

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1 - PURPOSE	Page 1
SECTION 2 - AUTHORITY	Page 1
SECTION 3 - DEFINITIONS/INTERPRETATIONS	Page 1
SECTION 4 - THE OCF SERIES	Page 3
SECTION 5 - OCF SERIES POINTS	Page 4
SECTION 6 - THE OCF PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	Page 4
SECTION 7 - OCF QUOTAS FOR CEC EVENTS	Page 5
SECTION 8 - ELIGIBILITY FOR CEC EVENTS	Page 5
SECTION 9 - COMPETITION OFFICIALS	Page 5
SECTION 10 - GENERAL COMPETITION RULES	Page 7
SECTION 11 - BOULDERING RULES	Page 11
SECTION 12 - E & D DIFFICULTY RULES	Page 16
SECTION 13 - C, B, A, JR., & SENIOR DIFFICULTY RULES	Page 17
SECTION 14 - SPEED RULES	Page 21

Any significant additions or changes to the 2022 – 2023 OCF rules have been highlighted in red text.

The following is a brief synopsis of the significant changes:

The term Technical Delegate has been changed to Event Delegate. All authorities/responsibilities remain the same.

A third bouldering format, called the Hybrid Scramble Format, has been added to the bouldering rules at s.11.10

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

SECTION 1 - PURPOSE

- 1.1 The Ontario Climbing Federation (the OCF) has enacted these rules to clarify its policies relating to the OCF Competitive Series (the Series), and to assist Event Organizers, host venues and Officials in conducting OCF Series events in a manner that is safe, fair, and respectful for all competitors, Officials, volunteers, Coaches, and spectators.
- 1.2 The technical rules herein are based primarily on the most recent rules from the International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) and Climbing Escalade Canada (CEC), and are the sole rules for all OCF Series events.
- 1.3 These rules are intended to be strictly followed at all OCF events, with modifications being made only by designated OCF Officials, and only for purposes of safety and/or other exigencies.

SECTION 2 - AUTHORITY

- 2.1 The OCF, as the sanctioning body for competitive climbing in Ontario, and as a Provincial and Territorial Sport Organization (PTSO) member of the CEC, exercises the exclusive authority to sanction OCF competitions in Ontario.
- 2.2 The OCF currently sanctions climbing competitions in the **three (3)** disciplines of bouldering, difficulty, and speed.
- 2.3 The OCF may sanction **three (3)** types of climbing competitions (events) at both the local or provincial level:
 - (a) events that use either the redpoint scramble format or the hybrid scramble format;
 - (b) events that use the IFSC/CEC style flash format;
 - (c) events that use the IFSC/CEC style onsight format.
- 2.4. The OCF may also host or co-host recreational climbing competitions/festivals that are not part of the OCF Series, and these rules may or may not apply in whole or in part to those recreational climbing competitions/festivals.
- 2.5 All OCF Series events require Officials appointed by the OCF and require the use of OCF approved judges.
- 2.6 The OCF shall make all decisions regarding all of the following issues at all OCF Series events:
 - (a) the format and number of rounds of all events;
 - (b) the eligibility and registration of all competitors;
 - (c) the creation and posting of all Official Schedule(s) and/or Start Lists;
 - (d) all judging and scoring, the posting of all Official Results, and the management and/or resolution of all Appeals;
 - (e) the appointment of all OCF Officials, and the assignment of all judges and any other critical volunteers;
 - (f) the determination of access to any part of the Competition Area by any person or person(s);
 - (g) the interpretation and/or application of these rules, as well as any other relevant rules or practices.

SECTION 3 - DEFINITIONS/INTERPRETATIONS

- 3.1 Artificial Aide includes any of the following:
 - (a) any unused T-nuts on the Climbing Surface or on any Volumes;
 - (b) any advertising or informational placards fixed to the Climbing Surface;
 - (c) any open side or top edges of the Climbing Surface, as well as any object(s) on the Climbing Surface, such as sprinkler heads, that are not intended to be used for climbing;
 - (d) any walls made of a material such as concrete block or metal, that do not normally have Climbing Holds or Volumes attached to them, and that are not intended to be used for climbing;
 - (e) any bolt hanger fixed to the Climbing Surface, as well as any Protection Points or the climbing rope;
 - (f) any area and/or object demarcated as out of bounds with black tape;

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

- 3.2 Black tape shall be the only tape color used to marked areas/objects that are out of bounds, and shall not be used for any other purpose. Further, the Jury President may declare black tape as either "Hard", which means that neither the Climbing Surface or any object beyond the tape may be Used by any competitor, or "Soft", which means that only the Climbing Surface beyond the tape may be Used by any competitor.
- 3.3 Call Zone means any designated part of the Competition Area to which competitors must report to prior to commencing their attempt(s).
- 3.4 Climbing Holds and Volumes are defined as follows:
- (a) a Climbing Hold is any moveable man-made object without T-nuts that is affixed to the Climbing Surface (or to a Volume) by means of screws/bolts, that is intended to be touched by some part of the competitor's body;
 - (b) a Volume is any moveable man-made object with T-nuts that is affixed to the Climbing Surface (or to another Volume) by means of screws/bolts, that is intended to be touched by some part of the competitor's body;
- 3.5 Each Climbing Hold and Volume that is affixed directly to the Climbing Surface shall be treated as individual objects, however closely they may be affixed to each other. In the event that a Climbing Hold or Volume is affixed completely on top of another Climbing Hold or Volume those stacked objects shall be considered as one object unless they form part of a Start, Zone or Top, and they are clearly marked as distinct objects by the Head Route Setter. Further, any stacked objects that are marked with tape as part of a Start, Zone or Top must be of clearly different colors to reduce the chance of confusion. For example, marking a small blue hold as the Zone on a blue volume will not be allowed. Finally, in the event that a Climbing Hold or Volume extends past the Climbing Surface, the exposed back of that Climbing Hold or Volume is out of bounds.
- 3.6 The Climbing Surface is any usable surface of a climbing wall including any finished permanent features, excluding any open side edges or top edges, and also excluding any Climbing Holds or Volumes.
- 3.7 Coach means any person who has a current OCF Coaching membership, and has met any other OCF requirements;
- 3.8 The Competition Area is any part of the host venue allocated for competition activities including the following:
- (a) any Call Zone(s), Isolation Zone(s), Transit Zone(s), and any Warm-Up Zone(s);
 - (b) any area surrounding and/or underneath the Climbing Surface(s);
 - (c) any other designated area within the competition venue.
- 3.9 Control and Use are defined as follows:
- (a) Control means that a competitor has made contact with a Climbing Hold or Volume with at least **one (1)** hand such that the Climbing Hold or Volume assists them in achieving a visibly stable position, or assists them in successfully braking any dynamic movement, or assists them in making a visible climbing movement toward the next Climbing Hold or Volume in a manner that is not covered by the definition of Use;
 - (b) Use means that a competitor has made contact with a Climbing Hold or Volume with at least **one (1)** hand such that the Climbing Hold or Volume assists them in making progressive movement of their centre mass or hips and also assists them in moving either **one (1)** or both hands toward either the next sequential scored point of contact (which could be either a Climbing Hold or Volume) or toward any other Climbing Hold or Volume along the line of progression which has been successfully Controlled by another competitor from the same Climbing Hold or Volume.
- 3.10 Isolation Zone means any designated part of the Competition Area for which access is controlled and limited to competitors qualified for the relevant round of competition, Coaches, and designated competition Officials.
- 3.11 Protection Point means an assembly comprising all of the following: a Quick Link connector which is attached to a bolt fixed to the load-bearing structure of the Climbing Surface, a Karabiner, which shall be oriented in a manner that minimizes the possibility of cross loading, and a single machine-sewn sling of a suitable length, as determined by the Head Route Setter, connecting the Quick Link connector and to the Karabiner.
- 3.12 Safety Hold means any Climbing Hold designated as a mandatory clipping hold by the Head Route Setter.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

- 3.13 Technical Incident means any event or circumstance that results in a unfair disadvantage or unfair advantage to a competitor and which is not the result of that competitor's action(s).
- 3.14 Transit Zone means any designated part of the Competition Area arranged to permit competitors to recover from their attempts on a boulder/route.
- 3.15 Warm-Up Zone means any designated part of the Competition Area arranged to permit competitors to prepare for their attempts on a boulder/route.

SECTION 4 - THE OCF SERIES

- 4.1 For the 2023-2024 season, the OCF Series will consist of up to **twenty (20)** sanctioned events across all **seven (7)** age categories and all three disciplines, including Local/Qualifier Competitions and Provincial Championships. For further information, review the Series schedule at www.climbontario.ca
- 4.2 All competitors at OCF Series events are required to provide proof of their birthdate once and also proof of their citizenship once. Proof may include any appropriate government issued identification.
- 4.3 Any competitor who has not provided the appropriate proving document(s) may be prohibited from competing at any OCF events until they provide the required proof.
- 4.4 The required proving documents can be submitted to the OCF by email, and/or provided to any OCF Board Member in person, and/or provided to the Event Delegate appointed for each event.
- 4.5 For the 2023-2024 season all competitors at OCF Series events will compete within an age category based on their year of birth as follows:

Youth E Boys/Girls Categories	Reserved for competitors born in 2015 or 2016
Youth D Boys/Girls Categories	Reserved for competitors born in 2013 or 2014
Youth C Boys/Girls Categories	Reserved for competitors born in 2011 or 2012
Youth B Boys/Girls Categories	Reserved for competitors born in 2009 or 2010
Youth A Boys/Girls Categories	Reserved for competitors born in 2007 or 2008
Junior Boys/Girls Categories	Reserved for competitors born in 2005 or 2006
Senior Men/Women Categories (This was previously called Open.)	Reserved for competitors born in 2008 or earlier. (Must be at least 16 years old in 2024.)
Adult Men/Women Categories	Reserved for competitors born in 2004 or earlier. (Must at least 20 years old in 2024.)

- 4.7 Competitors younger than the E category are not eligible to compete in any OCF Series events.
- 4.8 Youth A and Junior competitors will automatically compete in the Senior category as well as in their Youth categories at any OCF event that offers a Senior category.
- 4.9 Only Ontario residents, and any Canadian citizens living outside of Canada who are not members of another PTSO, may purchase an OCF Competitive Membership.
- 4.10 Only OCF Members may compete in any OCF Series events.
- 4.11 Only competitors who properly register prior to the registration deadline for each OCF Series event will be allowed to compete in that event.

Note: The registration deadline for each OCF event will be announced when registration opens and is posted on-line within the OCF event registration system.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

SECTION 5 - OCF SERIES POINTS

- 5.1 Only OCF Competitive Members are eligible to earn Series Points in their respective category.
- 5.2 Series Points will be allocated for each Series event based on the Final Results of only the OCF Competitive Members who competed in that event.
- 5.3 In cases of unbreakable ties at any OCF Series event, Series Points will be awarded equally to the tied competitors accounting for the placements held by the competitors involved. *(For example, if two competitors tie for 3rd place, they each receive the points equal to the sum of points awarded to 3rd and 4th place divided by two.)*
- 5.4 Series Points will be awarded as follows:

Qualifying Events							
Rank	Pts.	Rank	Pts.	Rank	Pts.	Rank	Pts.
1	200	11	150	21	100	31	50
2	195	12	145	22	95	32	45
3	190	13	140	23	90	33	40
4	185	14	135	24	85	34	35
5	180	15	130	25	80	35	30
6	175	16	125	26	75	36	25
7	170	17	120	27	70	37	20
8	165	18	115	28	65	38	15
9	160	19	110	29	60	39	10
10	155	20	105	30	55	40+	5

Provincial Championships							
Rank	Pts.	Rank	Pts.	Rank	Pts.	Rank	Pts.
1	300	11	225	21	150	31	75
2	293	12	218	22	143	32	68
3	285	13	210	23	135	33	60
4	278	14	203	24	128	34	53
5	270	15	195	25	120	35	45
6	263	16	188	26	113	36	38
7	255	17	180	27	105	37	30
8	248	18	173	28	98	38	23
9	240	19	165	29	90	39	15
10	233	20	158	30	83	40+	8

- 5.5 All OCF Competitive Members will be ranked in their respective category based on the sum total of Series Points earned from their best result in each of the **three (3)** different disciplines of bouldering, difficulty and speed.
- 5.6 For the purposes of Series rankings, a competitor's second best result in any discipline at any Series event, or further best final result at any Series event will be used to break any tie in a particular category.
- 5.7 In the situation where a tie for first place in the Series rankings cannot be broken using the above count back method, then the two tied athletes would both be recognized as finishing **first (1st)** in the Series and the next competitor would be recognized as finishing **third (3rd)**.
- 5.8 E category athletes will not earn Series Points. (Note: This conforms to the CEC Sport Climbing LTAD model.)

SECTION 6 - THE OCF PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 6.1 The following requirements apply to any of our Provincial Championships where the OCF has hosted **two (2)** or more qualifying events this season for that discipline / category:
- (a) only the top **twenty (20)** ranked OCF Competitive Members in each category will be eligible to compete at the OCF Provincial Championship in that discipline, and this ranking will be based on each OCF Competitive Members' single best OCF Qualifier result in that discipline.
- 6.2 The following requirements apply to any of our Provincial Championships where the OCF has hosted only **one (1)** qualifying event this season for that discipline / category:
- (a) any OCF Competitive Members who competed in the single qualifying event for that discipline / category is eligible to compete in the Provincial Championships in that discipline.
- 6.3 E category athletes are not eligible to compete at any Provincial Championships. (Note: This conforms to the CEC Sport Climbing LTAD model.)

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

SECTION 7 - OCF QUOTAS FOR CEC EVENTS

7.1 The OCF shall distribute our allotted quota to any CEC event according to the OCF's posted Selection Policy.

SECTION 8 - ELIGIBILITY FOR CEC EVENTS

8.1 The CEC determines all issues regarding the eligibility and membership requirements at each CEC event, handle all exemption requests for athletes who are unable to qualify via their PTSO for medical or other reasons, and also determine the specific quota that each PTSO receives for each CEC event and also determine how any un-used quota spots from other PTSOs may be re-allocated.

Note: For more detailed information about CEC events, please visit the CEC website at <https://www.climbingcanada.ca>.

SECTION 9 - COMPETITION OFFICIALS

Overview

9.1 The OCF may appoint a Jury President, an Event Delegate and a Head Judge to any OCF sanctioned event.

9.2 The term OCF Official refers **only** to the Jury President, the Head Judge, and/or the Event Delegate as it pertains to Appeals. However, in any other circumstance, the term may apply to any other volunteer who has been assigned a specific role by the Jury President such as Isolation Monitor, Official Scorekeeper, or Starter.

Jury President

9.3 The Jury President has the following duties/authorities:

- (a) has the overall responsibility to ensure that the competition is conducted in a manner that is safe, fair, and respectful for all competitors, Officials, volunteers, Coaches and spectators;
- (b) has overall authority within the Competition Area, including the overall authority to determine whether any person is allowed access to any part of the Competition Area;
- (c) presides over all meetings of OCF Officials, as well as any competitor meetings;
- (d) does not normally have a judging role, but may at any time choose to carry out any judging task generally assigned to the Head Judge or other judges should they deem that necessary;
- (e) shall ensure that all officiating judges are briefed on the relevant OCF Rules prior to the start of the competition;
- (f) shall inspect all boulders/routes prior to the start of each round to ensure that they are designed in a manner that conforms to these rules, and also in a manner that minimizes the risk of injury to any competitor or other persons;
- (g) has the overall authority to rule on all Appeals;
- (h) shall ensure that the Event Organizer provides at least one qualified person (minimum current First Aid training) to act as the Competition Medic during the entirety of each round of every OCF Series event;
- (i) has the overall authority to resolve any safety issue within the Competition Area;
- (j) may delegate one or more of the above duties to any other appointed OCF Official, or to any other qualified person that is available to assist at that event;
- (k) has the sole authority to interpret these rules as required to ensure that the competition is conducted in a manner that is safe, fair, and respectful for all competitors, Officials, volunteers, Coaches and spectators;
- (l) has the sole authority to suspend, modify or cancel any round of a competition;
- (m) or make any other decision that they deem is required to ensure that the competition is conducted in a manner that is safe, fair, and respectful for all competitors, Officials, volunteers, Coaches and spectators;
- (n) shall submit a detailed report to the OCF concerning each event that they preside over.**

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

Event Delegate

9.4 The Event Delegate has the following duties/authorities:

- (a) is the primary pre-competition point of contact between the OCF and the Event Organizer;
- (b) shall ensure that any issues of eligibility are resolved according to any relevant OCF rules and/or policies;
- (c) shall ensure that any Official Schedule(s) and any Start Lists are created and/or posted in the appropriate manner(s) at the appropriate time(s);
- (d) shall ensure that any required OCF video recording/timing systems are installed properly by the Event Organizer;
- (e) shall ensure that any other pre-competition administrative set-up is done as required;
- (f) shall ensure that all competition signage is done as required;
- (g) has the authority to attend all meetings of OCF Officials, and has access to the entire Competition Area;
- (h) shall ensure that all scoring data entry is done in a consistent manner;
- (i) shall post all Official Results, as directed by the Jury President;
- (j) may be required to assist the Jury President or Head Judge with video reviews and/or the resolution of Appeals;
- (k) in the event that the Jury President is unable to carry out their duties due to some exigent circumstance and a Head Judge had not been appointed to that event, the Event Delegate shall assume the role of Jury President until such time as the appointed Jury President is able to resume their duties or until the competition had ended.

Head Judge

9.5 The Head Judge has the following duties/authorities:

- (a) the primary role of the Head Judge is to coordinate the activities of the assigned route/boulder judges;
- (b) the secondary role of the Head Judge is to assist the Jury President with any of their duties as required;
- (c) has the authority to attend all meetings of OCF Officials, and has access to the entire Competition Area;
- (d) in the event that the Jury President is unable to carry out their duties due to some exigent circumstance, the Head Judge shall assume the role of Jury President until such time as the appointed Jury President is able to resume their duties or until the competition had ended.

Head Route Setter

9.6 The OCF shall approve a Head Route Setter for every OCF Series event. Their duties are as follows:

- (a) shall have the overall authority to plan and co-ordinate all matters of route setting and route maintenance;
- (b) shall ensure that all matters of route setting/maintenance, including the preparation of the entire Competition Area, are done in a manner that conforms to these rules as well as to any relevant safety regulations/practices;
- (c) shall attend any Technical Meetings as an aide to the Jury President;
- (d) shall ensure that an experienced maintenance team is available throughout each round of the competition in order to perform any maintenance or repairs ordered by the Jury President and/or Head Judge;
- (e) shall follow the instructions of the Jury President regarding any issue of safety or any other matter that the Jury President has determined may interfere with the competition being conducted in a manner that is safe, fair, and respectful for all competitors, Officials, volunteers, Coaches and spectators.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

Event Organizer

- 9.7 The Event Organizer, who is appointed by the host venue, shall have the following responsibilities:
- (a) shall ensure that all areas of the venue used for the competition are maintained in a manner that is consistent with conducting the competition in a manner that is safe, fair, and respectful for all competitors, Officials, volunteers, Coaches and spectators;
 - (b) shall follow the instructions of the Jury President regarding any issue of safety or any other matter that the Jury President has determined may interfere with the competition being conducted in a manner that is safe, fair, and respectful all competitors, Officials, volunteers, Coaches and spectators.

SECTION 10 - GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

Overview

10.1 All of the rules in Section 10 apply to every OCF Series event, independent of the discipline/format of the event.

Clothing/Equipment

- 10.2 Every competitor shall have the following responsibilities regarding their clothing and equipment:
- (a) they shall be entirely responsible for ensuring that the clothing/equipment worn/used during the competition meets the requirements of these rules as well any requirements of the host venue;
 - (b) they shall wear a top, climbing shoes, and either shorts or pants while competing;
 - (c) they shall wear any supplied bib on the back of their top attached in such a manner that the number on the bib is clearly visible to the judge assigned to score the competitor while they are making their attempt(s);
 - (d) they shall wear a suitable climbing harness attached in a secure fashion during their attempts on any route, and they may wear a climbing helmet during their attempts on any route;
 - (e) they may carry a chalk bag while making their attempts, and/or use dry or liquid chalk for their hands, but they shall not carry, wear or use any other performance enhancing agents/aides such as resin or gloves;
 - (f) they may wear medical devices such as eye glasses, hearing aides or medical braces/supports while climbing, but shall not wear, carry or use any other devices that could be used as a performance enhancing aide, unless that device has been approved by the Jury President;
 - (g) they shall not wear, carry or use any electronic equipment when climbing, unless that equipment has been approved by the Jury President.

Competitor Fitness

- 10.3 If the Jury President believes that a competitor is unfit to compete for any reason, they have the authority to require the competitor to undergo an examination by the Competition Medic, which may include any of the following tests:
- (a) for lower extremity: the competitor shall be able to perform **five (5)** consecutive single-leg jumps with each leg;
 - (b) for upper extremity: the competitor shall be able to perform **five (5)** consecutive push-ups using both arms;
 - (c) for bleeding: the competitor shall be able to stop the bleeding such that they will not put blood on any Holds;
 - (d) for any injury: the competitor shall perform such tests that the Competition Medic, in consultation with the Jury President, deems appropriate;
- 10.4 The Jury President shall stop the competitor from competing if the Competition Medic concludes that the competitor is unfit to compete. If at some later point, the competitor believes that they have recovered, they may request another examination, and the Jury President shall allow the competitor to compete if, following any such further examination, the Competition Medic concludes that the competitor is now fit to compete.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

Competition Area

- 10.5 The Competition Area shall be demarcated from any area open to the public, and shall be controlled as follows:
- (a) only OCF Officials, competitors participating in the current round, OCF Coaches, and any person (or animals pursuant to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) approved by the Jury President are permitted to enter the Competition Area, and access may be limited to one or more Zones within the Competition Area;
 - (b) only OCF Officials are permitted to carry or use any laser pointers, cellular telephones or any "smart device" within the Competition Area;

Note: Smart device includes any electronic equipment that can send and/or receive information in some type of wireless fashion such as Bluetooth headphones, most eBook readers, gaming consoles, music players and newer cameras.)

Conduct/Discipline

- 10.6 Every person within the competition venue shall behave in a respectful manner toward every other person within the competition venue and shall also behave in a manner that is consistent with the competition being conducted in a manner that is safe and fair for all competitors, Officials, volunteers, Coaches and spectators.
- 10.7 The Jury President has the overall authority to enforce these rules, and determine what sanction(s) may be applied in response to any infringements of these rules by any competitor or Coach registered for that competition, as well as by any person who may have been granted access to the Competition Area.
- 10.8 The Jury President has the sole authority to order the removal of any person from the competition venue who fails to act in a respectful manner, or otherwise attempts to interfere in any fashion with the competition being conducted in a manner that is safe and fair for all competitors, Officials, volunteers, Coaches and spectators.
- 10.9 The Jury President and the Head Judge are authorized to issue a verbal warning to any person within the Competition Area who commits a very minor infractions of the rules, which could be such things as a bib being worn upside down, or a very brief verbal outburst after an unsuccessful attempt.
- 10.10 The Jury President and the Head Judge are authorized to issue an Official warning accompanied by the showing of a Yellow Card to any person within the Competition Area who commits a minor infraction of the rules, which could be such things as unsporting behaviour of a relatively minor nature, brief use of obscene/abusive language, disrespectful behaviour of a mild nature, or failing to promptly follow the direction of any OCF Official.
- 10.11 The Jury President has the sole authority to disqualify any person from a competition. The disqualification shall be accompanied by the showing of a Red Card. The following infringements of the rules shall result in issuing of a Red Card and the immediate disqualification of the person from the competition:
- (a) gathering and/or providing information about the boulders/routes in a manner that violates the restrictions of Isolation Conditions (when such conditions are in force);
 - (b) the use of non-approved equipment;
 - (c) unauthorized use of any electronic communication equipment within the Competition Area;
 - (d) distracting or interfering with any competitor who is preparing for or is making their attempt(s);
 - (e) unsporting behaviour or other serious disturbance while within the competition venue;
 - (f) abusive, threatening or violent behaviour directed toward any other person while within the competition venue;
 - (g) refusing to follow the directions of the Jury President and/or Head Judge;
 - (h) receiving **two (2)** Yellow Cards during the same competition.

10.12 The Jury President shall include details about the issuance of all Yellow or Red Cards in their event report.

- 10.13 The OCF may apply further sanctions to any person who has received a Yellow Card or a Red Card, pursuant to their posted Discipline Policy.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

Isolation Conditions

10.15 Isolation Conditions shall apply to any round of any OCF Series event that uses the onsight format. All athletes competing in an onsight format round of a competition must make their attempts on any boulder/route in that round with **only** knowledge about the boulder/route obtained in the following ways:

- (a) from any authorized collective observation period for the relevant boulder/route, including such knowledge as may be shared only between competitors participating in that authorized collective observation period;
- (b) from any competitor briefing conducted by the Jury President;
- (c) or obtained during the competitor's own attempt(s) on the relevant boulder/route.

10.16 Competitors who are subject to Isolation Conditions are not allowed to receive any specific information about how they might make any attempt on any boulder/routes from any person.

10.17 Any person who attempts to subvert or undermine Isolation Conditions in any fashion may be ordered removed from the competition venue by the Jury President, **and may be subject to further discipline as the JP and/or the OCF Board deems appropriate.**

10.18 Isolation Zone closing times will be strictly enforced at all OCF Series events/rounds as follows:

- (a) any competitor and/or Coach who has not reported to the Isolation Zone or who is not present in the Isolation Zone at the posted closing time for that round will not be allowed to enter the Isolation Zone for that round and will not be allowed to participate in that round;
- (b) the Jury President may waive or modify the posted Isolation Zone closing times for one or more competitors or Coaches only in the event of extremely inclement weather or some other extreme situation.

Safety Appeals

10.19 Any Safety Appeal shall be made according to the following stipulations:

- (a) it must only be submitted regarding an apparently serious safety issue;
- (b) it must be submitted in writing in English, and must be signed by Coaches from at least **three (3)** different teams who are registered for that competition;
- (c) it may only be submitted to the Jury President;
- (d) no fee is required.

10.20 The Jury President shall promptly convene an Appeals Jury consisting of themselves, the Head Judge, and either the Event Delegate or the Head Route Setter to review every properly submitted Safety Appeal, and shall ensure that any action(s) required to address the issues(s) raised by the Appeal are taken in a prompt fashion.

Technical Incident

10.21 Any belayer, Coach, competitor, or judge who believes that a Technical Incident may have occurred must notify the Jury President or Head Judge as soon as possible.

10.22 The Jury President may consult with any appropriate person(s) and/or review only Official OCF video as required to determine whether a Technical Incident did occur. If the Jury President determines that a Technical Incident did occur they shall address the situation as follows:

- (a) ensure that the affected competitor is escorted to a secondary Isolation Zone if that round is onsight format;
- (b) offer the disadvantaged competitor an appropriate amount of rest prior to any subsequent attempt on a route, which would normally be at least **fifteen (15)** minutes and no more than **thirty (30)** minutes;
- (c) ensure that the disadvantaged competitor is given their full climbing time on any subsequent attempt on a route;

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

- (d) offer the disadvantaged competitor an appropriate amount of rest prior to any subsequent attempts on a boulder, which would normally be at least **five (5)** minutes and no more than **thirty (30)** minutes;
- (e) ensure that the disadvantaged competitor is given at least **two (2)** minutes climbing time on any subsequent attempts on a boulder, or however much time was remaining in their original rotation period if it was greater;
- (f) take whatever other action(s) they determine are required to address the advantage gained or lost;
- (g) any decision of the Jury President regarding a Technical Incident is final and may not be appealed.

Technical Meeting

10.23 Technical Meetings shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) the Jury President shall conduct a meeting for all competitors and/or Coaches, prior to the start of every competition;
- (b) the Head Route Setter may attend the meeting as an aide to the Jury President;
- (c) the Event Delegate and the Head Judge may attend as required;
- (d) the meeting may be held in any area of the competition venue that the Jury President deems appropriate, and may be held virtually if the Jury President deems that prudent;
- (e) the Jury President shall inform the attendees of any schedule changes or other important facts at the meeting;
- (f) the Jury President will not normally review the format of the competition, or any other issues that are covered in these published rules during the Technical Meeting.

Written Appeals

10.24 All Appeals (other than a Safety Appeal) shall be made according to the following stipulations:

- (a) all Appeals must be submitted in writing in English, and all responses to Appeals must be made in English;
- (b) all Appeals must be submitted on the OCF approved Appeals Form;
- (c) only a competitor or Coach registered for that competition may make an Appeal (the Appellant);
- (d) all Appeals must be submitted to either the Jury President, the Head Judge or the Event Delegate;
- (e) all Appeals must state the name of the competitor that is the subject of the appeal, as well as the circumstances that gave rise to the Appeal;
- (f) all Appeals must be accompanied by the payment of the Appeals Fee of \$80.00 CDN by an OCF approved method;
- (g) any Appeal that may result in the affected competitor having to make any further attempt(s) on a boulder/route **must** be made prior to end of the defined climbing period of the competitor following the affected competitor;
- (h) **during a round using the redpoint style scramble format or hybrid scramble format, any Appeal that may result in the affected competitor having to make any further attempt(s) on a boulder must be made no more than ten (10) minutes after the attempt under appeal;**
- (i) all other Appeals **must** be made no more than **five (5)** minutes after the posting of Official Results for that Round;
- (j) no Appeals will be accepted after the initial Appeal Period has expired.

10.25 The Jury President shall initially determine whether any Appeal is **Valid** or **Invalid** based on the following factors:

- (a) whether the Appeal was made within any authorized time limit;
- (b) whether the circumstances of the Appeal are something that can be reviewed;
- (c) whether the required Appeals Fee has been included;
- (d) whether the Appeal has sufficient detail to move forward.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

10.26 In the event that the Jury President rules that an Appeal is **Invalid**, the Jury President shall ensure that the Appellant is informed personally of the determination of their Appeal by an OCF Official, and also ensure that any submitted Appeals Fee is returned to the Appellant.

10.27 In the event that the Jury President rules that an Appeal is **Valid**, the Jury President shall take the following steps:

- (a) determine whether they are going to resolve the Appeal themselves, delegate the task to either the Head Judge or the Event Delegate, or convene an Appeals Jury consisting of themselves, the Head Judge, and either the Event Delegate or the Head Route Setter;
- (b) ensure that only official OCF video is used to conduct any video review;
- (c) ensure that the Appeal is resolved based on a sound understanding and fair application of these rules;
- (d) ensure that any posted results that are under Appeal are promptly marked as such;
- (e) ensure that the Appellant is informed personally of the determination of their Appeal by an OCF Official;
- (f) in the event that the Appeal is **Successful**, the Jury President shall ensure that any required actions (such as modifying a competitor's posted score) are done in a prompt manner, and shall also ensure that any submitted Appeals Fee is returned to the Appellant;
- (g) in the event that the Appeal is **Unsuccessful**, the Jury President shall ensure that the Appeals Fee is submitted to the OCF as per their policy;
- (h) in the event that a Successful Appeal results in the affected competitor having to make any further attempt(s) on a boulder/route, the Jury President shall treat the situation as if it was a valid Technical Incident.

SECTION 11 - BOULDERING RULES

Overview

11.1 All of the rules contained in sections 11.2 - 11.7 apply to every round of each OCF Series bouldering event, independent of the format or formats used during that event.

Boulder Design - All Formats

11.2 All boulders shall be designed as follows:

- (a) for E/D categories, such that the lowest part of the body shall be at most **two (2.0)** meters above the safety matting;
- (b) for C category, such that the lowest part of the body is at most **two+half (2.5)** meters above the safety matting;
- (c) for all other categories, such that the lowest part of the body is at most **three (3.0)** meters above the safety matting;
- (d) to limit the risk that a fall may injure the competitor or any third party, or obstruct any other competitor;
- (e) so that the maximum number of handholds on any boulder should be **twelve (12)** and the average number of handholds per boulder in any round should be no more than **eight (8)**.

Boulder Markings - All Formats

11.3 All boulders shall be clearly marked as follows:

- (a) with **four (4)** marked starting points, which shall not include blank parts of the Climbing Surface, and the starting points shall not be marked with specific positions for the hands/feet;
- (b) with one Zone Hold, which shall be positioned in such a manner that it aids in the separation of competitors with markedly different performance;
- (c) with one Top, which shall be a marked finishing hold;
- (d) with the same color of tape used to mark all of the starting points and Tops in each category, and a single different color of tape used to mark all of the Zone Holds for each category.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

Climbing Procedure - All Formats

11.4 All boulders shall be climbed according to the following procedure:

- (a) the competitor will be judged as having made an attempt every time their entire body leaves the ground while touching any of the **four (4)** marked starting points;
- (b) the competitor must make simultaneous contact with all **four (4)** marked starting points with their hands and feet, and must establish Control with **both** hands prior to moving from the starting position;
- (c) competitors are allowed to jump from the safety matting to reach a starting point or points that they cannot reach while standing on the matting, and any such jump shall not count as an attempt as long as the competitor does not touch any of the starting points that they are jumping toward;
- (d) competitors may not touch any Climbing Holds or Volumes other than the **four (4)** marked starting points (or their blockers) until they have made a proper start on that boulder;
- (e) the competitor may not touch the safety matting with any part of their body or shoes during their attempt(s);
- (f) the competitor may not Use any Artificial Aid during their attempt(s);
- (g) the competitor may not add any 'tick marks' to any Climbing Holds, Volumes, or the Climbing Surface;
- (h) the competitor may only brush Climbing Holds, Volumes, or the Climbing Surface with brushes supplied by the Event Organizer; and may jump only from the safety matting to assist themselves;
- (i) the competitor must Control the Zone Hold with at least **one (1)** hand to be awarded a Zone;
- (j) the competitor must Control the marked finishing hold simultaneous with **both** hands to be awarded a Top;
- (k) the competitor must complete any attempt within any fixed time allowed for their attempts.

Judging/Scoring Procedure - All Formats

11.5 All boulders shall be judged by at least **one (1)** OCF approved judge who shall record the following:

- (a) every fall, as an unsuccessful attempt;
- (b) every otherwise unsuccessful attempt, which includes any violation of the allowed climbing procedure;
- (c) on which attempt the competitor Controls or Uses the Zone Hold;
- (d) on which attempt the competitor Tops the boulder, which includes earning Zone on that attempt even if the competitor did not Control or Use the Zone Hold on that attempt and has not previously been awarded Zone;
- (e) the time of any apparent Technical Incident and/or any verbal Appeal made to them.

Ranking Procedure - All Formats

11.6 Competitors shall be ranked in their respective category in each round as follows:

- (a) firstly, by the highest total number of Tops awarded during that round;
- (b) secondly, by the highest total number of Zones awarded during that round;
- (c) thirdly, by the lowest total number of attempts required to achieve the awarded Tops during that round;
- (d) lastly, by the lowest total number of attempts required to achieve the awarded Zones during that round;

Final Results - All Formats

11.7 The Final Results for each category shall be determined as follows:

- (a) competitors having a Final Round ranking, in that order; and then competitors having a Qualification Round ranking, in that order; and then competitors who have no Qualification Round ranking last;
- (b) and in the event that two or more competitors are tied in the Final Round ranking, any such tie or ties shall be broken by countback to their Qualification Round ranking.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

E/D Scramble Format Rules

11.8 OCF bouldering local events for these **two (2)** categories shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) all competitors will climb at the same time using the 'scramble' format;
- (b) there shall be a single round of climbing, which shall be of a fixed and announced length of at least **two (2)** hours;
- (c) there will be **eight (8)** boulders to attempt for all competitors, who may attempt them in any order they choose;
- (d) all competitors may make up to **six (6)** attempts on any single boulder, time permitting;
- (e) every attempt must be judged by an OCF approved judge, and competitors may not begin any attempt on any boulder until they have been directed to start by the judge of that boulder;

Note: There is no video system used at this level of competition, so appeals would be limited to correcting scoring errors.

- (f) all competitors may receive, give and/or share 'beta' about any of the competition boulders at any time during the round except while making any attempts on each competition boulder;
- (g) competitors may request a spotter, who shall refrain from any behaviour, such as excessive cheering, that may distract any other competitors, judges or Officials;
- (h) at the conclusion of the round, Official Results for only the D Category shall be posted in a prominent place showing the ranking of each competitor in their category, and shall specify the limits of any Appeal Period.

Note: Not publishing E results conforms to the CEC Sport Climbing LTAD model.

Flash Format Rules

11.9 The Qualification Round for OCF bouldering competitions for the Adult, Junior, A, B, and C categories may be conducted using a flash format as follows:

- (a) the warm-up area shall be open for at least **sixty (60)** minutes before the first competitors start climbing on their respective competition boulders;
- (b) video recorded demonstrations of the competition boulders shall be available for viewing in the warm-up area and/or available for viewing via the Internet prior to the start of the competition; (Note: It is not necessary that this demonstration show a successful attempt on the boulder.)
- (c) the Qualification Round shall consist of two courses of **three (3)** competition boulders for each Category, and shall be marked as Boulders 1, 2, and 3 in one course and Boulders 4, 5, and 6 in the other course;
- (d) each course should be of similar overall difficulty;
- (e) there shall be no Isolation Zone during any part of the round;
- (f) all competitors may receive, give and/or share 'beta' about any of the competition boulders at any time during the round except while making any attempts on each competition boulder;
- (g) all competitors shall make all of their attempts on each boulder in the order set out on the Start List for that round, and the Start List for each category shall be randomized and/or staggered as appropriate;
- (h) all competitors shall have a **five (5)** minute climbing period on each competition boulder, and they shall be allowed to make as many attempts as they choose on that boulder during their allotted time;
- (i) all competitors shall have a **five (5)** minute rest period between each climbing period;
- (j) all competitors shall have a fixed break between their two courses of boulders that shall be determined by the size of the field in each respective category;
- (k) there shall be an automated timing system operating during the round that is visible to all competitors making attempts showing the time remaining in each climbing period;

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

- (l) this timing system shall make a distinct audible sound when there is **one (1)** minute left in each climbing period, and a different distinct audible sound for **five (5)** seconds as each climbing period ends.

Hybrid Scramble Format Rules

11.10 The Qualification Round for OCF bouldering competitions for the Adult, Junior, A, B, and C categories may be conducted using a hybrid scramble format as follows:

- (a) the Qualification Round may consist of **one (1)** or more distinct timed sessions;
- (b) each distinct timed session at each event shall be the same length, which may vary from event to event from **ninety (90)** minutes to **one hundred-eighty (180)** minutes;
- (c) each competitor shall climb in only **one (1)** distinct timed session of each event;
- (d) there will be a fixed number of boulders set for each category, between **six (6)** and **twelve (12)** boulders;
- (e) each boulder shall be set with a single color of holds, similar to most commercial setting in Ontario;
- (f) all competitors shall only use the color holds that are "IN" for each marked boulder;
- (g) there shall be no Isolation Zone during any part of the round;
- (h) there shall be no demonstration videos posted;
- (i) each competitor may attempt as many of the boulders set for their category as they choose,
- (j) each competitor may make their attempts in any order they choose;
- (k) all competitors may make up to **eight (8)** attempts on any individual boulder, time permitting;
- (l) every attempt must be judged by an OCF approved judge;
- (m) all competitors may not begin any attempt on any boulder until they have been directed to start by the OCF judge of that boulder;
- (n) each competitor may make only **one (1)** attempt on a boulder during each turn in the line of competitors waiting to climb in each judging area, unless there are no other competitors waiting to climb in that area;
- (o) in the event that a competitor fails to start climbing within **fifteen (15)** seconds after being directed to start by the judge, they may be passed in the queue for the next available competitor;
- (p) in the event that a competitor remains in a static position on a boulder for more **thirty (30)** seconds, the judge will advise the climber that they need to continue climbing and will initiate a **thirty (30)** second timer that will act as the finite climbing period for that attempt;

Note: The intent of this rule is to ensure that each attempt is made in an expeditious manner, and that no other competitor's opportunity to make attempts is unduly restricted.

- (q) all competitors may receive, give and/or share 'beta' about any of the competition boulders at any time during the round except while making any attempts on each competition boulder;
- (r) at the conclusion of the entire Qualification Round, Official Results shall be prepared for each category, ranking each Competitive Member in their category based on their score on **all** the boulders set for their category, whether or not they made any attempts on any individual boulder.

Onsight Format Rules

11.11 All rounds of OCF bouldering events using the Onsight Format shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) the Isolation Zone for each Round shall open at least **sixty (60)** minutes before and shall close at least **thirty (30)** minutes before the first competitor's initial climbing period starts;

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

- (b) all competitors participating in each Round must report to the Isolation Zone by the closing time stated on the Official Start List for that round;
- (c) without any collective observation period prior to that Round;
- (d) all competitors participating in each Round shall make their attempts on each boulder in the order set out on the Official Start List for that Round;
- (e) the Qualification Round Start List for each category shall be filled first by all competitors with a current Provincial Bouldering Ranking, climbing from highest ranking to lowest, then by all competitors with only a Provincial Bouldering Ranking from last season, climbing from highest ranking to lowest, and then by all competitors without a relevant ranking climbing in random order;
- (f) the Final Round Start List for each category shall be based on the results of the Qualification Round, in reverse order such that the lowest ranked competitor climbs first;
- (g) where both Rounds of the event take place on the same day, there must be a minimum **two (2)** hour gap between when the last competitor finishes the Qualification Round and the closing time of the Final Round Isolation Zone;
- (h) the Qualification Round shall consist of **five (5)** boulders for each category;
- (i) the Final Round shall consist of **four (4)** boulders for each category;
- (j) all competitors in each Round shall have a **five (5)** minute climbing period on each boulder, and they shall be allowed to make as many attempts as they choose on that boulder during their allotted time;
- (k) all competitors in each Round shall have a **five (5)** minute rest period between each climbing period, during which time they shall remain under Isolation Conditions wherever they may be directed to rest;
- (l) all competitors in each Round shall remain in the Isolation Zone for **five (5)** minutes following the completion of their round, pending any potential Appeals;
- (m) there shall be an automated timing system operating during each Round that is visible to all competitors making attempts showing the time remaining in each climbing period
- (n) this timing system shall make a distinct audible sound when there is **one (1)** minute left in each climbing period, and a different distinct audible sound for **five (5)** seconds as each climbing period ends;
- (o) at the completion of each Round, Official Results shall be posted in a prominent place showing the ranking of each competitor in their category, and shall specify the limits of any Appeal Period.

Redpoint Style Scramble Format Rules

11.12 (Not used at this time.)

Quotas to Finals

11.13 At all OCF Series events, the highest ranked Competitive Members, as per 11.6, shall advance to the Final Round;

- (a) The exact number of Finalists in each category shall be based on the number of registered Competitive Members in each category at each event as follows:

# of registered Competitive Members in category	<11	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	>45
# of Competitive Members to Finals	4	6	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Note: E athletes do not compete in a Final Round at any OCF events, and D athletes compete in a Final Round only at the OCF Provincial Championships.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

SECTION 12 - E & D DIFFICULTY RULES

Overview

12.1 OCF Series local difficulty events for these **two (2)** categories will use the rules listed in this section.

Format

12.2 OCF Series local difficulty events for these **two (2)** categories shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) there shall be a single round of climbing, which shall be of a fixed and announced length of at least **two (2)** hours;
- (b) there will be **four (4)** routes to attempt for all competitors;
- (c) competitors may watch each other make their attempts;
- (d) all routes shall have a clearly marked finish hold;
- (e) all competitors will have a maximum of **four (4)** minutes to complete each of their attempts;
- (f) competitors **may** make a **second (2nd)** attempt on each route that they do not Top on their **first (1st)** attempt;
- (g) all competitors will make their **first (1st)** attempt on each route in a pre-determined order, based upon the posted Start Lists for each route; which shall be randomized and/or staggered as appropriate;
- (h) all **second (2nd)** attempts on any route(s) shall take place after the last competitor on each Start List has completed their **first (1st)** attempt, on a 'scramble' basis, as time permits.

Climbing Procedure

12.3 All routes for these **two (2)** categories shall be climbed as follows:

- (a) all competitors shall climb all of their routes on Top Rope;
- (b) all competitors shall be prepared to make their attempt on each route when called by the judge of that route;
- (c) in the event that a competitor is not prepared to climb within **one (1) minute** of their name being called, the judge shall pass over that competitor and call the next competitor on the Start List;
- (d) the Jury President shall determine whether **or not** any competitor who is passed over may take that missed attempt at some other time;
- (e) the harness of each competitor shall be attached to the safety rope by a method approved by the Event Organizer, which would typically be either a 'figure 8' knot with a 'stopper' knot, or two cross locked Karabiners;
- (f) the belayer on each route shall inspect the harness and method of attachment of each competitor to ensure that the harness is being worn properly, and that the point(s) of attachment have been made properly;
- (g) each competitor shall be belayed in a manner that minimizes the risk of injury to the competitor and/or any third party from any fall while not interfering with and/or aiding the competitor;
- (h) competitors may not begin any attempt until they have been directed to start by the judge of that route;
- (i) every attempt shall be deemed to have started once the competitor's entire body has left the ground;
- (j) competitors may not Control or Use any Artificial Aides during their attempt.

Judging Procedure

12.4 The Head Route Setter shall ensure that route scoring diagrams, "Topos", are produced for each route, and that these Topos meet with the approval of the Jury President.

12.5 All routes shall be judged by at least **one (1)** OCF approved judge who shall record the following;

- (a) the progress of each competitor along the scored sequence of movement identified on the Topo;

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

- (b) the point, if any, at which the competitor falls, awarding them the corresponding hold value from the Topo of the last hand hold that they Controlled, or awarding them that hold value with a "Plus", if they Used that hand hold;
- (c) in the circumstance where a competitor Controls/Uses a hold not marked on the Topo, the Jury President or Head Judge shall determine what scoring value will be assigned to that hold, which may be the same as an existing hold or some new value;
- (d) the point, if any, at which the competitor Controls/Uses any Artificial Aides, which would result in their attempt being terminated, and them being scored as if they fell at that point;
- (e) the point, if any, at which the competitor exceeds their allotted time, which would result in their attempt being terminated, and them being scored as if they fell at that point;
- (f) the time of any Top, ensuring that the competitor properly matches the marked finish hold with **both** hands;
- (g) the time of any apparent Technical Incident and/or any Appeal made to them.

Note: There is no video system used at this level of competition, so appeals would be limited to correcting scoring errors.

Ranking Procedure

12.6 All D Category competitors shall be ranked in their respective category as follows:

- (a) **all competitors who attain their highest score on a route on their first (1st) attempt shall have 0.1 added to their score for that route, so that (for example) a Top on 1st attempt is better than a Top on 2nd attempt;**
- (b) all competitors will be given a Rank on each route based upon their highest awarded score for that route, such that the higher the score awarded, the lower the Rank;
- (c) if two or more competitors were awarded the same score on the route, they shall each be assigned the average of the Ranks of all of the tied competitors;
- (d) all **four (4)** Ranks shall be combined using the noted formula to produce an overall ranking such that the competitor with the lowest Combined Rank shall be ranked above a competitor with a higher Combined Rank.

Combined Rank = The Fourth Root of (R1 Rank x R2 Rank x R3 Rank x R4 Rank)

12.7 At the completion of the Round, Official Results shall be posted in a prominent place showing the ranking of each D competitor in their category and shall specify the limits of any Appeal Period.

Note: The exclusion of E Category competitors from the Official Results conforms to the principles of the Canadian LTAD.

SECTION 13 - C, B, A, JR. & OPEN DIFFICULTY RULES

Format Overview

- 13.1 The rules herein for the C Category apply to the D Category at the Provincial Difficulty Championships.
- 13.2 OCF Series difficulty events for these categories shall be conducted using a flash format Qualification Round and an onsight format Final Round.
- 13.3 Each competitor shall have a maximum of **six (6)** minutes to complete each attempt on each route.
- 13.4 A cleaning break shall be scheduled at the midpoint of the Starting List on any route that at least **twenty (20)** competitors are scheduled to climb.

Qualification Round Format

13.4 The Qualification Round shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) with **two (2)** non-identical routes for each category;
- (b) each competitor shall make **one (1)** attempt on each route, and may watch each other during the Round;

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

- (c) the Head Route Setter shall ensure that there are appropriate video previews of each Route available for all competitors to watch during the Round, or conduct a live demonstration of each Route at the start of the Round;
- (d) the Start List for each category for the Qualification Round shall be randomized and/or staggered as appropriate;
- (e) each competitor shall have at least **forty-five (45)** minutes rest between the completion of their attempt on their **first (1st)** Qualification Route, and the start of their attempt on their **second (2nd)** Qualification Route;
- (f) where both Rounds of the event take place on the same day, there must be a minimum **two (2)** hour gap between when the last competitor finishes the Qualification Round and the closing time of the Final Round Isolation Zone;
- (g) at the completion of the Qualification Round Official Results shall be posted in a prominent place showing the ranking of each competitor in their category, and shall specify the limits of any Appeal Period.

Final Round Quota

13.5 The **eight (8)** highest ranked Competitive Members from the Qualification Round in each category shall advance to the Final Round.

Final Round Format

13.6 The Final Round shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) the Final Round Start List for each category shall be based on the results of the Qualification Round, in reverse order such that the lowest ranked competitor climbs first;
- (b) the Final Round shall consist of **one (1)** route for each category, and each competitor shall make **one (1)** attempt on each route and shall be under Isolation Conditions during the entire Round;
- (c) the Isolation Zone for the Final Round shall open at least **sixty (60)** minutes before and shall close at least **thirty (30)** minutes before the first observation period starts, and all competitors participating in the Final Round must report to the Isolation Zone by the closing time stated on the Official Start List for that round;
- (d) there shall be a collective observation period of **six (6)** minutes prior to start of the Final Round, during which competitors may discuss the route with **only** other competitors, may make hand drawn sketches of the route, may touch **only** any holds that they can reach from the ground, and may use **only** binoculars (and prescription eye glasses that they normally wear) as a viewing aid;
- (e) Topos for all Final Round routes shall be posted in a prominent place outside of the Competition Area following the closing time of the Isolation Zone, and prior to the first Finalist starting their attempt.

General Climbing Procedure

13.7 All routes for these categories shall be climbed as follows:

- (a) all C category competitors shall climb all of their routes on Top Rope;
- (b) all other competitors shall climb all of their routes on lead;
- (c) all competitors shall be belayed from the ground by an experienced belayer using a belay device and a continuous single rope approved and/or supplied by the Event Organizer;
- (d) on a Climbing Surface that is stripped of any Climbing Holds/Volumes that are not part of that route;
- (e) with any area/object that is out of bounds marked with black tape, other than any Artificial Aid;
- (f) all competitors shall be prepared to make their attempt on each route when called by the judge of that route;
- (g) in the event that a competitor is not prepared to climb within **one (1) minute** of their name being called, the judge shall pass over that competitor and shall call the next competitor on the Start List, and the Jury President shall determine whether **or not** any competitor who is passed over may take that missed attempt at some other time;

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

- (h) the harness of all competitors shall be attached to the safety rope by a method approved by the Event Organizer, which would typically be either a 'figure 8' knot with a 'stopper' knot, or two cross locked Karabiners;
- (i) the belayer on each route shall inspect the harness and method of attachment of every competitor to ensure that the harness is being worn properly, and that the point(s) of attachment have been made properly;
- (j) all competitors shall be belayed in a manner that minimizes the risk of injury to the competitor and/or any third party from any fall while not interfering with and/or aiding the competitor;
- (k) competitors may not begin any attempt until they have been directed to start by the judge of that route;
- (l) every attempt shall be deemed to have started once the competitor's entire body has left the ground;
- (m) competitors may not Control or Use any Artificial Aides during their attempt.

Lead Climbing

13.8 All lead routes shall be constructed as follows:

- (a) with as many complete Protection Points as the Head Route Setter and/or Jury President deem necessary;
- (b) with any unused Karabiners and slings/draws that are along the expected sequence of movement for that route removed from their respective bolt hanger(s);
- (c) with all Safety Hold(s) and corresponding Protection Point(s) clearly marked with only a blue cross;
- (d) such that each competitor shall remain in a Legitimate Position at all times during each attempt.

13.9 Legitimate Position means, for the purposes of lead climbing, all of the following:

- (a) the competitor has not used any Artificial Aid;
- (b) the competitor must clip each Protection Point in sequence;
- (c) the competitor must clip each Protection Point before they have climbed beyond any unclipped Protection Points such that they can no longer reach the karabiner on that unclipped Protection Point with at least one hand without moving or pulling that karabiner into a reachable position with their foot;
- (d) the competitor must clip from any marked Safety Hold prior to making any climbing movement beyond that marked Safety Hold.

Judging Procedure

13.10 The Head Route Setter shall ensure that route scoring diagrams, "Topos", are produced for each route, and that these Topos meet with the approval of the Jury President.

13.11 All routes shall be judged by at least **one (1)** OCF approved judge who shall record the following;

- (a) the progress of each competitor along the scored sequence of movement identified on the Topo;
- (b) the point, if any, at which the competitor falls, awarding them the corresponding hold value from the Topo of the last hand hold that they Controlled, or awarding them that hold value with a "Plus", if they Used that hand hold;
- (c) in the circumstance where a competitor Controls/Uses a hold not marked on the Topo, the Jury President or Head Judge shall determine what scoring value shall be assigned to that hold, which may be the same as an existing hold or some new value;
- (d) the point, if any, at which the competitor Controls or Uses any Artificial Aides, which would result in their attempt being terminated, and them being scored as if they fell at that point;
- (e) the point, if any, at which the competitor is no longer in a Legitimate Position, which would result in their attempt being terminated, and them being scored as if they fell at that point;

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

- (f) the point, if any, at which the competitor exceeds their allotted time, which would result in their attempt being terminated, and them being scored as if they fell at that point;
- (g) the time of any Top, ensuring that C competitors properly matches the marked finish hold with **both** hands, and ensuring that that all other competitors clip the last Protection Point;
- (h) the time of any apparent Technical Incident and/or any verbal Appeal made to them.

Qualification Round Ranking Procedure

13.12 All competitors shall be ranked in their respective category as follows:

- (a) all competitors will be given a rank on each route based upon their awarded score for that route, such that the higher the score awarded, the lower the rank;
- (b) if two or more competitors were awarded the same score on the route, they shall each be assigned the average of the rank of the tied competitors;
- (c) both ranks shall be combined using the noted formula to produce an overall ranking such that the competitor with the lower Combined Rank shall be ranked above competitors with a higher Combined Rank.

Qualification Ranking = The Square Root of (Q1 Rank x Q2 Rank)

- (d) at the completion of the Qualification Round, Official Results shall be posted in a prominent place showing the ranking of each competitor in their category, and shall specify the limits of any Appeal Period;

Final Round Ranking Procedure

13.13 All Final Round competitors shall be ranked in their respective category as follows:

- (a) all competitors will be given a rank based upon their awarded score for the Final Route, such that the higher the score awarded, the lower the rank;
- (b) if two or more competitors were awarded the same score on their Final Route, their relative ranking shall be determined by count back to their Qualification Round ranking, and if following count back, any competitors are tied in first, second or third place, these places shall be determined by the climbing time for each competitor such that lower times are better.

13.13 At the completion of the Final Round Official Results shall be posted in a prominent place showing the ranking of each competitor in their category and shall specify the limits of any Appeal Period.

Final Results

13.14 The Final Results of all competitors shall be determined as follows:

- (c) competitors having a Final Round ranking, in that order;
- (d) and then competitors having a Qualification Round ranking, in that order;
- (e) and then competitors who have no Qualification Round ranking last.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

SECTION 14 - SPEED RULES

General Rules

14.1 All OCF Series speed events shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) for the D & C categories, take place on a 10 m Speed Wall using the relevant CEC specifications;
- (b) for all other categories, take place on a 15 m Speed Wall using the relevant IFSC specifications if available, or take place on a 10 m Speed Wall using the relevant CEC specifications;
- (c) use **one (1)** of the IFSC recommended timing systems, and use the IFSC recommended automatic belay system;
- (d) may begin with a Practice Round, which should be a pre-run of the Qualification Round, with each competitor making their **one (1)** attempt on each lane in the order published for the Qualification Round;
- (e) in any Practice Round, competitors will not be stopped in the event of a False Start;
- (f) shall include a demonstration of the false start signal and of the timing equipment;
- (g) have a Qualification Round consisting of a single stage of races, taking place on two lanes, left "A" and right "B", with competitors climbing in pairs;
- (h) there shall not be separate Qualification Rounds for the A and Junior categories, as their times registered during the Senior Qualification Round shall be used to determine their ranking in their Youth category;
- (i) have a Final Round consisting of up to 4 stages of races, based on the following:

Number of competitors with a valid qualifying time	Final Round Quota	Format
2 or 3 competitors	2 competitors	Single Race
between 4 and 7 competitors	4 competitors	See Table 1
between 8 and 15 competitors	8 competitors	See Table 2
greater than 15 competitors	16 competitors	See Table 3

Starting Procedure

- 14.2 All races shall be started with a clearly audible signal initiated by a person assigned to operate the timing system (the Starter), who shall select a position where they are not visible to the competitors, and the source of the starting signal should be positioned as near as possible equidistant from all competitors.
- 14.3 All races shall use a common starting protocol such that on being called to the start of the route, each competitor:
- (a) shall, within **ten (10)** seconds of being called, position the starting pad in their preferred starting position;
 - (b) and then shall present themselves to the belayer, who shall confirm that the competitor's harness is properly fastened and safely connected to the belay system; and
 - (c) and then shall 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;
 - (d) and then shall, at the command 'At your marks', promptly take a position with both hands and one foot on their preferred starting holds, and one foot on the starting pad.
- 14.4 Once all competitors are motionless in their starting positions, the Starter shall announce 'Ready' and following that shall initiate the timing system.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

14.5 If for any reason following the command 'At your marks' but prior to the Starter announcing 'Ready', the Starter determines that the race cannot proceed or 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.

14.6 If a competitor fails to comply with any commands of the Starter, or by any action disturbs other competitors, the Starter shall order all competitors to return to the assembly position.

Reaction Times/False Starts

14.7 In all races the following shall apply:

- (a) in any race, following the Starter declaring 'Ready', any competitor who has a Reaction Time less than 0.100s, that competitor shall be recorded as having made a False Start;
- (b) if both competitors have a Reaction Time less than 0.100s, the competitor with the lowest (fastest) reaction time shall be recorded as having made a False Start, and the other competitor shall be recorded as having no valid qualifying time on that attempt, and if both competitors have a Reaction Time less than 0.100 which is identical, that race shall be re-run and no False Start shall be recorded;
- (c) 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.

14.8 No Appeal may be made in relation to the validity of a Reaction Time recorded by an automatic timing system.

Qualification Round

14.9 The Qualification Round starting orders shall be determined as follows:

- (a) the order for Lane A shall be randomized;
- (b) the order for Lane B shall be the same as Lane A with a 50% stagger, rounding down if required.

14.10 In the Qualification Round each competitor may make **one (1)** attempt on each lane, other than:

- (a) where a re-run is required following a False Start or a Technical Incident, then another attempt shall be permitted;
- (b) where they fail to report to the Call Zone when called, in which case the relevant race shall proceed without them.

14.11 Other than following a False Start, all competitors shall be afforded a minimum resting time of **five (5)** minutes between races.

14.12 All competitor shall remain in the Competition Area, as directed by the Jury President, until they have completed their attempts on both lanes.

14.13 A competitor making one False Start during the Round shall not be allowed to re-run, and any competitor making two False Starts during the Round shall be eliminated from the competition. The competitor who has not made a False Start may re-run without a partner, with this re-run taking place before any other races.

14.14 All competitors in the Qualification Round shall be ranked in their category in the following order:

- (a) first, all competitors having at least **one (1)** valid time, in reverse order of their lowest (fastest) time, and where **two (2)** or more competitors have the same lowest time, in reverse order of their second time with competitors having a valid second time being ranked ahead of those having no second time;
- (b) and second, all competitors having no valid qualifying time;
- (c) and if following the 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 shall be used only to determine which competitors qualify for the Final Round and for no other purpose.

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

Final Rounds

14.15 The Final Round starting order shall be determined using the appropriate table:

Table 1 - Final Round with 4 Competitors					
Semi - Final			Final		
Race	Lane	Place # / Name	Race	Lane	Place # / Name
1	A	Qualification # 1:	3	A	Loser R # 1:
	B	Qualification # 4:		B	Loser R # 2:
2	A	Qualification # 2:	4	A	Winner R # 1:
	B	Qualification # 3:		B	Winner R # 2:

Table 2 - Final Round with 8 Competitors					
Quarter Final			Semi - Final / Final		
Race	Lane	Place # / Name	Race	Lane	Place # / Name
1	A	# 1 Qualification:	5	A	Winner R # 1:
	B	# 8 Qualification:		B	Winner R # 2:
2	A	# 4 Qualification:	6	A	Winner R # 3:
	B	# 5 Qualification:		B	Winner R # 4:
3	A	# 2 Qualification:	7	A	Loser R # 5:
	B	# 7 Qualification:		B	Loser R # 6:
4	A	# 3 Qualification:	8	A	Winner R # 5:
	B	# 6 Qualification:		B	Winner R # 6:

Table 3 - Final Round with 16 Competitors					
Eight Final			Quarter Final		
Race	Lane	Place # / Name	Race	Lane	Place # / Name
1	A	# 1 Qualification:	9	A	Winner R # 1:
	B	# 16 Qualification:		B	Winner R # 2:
2	A	# 8 Qualification:	10	A	Winner R # 3:
	B	# 9 Qualification:		B	Winner R # 4:
3	A	# 4 Qualification:	11	A	Winner R # 5:
	B	# 13 Qualification:		B	Winner R # 6:
4	A	# 5 Qualification:	12	A	Winner R # 7:
	B	# 12 Qualification:		B	Winner R # 8:
5	A	# 2 Qualification:	Semi Final / Final		
	B	# 15 Qualification:	Race	Lane	Place # / Name
6	A	# 7 Qualification:	13	A	Winner R # 9:
	B	# 10 Qualification:		B	Winner R # 10:
7	A	# 3 Qualification:	14	A	Winner R # 11:
	B	# 14 Qualification:		B	Winner R # 12:
8	A	# 6 Qualification:	15	A	Loser R # 13:
	B	# 11 Qualification:		B	Loser R # 14:
			16	A	Winner R # 13:
				B	Winner R # 14:

OCF RULES 2023-2024

24.03.04

14.16 In the Final Rounds, the winner shall be determined as follow:

- (a) where both competitors record a valid time, the competitor who records the lowest valid time;
- (b) where one competitor is determined to have made a False Start, the other competitor;
- (c) where both competitors record the same time or neither competitor records a valid time the competitor with the best Qualification Round ranking shall be declared the winner, and if both competitors have the same Qualification Round ranking, that race shall be re-run;
- (d) where any competitor fails to report to the Call Zone when called, the other competitor.

14.17 The competitors eliminated in the Semi-Final stage shall compete for 3rd and 4th place in a Small Final.

14.18 The winners of the Semi-Final races shall compete for 1st and 2nd place in a Big Final, which will follow the completion of any/all Small Final race(s).

14.19 Ranking for each Final round shall be determined as follows:

- (a) the race winner(s) of each stage, then
- (b) the competitors eliminated in each stage ranked in order of their time in that stage.

Final Results

14.20 The Final Results for each category shall be determined as follows:

- (a) first, competitors having a Final Round ranking, in that order;
- (b) second, competitors not having a Final Round ranking, in order of their Qualification Round ranking.

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

14.22 At the completion of the Final Round Official Results shall be posted in a prominent place showing the ranking of each competitor in their category, and shall specify the limits of any Appeal Period.