACH ROUND

General

7.10.4 If following the count back process of Article 7.10.3 any competitors remain tied:

- a) If such tie relates to competitors ranked equal 1st following the Final round, the relative ranking of these competitors will be determined as set out in Article 7.7.4918; or
- b) If such tie relates to any other competitors, the relevant competitors will be given an equal ranking.

Note: Correction of a mistake in the IFSC rules change 7.7.19 to 7.7.18

7.12 USE OF VIDEO RECORDING

7.12.1 Official Video Recordings shall be made of all competitors' attempts. **Note:** *The video should be high definition where possible. Video recording is optional for local competitions.*

7.12.2 Official Video Recordings shall be made using at least ~~two (2)~~ **one (1)** video cameras in a fixed position for each course of boulders, which together must show:

- a) The starting position for each boulder in the course; and
- b) The Bonus Hold for each boulder in the course;
- c) The finishing hold or position for each boulder in the course; and
- d) Any demarcations made pursuant to Article 7.9.5b

7.13 APPEALS

Appeals Process

7.13.4 In the case of a verbal or written appeal, the Jury President shall convene an Appeals Jury. The members of the Appeals Jury will be the Jury President, **Chief Route-setter** and the IFSC Delegate **National/PSO Judge**. ~~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 one of the jury was involved in the original decision or is not available, a qualified replacement will be selected by the Jury President, or if unavailable, by the remaining members of the Appeals Jury.

8 SPEED

8.1 GENERAL

- 8.1.1 Speed competitions shall take place on climbing routes with a nominal length of either 10m (the “10m Event”) or 15m (the “15m Event”), constructed on purpose-designed, artificial climbing walls. **Note:** *The standard 15m speed route will only be used for Youth B, Youth A, Junior and Open Categories.*

8.7 COMPETITION PROCEDURE

Final

- 8.7.6 The Final round shall be preceded by a presentation of the competitors eligible to participate in the round. **Note:** *This requirement may be waived by the Jury President.*

8.12 USE OF VIDEO RECORDING

- 8.12.1 Official Video Recordings shall be made of all competitors’ attempts. **Note:** *The video should be high definition where possible. Video recording is optional for local competitions.*
- 8.12.2 Official Video Recordings shall be made using least ~~two (2)~~ **one (1)** video camera, which must as a minimum show:
- a) The starting position for both lanes at the start of any race;
 - b) The timing pad/switch for both lanes at the completion of any race;
- and
- c) The attempt of each pair of competitors in any race.

9. SPEED TEAM

Not applicable.

10. SPEED WORLD RECORDS

Not applicable.

14. PARACLIMBING LEAD

Not applicable.

15. SPEED CLASSIC

15.12 USE OF VIDEO RECORDING

- 15.12.1 Official Video Recordings shall be made of all competitors' attempts. **Note:** *The video should be high definition where possible. Video recording is optional for local competitions.*
- 15.12.2 Official Video Recordings shall be made using least ~~two (2)~~ **one (1)** video cameras, which must as a minimum show:
- a) The starting position for both lanes at the start of any race;
 - b) The timing pad/switch for both lanes at the completion of any race; and
 - c) The attempt of each pair of competitors in any race.

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