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Youth Climbing Series 2018 Regulations

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1. GENERAL

1.1 Series of Competitions

- 1.1.1 A Youth Climbing Series shall be organised each year.
- 1.1.2 The event shall involve regional rounds, of three events per region, followed by a Grand Final.
- 1.1.3 The participating National Governing Bodies (NGBs) may agree to allow local variations of the three-round structure to accommodate the Regional Final format (see Article 2.10) or other events.
- 1.1.4 Youth Climbing Series competitions shall normally take place on Saturdays. Organisers should aim to complete Youth Climbing Series competitions within one (1) day.
- 1.1.5 Each Youth Climbing Series competition approved by the NGB shall include separate categories for boys and girls in five age groups related to years of birth, making ten categories in total:

Year of Event	Year of Birth									
	Youth E		Youth D		Youth C		Youth B		Youth A	
2018	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
2019	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
2020	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003

- 1.1.6
- 1.1.7 Each Youth Climbing Series competition shall include for each category:
 - a) 3 routes
 - b) 3 boulder problems.
- 1.1.8 All routes will be demonstrated.
- 1.1.9 All climbers will be allowed up to three attempts at each boulder problem, climbing in turn (i.e. taking their second attempt after all competitors in their group have had their first attempt and so on).

- 1.1.10 All climbers will be allowed only one attempt at each route. Competitors in categories A, B and C will lead climb. All other categories will top-rope.
- 1.1.11 There will be no isolation except in the case of a super-final or climb-off.
- 1.1.12 In each region the series winners will be awarded a trophy.
- 1.1.13 At the conclusion of the Grand final competition of the annual Series, the Championship trophies shall be awarded to the competitor(s) in each category achieving the highest number of points in accordance with these regulations.

1.2 Eligibility

- 1.2.1 All ages are inclusive. Competitors must be no younger than 8 and not older than 17 on the 31st December in the year of the Series.
- 1.2.2 Competitors will be obliged to enter the Youth Climbing Series in the region or sub-region (see Article 2.10.2) in which they live. If a Youth Climbing Series is not organised in their nation competitors will be entitled to enter the Series in a region of another nation.
- 1.2.3 Competitors may not enter events in more than one region.
- 1.2.4 Youth Climbing Series competition entry is open to competitors of all nationalities.
- 1.2.5 Any competitor who has route set at one of the rounds will not qualify for ranking points for that round.
- 1.2.6 Members of National Competition Climbing Teams are not allowed to enter the Youth Climbing Series in Youth A and Youth B categories.

2. ORGANISERS AND OFFICIALS

2.1 Belaying and security

- 2.1.1** All competition routes shall be climbed with the competitor belayed from below.
- 2.1.2** Prior to the start of each attempt on a lead competition climb, the rope shall be clipped through the first protection point (quickdraw).
- 2.1.3** The Chief Judge shall, in consultation with the Route-Setter, decide whether additional security is required in the form of:
- Clipping the second protection point (quickdraw) on a route.
 - In exceptional circumstances, clipping the third protection point (quickdraw) on a route.
- 2.1.4** At the start of each attempt on a competition climb:
- Each competitor shall be equipped in accordance with the regulation 3.1 governing equipment;
 - The climbing rope shall be tied to each competitor's climbing harness using a figure of eight knot and a stopper knot.
 - Before the competitor begins their attempt on a route, the belayer shall check that the rope is secured to the competitor's harness in accordance with the above, and that the harness is properly fastened;
- 2.1.5** The belayer must at all times during a competitor's attempt on a route pay careful attention to the progress of the competitor to ensure:
- That the competitor's movements are not assisted or hindered in any way by the rope being too tight;
 - That when a leading competitor attempts to connect the rope to any protection point he/she is not hindered in doing so or, if failing to make the connection of the rope into the protection point, any excessive slack in the rope is immediately taken in;
 - That all falls are stopped in a dynamic and safe manner; (see "NGB Advice for Belaying at Climbing Competitions")
 - That no excessive falls shall be experienced by the competitor being belayed;
 - That great care be taken to ensure that in stopping a fall a competitor shall not be exposed to injury caused by the edge of an overlapping section or any other feature of the climbing wall.
- 2.1.6** On successfully completing a route or in having stopped 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.
- 2.1.7** Whilst a leading competitor is untying the rope from their harness, the belayer shall pull the rope down in as fast a manner as is consistent with the quickdraws not being unduly disturbed. It is the responsibility of the belayer to ensure that the competitor vacates the climbing zone as quickly as possible.

- 2.1.8** The Category Judge may replace any belayer at any time during the competition. If replaced, a belayer shall not be permitted to perform that role for any further competitor at that event.

2.2 Height Measurement and Time Keeping

- 2.2.1** The organisers shall arrange a judging team, specifically responsible for providing a height measurement, time keeping and results. The results will be given to the NGB, wall and competitors at the end of the competition.
- 2.2.2** A results service will be provided if possible.
- 2.2.3** The Route-Setters will provide judges with route maps.
- 2.2.4** Routes:
The final hold on each route shall be assigned a point value of 99. On routes to be led, clipping the rope through the lower-off scores 100. On routes to be top-roped, matching the final hold with both hands scores 100. Each successive hold beneath the top shall be assigned two points fewer (i.e. 97, 95, 93, etc.). Each competitor will have a maximum time of 6 minutes on each route.
- 2.2.5** Boulder Problems:
The final hold on each problem shall be assigned a point value of 59. Matching the final hold with both hands scores 60. Each successive hold beneath the top shall be assigned two points fewer (i.e. 57, 55, 53, etc). Each competitor will have a maximum time of 6 minutes on each problem.
- 2.2.6** No hold shall be assigned a value less than zero.
- 2.2.7** The number of falls prior to gaining the highpoint on problems shall be recorded and used to split tied competitors where applicable.

2.3 Competition Starting Lists

- 2.3.1** The starting list of each event shall be compiled and made available as soon as is practicable after the close of registration.
- 2.3.2** Where possible, the routes and boulder problems to be attempted by a category shall be made known shortly after the close of registration.
- 2.3.3** Method of Compiling Starting Lists:
- The starting order for the opening climb of a competition category shall be determined by random selection;
 - There will be a different starting order for each climb wherever possible.
 - Wherever possible, no competitor shall take first turn on a climb more than once in a competition.

2.4 Climbing Wall

- 2.4.1** The side-edges and the top-edge of the wall shall not be used for climbing unless specifically marked.
- 2.4.2** If there is a need to demarcate a climb on the wall in order to clearly separate it from another, the demarcation shall be made using clearly identifiable colouring and marking of holds.
- 2.4.3** The starting position for each route must be clearly marked.

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2.5 Wall Maintenance

- 2.5.1** The Route-Setter shall ensure that an experienced and practised maintenance team is available throughout each round of the competition in order to perform any maintenance and repairs ordered by the Chief Judge in an efficient and safe manner. Safety procedures shall be strictly enforced. The Chief Judge shall be authorised to demand the dismissal from the competition area of any person who fails to observe safety procedures.
- 2.5.2** Repair of holds: On the instruction of the Chief Judge, the Route-Setter shall immediately arrange for any repair work. On completion of a repair the Route-Setter shall advise the Chief Judge whether the repair results in any unfair advantage or disadvantage to the following competitors. The decision of the Chief Judge to continue, or to stop and re-start, that climb of the competition shall be final and no appeal shall be accepted in respect to this decision.

2.6 Medical Facilities

- 2.6.1** The organisers shall arrange skilled and experienced medical support to be available throughout the whole of the competition. During every competitor's attempt on a climb, at least one qualified, experienced and equipped member of the medical team should remain within, or in very close proximity to, the competition area in order to provide a rapid response following any injury or need for medical attention.

2.7 Photographers and Television Camera Crews

- 2.7.1** With the approval of the Event Coordinator and Chief Judge, photographers and television camera crews may be permitted to operate in the competition wall area. They shall be allowed to do so on the understanding that:
- All photographers obtain authorisation from the event coordinator and sign the register of photographers;
 - They do not distract or interfere with a competitor during their preparation for, or their attempt on, a climb;
 - They do not distract or interfere with any belayer and her/his assistant;
 - That any mechanical equipment used to support camera crews and equipment does not interfere with the competitors and/or belayers. Special care shall be taken to ensure that any fall does not result in a competitor coming into contact with any camera crew personnel, cameras or associated equipment.
 - That all camera crew personnel obey immediately any instruction given to them by an official event Judge;
 - Photographers and television camera crews may operate from the top of the wall subject to the approval of the Chief Judge. No use of excessive or changing lighting patterns, or any activities which might interfere with a competitor during their attempt on a climb, shall be permitted.

2.8 Ranking After Each Regional Event of the Series

- 2.8.1** After each event of the competition series, the competitors shall be ranked.
- 2.8.2** In the case of a tie for first, second or third place after the final climb of any event, a count-back procedure shall be used such that the results of the individual climbs (boulder problems and routes) in that event shall be taken into account in separating tied competitors. The winner will be the tied climber to have gained the greatest number of 1st place results, or if this is the same 2nd place results, etc. Please also consult the flowchart in Article 6.
- 2.8.3** If after applying the procedure in Article 2.8.2 there are still competitors tied for first, second or third place the sum of the number of 'tops' is compared and the greater number is considered better.
- 2.8.4** If after applying the procedures in Article 2.8.2 and Article 2.8.3 there are still competitors tied for first, second or third place the sum of the number of attempts a competitor took to reach their high point on all boulder problems is compared and the lower number of attempts shall be considered better.
- 2.8.5** If after applying the procedure described in Article 2.8.2, Article 2.8.3 and Article 2.8.4, there exists a tie for first, second or third place, those competitors shall compete in a Superfinal in accordance with Articles 3.8.1 to 3.8.16.

2.9 Points Awarded for Each Competition Event

- 2.9.1** At the end of each event, the first thirty (30) competitors in each category not excluded under section 1.2 shall be awarded the following points:
- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 st 100 pts | 11 th 31 pts | 21 st 10 pts |
| 2 nd 80 pts | 12 th 28 pts | 22 nd 9 pts |
| 3 rd 65 pts | 13 th 26 pts | 23 rd 8 pts |
| 4 th 55 pts | 14 th 24 pts | 24 th 7 pts |
| 5 th 51 pts | 15 th 22 pts | 25 th 6 pts |
| 6 th 47 pts | 16 th 20 pts | 26 th 5 pts |
| 7 th 43 pts | 17 th 18 pts | 27 th 4 pts |
| 8 th 40 pts | 18 th 16 pts | 28 th 3 pts |
| 9 th 37 pts | 19 th 14 pts | 29 th 2 pts |
| 10 th 34 pts | 20 th 12 pts | 30 th 1 pt |
- 2.9.2** Where competitors are tied in a category, each will be awarded the average of ranking points shared by the tied group.
Example 1: If three competitors are tied in third place they are 'occupying' third, fourth and fifth places which would be a total of 65+55+51=171 ranking points so each competitor would be awarded $171 \div 3 = 57$ points.
Example 2: If two competitors are tied in second place they would each be awarded $(80+65) \div 2 = 72.5$ points.
- 2.9.3** The aggregate points shall be recalculated after each competition and the competitors having points shall be ranked in descending order of points accumulated. The ranking shall be made available after each event of the Series.
- 2.9.4** The top three climbers in each category at the end of the regional series who have competed in at least 2 rounds will qualify to enter the Grand Final, free of charge.

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- 2.9.5** If, at the last regional round there is a tie for third place (or a more-than-two-way tie for second place or any ties for first place) in any category at the end of the third event the results of the individual climbs (boulder problems and routes) at all rounds where all tied competitors competed together shall be taken into account in separating tied competitors. The winner will be the tied climber to have gained the greatest number of 1st place results, or if this is the same 2nd place results, etc. Please also consult the flowchart in Article 6.
- 2.9.6** In the event that a tie spanning the boundary between third and fourth place exists after the application of Article 2.9.5, the sum of the number of 'tops' (boulder problems and routes) at all rounds where all tied competitors competed together is compared and the greater number is considered better.
- 2.9.7** In the event that a tie spanning the boundary between third and fourth place exists after the application of Article 2.9.5 and Article 2.9.6 the sum of the number of attempts a competitor took to reach their high point on all boulder problems at all rounds where all tied competitors competed together is compared and the lower number of attempts shall be considered better.
- 2.9.8** In the event that a tie spanning the boundary between third and fourth place exists after the application of Article 2.9.5, Article 2.9.6 and Article 2.9.7, the tied competitors will be offered the choice of competing in a climb-off to be arranged as soon as possible or resolution by tossing a coin or drawing straws. All parties must agree the method of resolution.
- 2.10 Regional Final Format**
- 2.10.1** A region may be authorised to divide into more than one sub-region during the rounds phase of the Series.
- 2.10.2** For the purposes of eligibility (see Article 1.3 above), each sub-region will be considered as a region in its own right during the first two rounds.
- 2.10.3** The results of the first two rounds in each sub-region shall be processed as described in Article 2.9.1 and Article 2.9.2.
- 2.10.4** If, after the second round, there is a Series tie for fifth place or any other tie spanning the boundary between fifth and sixth place in any category at the end of the second event, the following procedure shall be followed:
- a) The results of the individual climbs (boulder problems and routes) at all rounds where all tied competitors competed together shall be taken into account in separating tied competitors. The winner will be the tied climber to have gained the greatest number of 1st place results, or if this is the same 2nd place results, etc.
 - b) In the event that a tie spanning the boundary between fifth and sixth place exists after the application of Article 2.10.4a), the sum of the number of 'tops' (boulder problems and routes) at all rounds where all tied competitors competed together is compared and the greater number is considered better.
 - c) In the event that a tie spanning the boundary between fifth and sixth place exists after the application of Article 2.10.4a) and Article 2.10.4b) the sum of the number of attempts a competitor took to reach their high point on all boulder problems at all rounds where all tied competitors competed together is compared and the lower number of attempts shall be considered better.
 - d) In the event that a tie spanning the boundary between fifth and sixth place exists after the application of Article 2.10.4a), Article 2.10.4b) and Article 2.10.4b), the tied competitors will be offered the choice of:
 - i) competing in a climb-off to be arranged as soon as possible or
 - ii) resolution by tossing a coin or drawing straws.All parties must agree the method of resolution.
- 2.10.5** At the end of round 2, the five (5) competitors with the highest aggregate points score in each category from each sub-region will qualify to enter the Regional Final.
- 2.10.6** The Regional Final shall adopt the format of earlier rounds with the following exceptions:
- 2.10.7** Ranking points accrued at earlier rounds in the Series shall not be carried forward to the Regional Final nor shall ranking points be awarded.
- 2.10.8** The top three climbers in each category at the end of the Regional Final will qualify to enter the Grand Final, free of charge.
- 2.10.9** In the event of a tie spanning the boundary between third and fourth place at the end of the Regional Final, this shall be resolved in accordance with Articles 2.9.5 to 2.9.8
- 2.11 Ranking After the Grand Final**
- 2.11.1** After the Grand Final, the competitors shall be ranked.
- 2.11.2** In the case of a tie for first place, a count-back procedure shall be used such that the results of the individual climbs (boulder problems and routes) in the final be taken into account in separating tied competitors. The winner will be the tied climber to have gained the greatest number of 1st place results, or if this is the same 2nd place results, etc.
- 2.11.3** If after applying the procedure in Article 2.11.2 there are still competitors tied for first place the sum of the number of 'tops' is compared and the greater number is considered better.
- 2.11.4** If after applying the procedures in Article 2.11.2 and Article 2.11.3 there are still competitors tied for first place the sum of the number of attempts a competitor took to reach their high point on all boulder problems is compared and the lower number of attempts shall be considered better.
- 2.11.5** If after applying the procedure described in Article 2.11.2, Article 2.11.3 and Article 2.11.4 there exists a tie for the first place a super-final shall be held.
- 2.11.6** If a tie exists at the end of a super-final, the competitors that remain tied shall be deemed equal and the competition will be terminated.

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2.12 Withdrawal of Finalists

2.12.1 A qualifying climber or their substitute may be replaced if either:

- a) A parent or carer of the qualifying climber informs the relevant Area Youth Coordinator or NGB official of withdrawal in writing before the start of the third event in the regional series.
or
- b) The reason for withdrawal is due to:
 - i) illness or injury or
 - ii) any other circumstance deemed acceptable by the NGB Competitions Officer or their delegated substitute

2.12.2 A qualifying climber or their substitute shall not be replaced if:

- a) The reason for withdrawal is not in accordance with Articles 2.12.1a) or 2.12.1b).
- b) The replacement attended fewer than two rounds of the regional series.
- c) There are no remaining climbers in the category.

2.12.3 Regional Final format:

- a) If at any time before the start of the Regional Final a qualifying climber withdraws from the Regional Final in accordance with Articles 2.12.1a) or 2.12.1b) they may be substituted with the climber who finished in sixth place after round 2 in the regional series in the same category in the same sub-region.
- b) If the sixth placed climber described in Article 2.12.3a) withdraws from the Regional Final in accordance with Article 2.12.1b) or late notification, they may be substituted with the climber who finished in seventh place and so on until a replacement is found.

2.12.4 Three round format:

- a) If at any time after the end of the regional series a qualifying climber withdraws from the third round in accordance with Articles 2.12.1a) or 2.12.1b) they may be substituted with the climber who finished in fourth place in the regional series in the same category.
- b) If the fourth placed climber described in Article 2.12.4a) withdraws from the Grand Final in accordance with Article 2.12.1b) or late notification, they may be substituted with the climber who finished in fifth place and so on until a replacement is found.

2.13 Award Ceremonies

2.13.1 The competitors' award ceremony at the end of the competition shall comply with the basic IOC protocol for such events. Unless specifically authorised by the Chief Judge, all competitors shall attend the award ceremony. Failure to observe this regulation shall make a competitor liable to a 'Yellow Card' sanction, or in case of the three best ranked competitors of each category, to a 'Red Card' sanction.

2.14 Grand Final Team Competition

2.14.1 A regional team competition will run concurrently with the Grand final. At the end of the event, the competitors in each category shall be awarded ranking points as shown in the table in Article 2.9.1.

2.14.2 Where competitors are tied in a category, each will be awarded the average of ranking points shared by the tied group.

Example 1: If three competitors are tied in third place they are 'occupying' third, fourth and fifth places which would be a total of $65+55+51=171$ ranking points so each competitor would be awarded $171\div 3=57$ points.

Example 2: If two competitors are tied in second place they would each be awarded $(80+65)\div 2=72.5$ points.

2.14.3 A region's team score is the sum of the best ranking points in that team.

2.14.4 The number of individual scores counting towards the regional team score will be the fewer of;

- a) The average of all regional team sizes rounded down to the nearest whole number;
- b) The whole regional team;

3. COMPETITORS

3.1 Competitors' Climbing Equipment and Clothing

3.1.1 All equipment used by a competitor in a competition shall comply with CE standards unless otherwise specified by the IFSC and be in good serviceable condition. Each competitor shall be free to use whatever CE-marked make of harness (*NOTE: the wearing of a seat/hip or full-body harness is compulsory*), climbing shoes, chalk bag, climbing helmet (where the competitor chooses to do so), and clothing he/she prefers in accordance with the regulations specified in 3.1.

3.1.2 It is compulsory to wear the competition vest if one is provided by the Competition Organisers for the use of climbers while competing in the Series, any part of the Series or the Grand Final.

3.1.3 The following sponsorship and branding regulations will apply during each climber's attempt on each climb:

- a) Headwear: Only the manufacturer's name and/or logo;
- b) Competition vest: As supplied by the competition organiser. This vest, which each competitor must wear, must not be cut or otherwise modified;
- 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: Only the manufacturer's name and/or logo and sponsor's label(s) no larger than 100 square centimetres;
- e) Legs: Only the manufacturer's name and/or logo and sponsor's label(s) on each leg no larger than 300 square centimetres in total on each leg;
- f) Shoes and socks: Only the manufacturer's name and/or logo.

3.1.4 Failure to comply with these regulations shall result in disqualification from the competition.

3.2 Registration

3.2.1 All competitors eligible and wishing to compete in an event of a Series shall register no later than the time specified by the Chief Judge and published/announced by the Competition Organiser. It is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure that he/she is fully informed of all details appertaining to a competition.

3.3 Preparation Prior to Climbing

3.3.1 All climbing equipment and the knot used shall be inspected and approved by an authorised official both for safety and compliance with other regulations before the competitor shall be permitted to proceed to their attempt on their climb.

3.3.2 The approved knot is the "figure of eight" knot with a stopper knot.

3.3.3 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 on a climb.

3.3.4 Use of non-approved equipment, knots and/or clothing, or any non-approved modification of any climbing vest provided, or any infringement of any part of the regulations shall make the competitor liable for immediate disqualification.

3.4 Technical Incidents

3.4.1 A technical incident is defined as:

- a) A tight rope which either assists or hinders a competitor;
- b) A broken or loose hold;
- c) An improperly positioned quickdraw or karabiner;
- 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;

3.4.2 The belayer must 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 Category Judge.

3.4.3 A technical incident shall be dealt with as follows:

- a) If a technical incident is indicated by the Category Judge:
 - i) If the competitor wishes, and is still in a legitimate position, he/she may choose to continue to climb or accept the technical incident. If the competitor chooses to continue to attempt the climb 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 Category Judge shall make an immediate decision on whether to declare a technical incident and thereby terminate the competitor's attempt on the climb (and in accordance with the rules governing technical incidents, permit the competitor a subsequent attempt).
- b) If a technical incident is indicated by a competitor:
 - i) While the competitor is climbing, the competitor must specify the nature of the technical incident and, with the agreement of the Category Judge, may continue or cease climbing. If the competitor is in a non-legitimate position due to the incident the Category Judge shall make an immediate decision and that decision shall be final. If the competitor elects to continue to climb, no subsequent appeal shall be accepted in respect to that technical incident.
 - ii) If a competitor falls and claims that a technical incident precipitated the fall, the Route-Setter shall immediately check (and where appropriate correct) the claimed technical incident and report to the Route-Setter, Category Judge and the Chief Judge. The decision of the Chief Judge (having taken into account the technical incident and any misuse of a hold by a

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competitor) shall be final and no appeal shall be accepted in respect to this decision.

- c) The competitor subject to a confirmed technical incident shall be allowed a recuperation period. The competitor must decide immediately when he/she wishes to start his/her next attempt on the climb which must be after the immediately following competitor and before the fifth following competitor. The competitor shall be allowed a minimum of 20 minutes between attempts on the climb;
- d) On completion of a legitimate attempt on a climb, a competitor shall be recorded as having achieved the best result of their permitted attempts on the climb.

3.4.4 A climb shall be considered successfully completed if it is climbed in accordance with the regulations and rules and;

- a) in the case of a lead, if the competitor safely clips the rope into the karabiner on the final quickdraw from an allowed position,
- b) in the case of a top-rope or boulder problem, if the climber 'holds' the last marked hold from a legitimate position with both hands.

3.5 Climbing Procedure

3.5.1 Individual routes or problems will be allocated a maximum of 6 minutes during which a competitor may attempt the climb (or, in the case of a boulder problem, complete their turn).

3.5.2 An attempt shall be deemed to have started when all parts of the body have left the ground.

3.5.3 A competitor may ask the Category Judge at any time during their attempt how much of their allotted time remains and the Category Judge shall immediately inform the competitor of the remaining time. When the allocated time has ended, the Category Judge shall stop the competitor and instruct the measurement procedure to take place. A competitor who fails to obey the Category Judge's instruction to stop climbing shall be liable to the disciplinary procedures.

3.5.4 During their 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 karabiner at the lower end 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. The refusal by a competitor to obey the instruction of a Category Judge to terminate their attempt on a route shall make the competitor liable to the disciplinary procedures.
- b) In special circumstances (e.g. in the interests of safety) the Chief Judge shall be

authorised to amend Article 3.5.4a) above 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 briefing, and the actual hold and the quickdraw shall be clearly marked, preferably with a blue cross, and pointed out immediately prior to the competitor's attempt at the route. 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.

- c) A competitor may down-climb at any point during their attempt on a route as long as he/she is not in violation of Article 3.5.4a) or returns to the ground.
- d) Where a competitor clips the rope into a karabiner in accordance with Article 3.5.4a) but where some technical error has occurred, the competitor shall be permitted to clip the next karabiner in sequence and then unclip and re-clip (if necessary, by down-climbing) the previous karabiner. At the end, all the protection points must be clipped in.
Note: Back clipping is not classified as a technical error.
- e) The Category Judge may order that the attempt be terminated and the greatest height (or greatest distance) measured if he/she decides that to proceed further would contravene the safety regulations.

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3.6 Height Measurement

3.6.1 In the event of a fall or the Category Judge instructing a competitor to stop climbing, the highest handhold held (or in the case of a traverse or roof section of a climb, the furthest handhold held), in the line and in the climbing sequence of the climb as determined by the Route-Setter, shall be measured. Each handhold shall be deemed as such by the Route-Setter before the start of the competition or following positive use by a competitor during the competition.

3.6.2 As determined by the Category Judge:

- a) A climber having used a hold in control shall be awarded the point value of the hold;
- b) A climber having used a hold in control and having made a controlled climbing movement in the interest of progressing along the climb shall be awarded the point value of the hold plus one point.
- c) A climber will be awarded 100 points for successfully completing a route in accordance with Article 2.2.4
- d) A climber will be awarded 60 points plus two bonus points for successfully completing a boulder problem in accordance with Article 2.2.5 at their first attempt.
- e) A climber will be awarded 60 points plus one bonus point for successfully completing a boulder problem in accordance with Article 2.2.5 at their second attempt.
- f) A climber will be awarded 60 points for successfully completing a boulder problem in accordance with Article 2.2.5 at their third attempt.

3.6.3 If a competitor touches a point devoid of holds (as specified by the Route-Setter), this shall not affect the assessment of the number of points achieved by the competitor which shall be made according to Article 3.6.2.

3.6.4 If a lead competitor takes hold of the final quickdraw before the rope is safely clipped into the final karabiner this shall be considered as an artificial aid and the competitor's attempt on the route shall be terminated and measured in accordance with Article 3.6.2

3.6.5 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,
 - iii) 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 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.

3.6.6 For the purposes of scoring:

- a) A hold shall be considered as "controlled" where a competitor has made use of the hold to achieve a stable or controlled position.

- b) A hold from which a competitor has made a controlled climbing movement in the interest of progressing along the route shall be considered as "used".

3.6.7 *Note: A controlled climbing movement may be either "static" or "dynamic" in nature and in general will be evidenced by:*

- a) *a significant positive change in position of the competitor's centre of mass; and*
- b) *the movement of at least one hand in order to reach either;*
 - i) *the next hold along the line of the route; or*
 - ii) *any other hold further along the line of the route which has been successfully controlled by another competitor from the hold from which the climbing movement has been made.*

3.6.8 *Note: In accordance with Article 6.9.5, no 'plus' shall be awarded for any climbing movement that results in the competitor moving out of a legitimate position.*

3.7 Termination of an Attempt on a Climb

3.7.1 Successful Attempt on a Climb:

A competitor shall be deemed to have successfully completed an attempt on a climb if that attempt is in accordance with Article 3.5 above.

3.7.2 Unsuccessful Attempt on a Climb:

A competitor shall be deemed to have unsuccessfully completed an attempt on a climb if he/she:

- a) Falls;
- b) Exceeds the permitted time for the climb;
- 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 regulations governing the competition;
- h) Once having started, touches the ground with any part of the body;
- i) Uses any artificial aid;

3.7.3 In cases where walls have not been stripped of out of bounds holds the category judge shall use discretion where a competitor mistakenly uses a wrong hold. It is often enough to inform the competitor to move their hand or foot off the offending hold, especially if no advantage has been gained.

3.7.4 Each competitor has only one attempt on a route and up to three attempts on a boulder problem.

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3.8 Superfinals and Climb-offs

3.8.1 Definitions:

- a) A Superfinal is the last possible stage in resolving first, second and third place ties at the end of any regional round.
- b) A Superfinal may be used to resolve a series tie spanning the boundary between third and fourth place after the last regional round or regional final.

3.8.2 A Superfinal or Climb-off must take place on an appropriate roped route (i.e. not a boulder problem).

3.8.3 All tied competitors must enter the Isolation Zone before it closes.

3.8.4 When in the Isolation Zone, competitors are subject to the Isolation Rules as described in Section 3.10.

3.8.5 Other than for supplementary attempts required following an Appeal or Technical Incident, each competitor eligible to compete in the Superfinal or Climb-off shall make one attempt on the route for their Category.

3.8.6 The fixed length of the climbing period in the Semi-Final and Final rounds shall be six (6) minutes for each route.

3.8.7 The starting order in the Superfinal or Climb-off shall be random.

3.8.8 A collective observation period shall be held immediately prior to the commencement of the Superfinal or Climb-off. The observation period shall be decided by the Chief Judge in consultation with the Route-Setter and shall not exceed six (6) minutes.

3.8.9 No other persons shall be permitted to accompany the competitors during the observation period. While in the observation area, all competitors remain under the Isolation Rules. Competitors shall remain within the designated observation area during the observation period. Competitors are not permitted to climb on the climbing wall or stand on any equipment or furniture. They may seek clarification only from judges.

3.8.10 Competitors are allowed to touch the first hold(s), without leaving the ground with both their feet. Competitors may use binoculars to observe the route, and make hand-drawn sketches and notes. No other observation or recording equipment shall be permitted

3.8.11 At the end of the observation period, competitors shall immediately return to the Isolation Zone.

3.8.12 Immediately prior to taking their turn, a competitor shall be escorted from the Isolation Zone to the Competition Area by a competition official.

3.8.13 The competitor's attempt on the route shall be timed in accordance with Articles 3.9.2 to 3.9.6.

3.8.14 After completion of all competitors' attempts on the Superfinal and Climb-off route, they shall be ranked in accordance with Articles 3.6.1 to 3.6.4

3.8.15 If any competitors are tied following the ranking calculation of Article 3.8.14, the relative ranking of these competitors will be determined by the climbing time for each (lower times are better).

3.8.16 Any competitors remaining tied after the application of Article 3.8.15 shall be given an equal ranking.

3.9 Timing Rules

3.9.1 Articles 3.9.2 to 3.9.6 shall apply only to Superfinals and Climb-offs as defined in Article 3.8.1.

3.9.2 The climbing time for each competitor is the period between the start and completion of the competitor's attempt on a route.

3.9.3 The climbing time for each competitor shall be measured using a manually operated electronic timer with digital readouts (a "stopwatch").

3.9.4 At least one (1) Route Judge shall act as an official Timekeeper on each route and shall record the time for each competitor. Each Timekeeper shall act independently and without showing their watch to, or discussing their time with, any other person.

3.9.5 The climbing time for each competitor is recorded as the time between:

- a) when competitor starts in accordance with Article 3.5.2; and
- b) when the competitor is either;
 - i) successful on the route in accordance with Article 3.4.4; or
 - ii) unsuccessful on the route in as set out in Article 3.7.2

3.9.6 In each case, unless the calculated climbing time is an exact second, times shall be recorded to the next lower second (i.e. rounded down).

3.10 Isolation Rules

3.10.1 Articles 3.10.2 and 3.10.3 shall apply only to Superfinals and Climb-offs as defined in Article 3.8.1.

3.10.2 Once the closing time for the Isolation Zone has passed, Competitors must remain within the Isolation Zone unless otherwise instructed.

Notes:

- a) *Competitors or other persons authorised by the Chief Judge to enter the Isolation Zone may choose to leave the Isolation Zone at any time, but having left the Isolation Zone they may not then return, and must leave the Competition Area, unless specifically authorised to remain by the Chief Judge.*
- b) *Competitors may view routes visible from outside the Competition Area at any time prior to the closing time for the Isolation Zone.*

3.10.3 When the Isolation Rules apply, competitors shall have no knowledge of the routes other than that obtained during the official observation period or that communicated to them by the Chief Judge or the judges. It is the sole responsibility of each competitor to fully inform themselves with respect to all instructions regarding the routes.

For the avoidance of doubt:

- a) Whilst in the Competition Area, competitors are not permitted to seek any information from persons outside the Competition Area, unless specifically authorised to do so by the Chief Judge;
- b) Competitors who have completed their attempt(s) on a route and who for any reason remain in the Competition Area must not pass any information concerning that route to any competitor who has not yet attempted that route.

4. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES DURING COMPETITION

4.1 General

- 4.1.1** Youth Climbing Series is a fun competition and the rules in this section are to be used as a guide only. Strict enforcement should only be considered in extreme circumstances.
- 4.1.2** The Chief Judge shall have overall authority for all activities and decisions affecting the competition within the competition zone; i.e. the competition registration area, the competition area immediately in front of the climbing wall and on the climbing wall, excluding any differences covered by the wall's representative in the Youth Climbing Series contract and Youth Climbing Series responsibility chart.

4.2 Competitors

- 4.2.1** The Chief Judge and the Category Judges shall be authorised to take the following actions, as specified below, in respect to infringements of the competition regulations and in regard to matters of indiscipline by any competitor whilst in the competition area:

- a) Informal, verbal warning
- b) The Chief Judge only shall be authorised to take the following sanction:
 - i) An official warning - accompanied by the showing of a 'Yellow Card';
 - ii) Disqualification from the competition - accompanied by the showing of a 'Red Card';

- 4.2.2** A Yellow Card warning may be issued for any of the following infringements of the regulations:

- a) Failure to start in accordance with a Category Judge's instruction;
- b) Failure to obey the instruction of a Category Judge and/or the Chief Judge;
- c) Directly questioning or challenging a Category Judge about his/her ruling;
- d) Use of obscene or abusive language or behaviour of a relatively mild nature;
- e) Unsporting behaviour of a relatively minor nature.

- 4.2.3** Appeals against such decisions shall follow the procedure specified in article 5 below.

- 4.2.4** Disqualification without Further Sanction: The following infringements of the regulations shall result in issuing of a Red Card and the immediate disqualification of the competitor from the competition without further sanction:

- a) Failure to report properly equipped at the start of a climb;
- b) The use of non-approved equipment;
- c) Unapproved modification of, and/or failure to wear, any competition vest and/or competitor's number as provided by the competition organiser;
- d) The issue of a second yellow card in one Series;

- 4.2.5** Appeals against such decisions shall follow the procedure specified in article 5 below.

- 4.2.6** Disqualification with Immediate referral to the Disciplinary Body: The following infringements of the regulations shall result the issuing of a Red Card and the immediate disqualification of the competitor from the competition with referral to the Disciplinary Body, following the related procedure, the further sanction of suspension from one successive Youth Climbing Series competition:

- a) Infringements of the regulations committed in the competition area:
 - i) Distracting or interfering with any competitor who is preparing for, or in the process of attempting, a climb;
 - ii) Failure to comply with the instructions of the official judges and/or organiser's officials.
- b) Infringements committed anywhere at the competition venue (including the competition area):
 - i) Unsporting behaviour or other serious disturbance to the competition;
 - ii) Unsporting behaviour or other serious disturbance, and/or abusive, insulting and/or violent words and/or behaviour to NGB officials, Organiser's officials and/or other competitors and/or members of the public.

- 4.2.7** The decision of the Chief Judge in respect to Article 4.2.6a) and 4.2.6b) shall be final and no appeal against this decision shall be accepted.

- 4.2.8** At the earliest convenient time after issuing a 'Yellow' or 'Red Card', the Chief Judge shall:

- a) Submit a written statement to the competitor regarding the offence and whether the Chief Judge proposes to refer the matter for consideration in respect to further disciplinary action in accordance with the regulations.
- b) The Chief Judge shall submit a copy of this written statement together with a detailed report of the offence against the regulations, any evidence, and any recommendations regarding consideration of additional sanction to the NGB for referral to the NGB's Disciplinary Body.

4.3 Other Persons

- 4.3.1** The Chief Judge and Category Judges shall be authorised to take the following actions, as specified below, in respect to infringements of the competition regulations and in regard to matters of indiscipline by any persons anywhere at the competition venue:

- a) Informal, verbal warning
- b) The Chief Judge only shall be authorised to demand the following sanction:
 - i) Immediate dismissal from the competition venue of any person in contravention of these regulations and, if necessary, suspend all competition activities until this demand has been complied with.

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4.3.2 Immediate dismissal from the competition venue may be demanded for any of the following infringements of the regulations:

- a)** Coaching, or providing climbing instructions to, a competitor in the process of attempting a climb.
- b)** Directly questioning or challenging a Category Judge about his/her ruling;
- c)** Distracting or interfering with any competitor who is preparing for, or in the process of attempting, a climb;
- d)** Failure to comply with the instructions of the official judges and/or organiser's officials.
- e)** Unsporting behaviour or other serious disturbance to the competition;
- f)** Unsporting behaviour or other serious disturbance, and/or abusive, insulting and/or violent words and/or behaviour to NGB officials, Organiser's officials and/or other competitors and/or members of the public

5. COMPETITION APPEALS

5.1 Procedure

- 5.1.1 All oral and written appeals and official responses to appeals shall be made in English.
- 5.1.2 An appeal against a ruling by a Category Judge during a round of the competition must be made to the Chief Judge by the competitor no later than 30 minutes after the ruling.
- 5.1.3 An appeal against the ranking of a competitor after the completion of a round of the competition and after the official results have been published must be made no later than 30 minutes after the publication of the results. The appeal must be made following the publication of the results at the end of each round of the Series. The appeal may be made in writing to the Chief Judge by the competitor.
- 5.1.4 In the event of an appeal, the Chief Judge shall convene an Appeals Jury comprising the Chief Judge, the Category Judges not involved in the case (if available) and the NGB Delegate (if available). A decision shall be made as rapidly as circumstances allow. In the case of written appeals, the decision of the Competition Appeal Jury shall be made in writing and handed by the Chief Judge to the person who officially lodged the appeal.
- 5.1.5 The decision of the Appeal Jury in respect of these regulations shall be final and not subject to further appeal.
- 5.1.6 In those cases where the Chief Judge assesses that an infringement of the regulations merits consideration by the NGB's Disciplinary Body, the matter shall be referred to the Disciplinary Body together the Chief Judge's report, copies of written communications between the Chief Judge and the competitor concerned, and all relevant evidence.
- 5.1.7 The composition and the procedures of the Disciplinary Body are defined in the NGB's referred documents.

6. DEALING WITH REGIONAL TIES

6.1 Flowchart

6.1.1 Check from START point after the last climb at regional rounds.
If Climb-offs or Super finals are required, they can be run concurrently or combined if appropriate.

