



Addendum C

to USA Climbing Rulebook 2020-2021 v1.0

USA Climbing Rulebook Addendum

This Rulebook Addendum shall be read in conjunction with USA Climbing Rulebook 2020-2021 v1.0, and shall remain in effect until a subsequent addendum or version has been published.

Any amendments to these rules will be published on the USA Climbing website www.usaclimbing.org and shall be read in conjunction with and shall take precedence over the original document.

This Rulebook Addendum is subject to approval by the Board of Directors of USA Climbing in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer. In the event of any conflict between USA Climbing's Bylaws and this Rulebook, USA Climbing's Bylaws will control.

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Rules Committee: The Rules Committee shall be responsible for maintaining and updating the Rulebook(s) for the organization, as well as keeping current with IFSC standards and practices. The Rules Committee may be reached via e-mail: rules@usaclimbing.org.

Rulebook Addendum

In response to the current COVID global pandemic, USA Climbing has updated or replaced select rules in the Rulebook, in particular those rules related to the Youth and Collegiate Bouldering, Lead/TR and Speed Qualification Series. This USA Climbing Rulebook Addendum C (Rulebook Addendum), which replaces prior Addendum A and Addendum B, each in its entirety, is to be read in conjunction with USA Climbing Rulebook 2020-2021 v1.0 (Rulebook), and represents a portion of USA Climbing's response to the COVID global pandemic. USA Climbing has, or will, publish additional documents outlining policies and practices as an effort towards individual safety.

USA Climbing has developed a "virtual" approach to recording and comparing climbing achievement, using a third-party software platform, and has devised a competition format based on that approach and platform. This Rulebook Addendum defines that competition format.

This Rulebook Addendum defines updates to the Rulebook:

- For some sections, updates to individual Rules are defined.
- For each of Sections 17, 18, and 22, the relevant Section in this Rulebook Addendum completely replaces the corresponding Section in the Rulebook.
- Some typographical errors have been updated in the Rulebook Addendum.
- Unless otherwise specified in this Rulebook Addendum, the rules in the Rulebook shall remain "in force."

This Rulebook Addendum shall expire July 1, 2021 unless otherwise retracted, or a subsequent addendum is published, prior to that date.

To assist the reader in identifying the changes from the USA Climbing Rulebook 2020-2021 v1.0 in this Rulebook Addendum, rule text that has been added is marked in [blue](#), and rule text that has been deleted is marked in [blue strikethrough](#).

Changes introduced in Addendum B include:

- Rule 2.7.1(c)
- Rule 14.2.2
- Rules 16.1.5, 16.3.3, 16.4.3, and 16.5.4
- Rules 17.4.1(b), 17.4.4, 17.5.4, and 17.6.2
- Rules 18.2.1(a), 19.1.1(a), and 20.1.1(a)

Changes introduced in Addendum C include:

- Rule 7.2.4
- Rules 9.12.3, 9.20.7, 27.2.3, and 27.2.6
- Rules 14.6.2 and 14.6.3
- Rule 18.4.1
- Rule 20.2.1
- Rule 29.2.1

2 Memberships, Regions, Divisions, and Teams

Rule 2.7.1(c) shall be modified as follows:

2.7.1(c) If both relevant locations are outside of the US (e.g., living and training in Canada) the competitor's Youth Region shall be: **if the competitor is a US Citizen**, the one closest in distance to their primary residence; **otherwise, the Youth Region of their choice**.

Rule 2.8.2(a) shall be modified to strike "in person" so as to read:

2.8.2(a) A Youth Climbing Team Certified Coach must personally run, and eligible members attend ~~in person~~ and participate in, at least three (3) days of practice every two (2) weeks during the six (6) week period ending the Monday immediately prior to the relevant Regional Championship.

7 Lead

Rule 7.2.4 shall be modified to clarify that Championship events shall not use a belay system as outlined in 7.2.4(b)

7.2.4 Top Rope routes shall be climbed with the competitor either:

- a) belayed from below using a Single Rope; or
- b) [exclusively for non-Championship competitions](#), at the discretion of the Event Organizer, in consultation with the Jury President and Chief Routesetter, secured from above using a belay system and belay devices determined by the host facility to be designed or suitable for such Top Rope climbing, used in a manner approved by the manufacturer, with all belay devices in good working order to the best knowledge of the host facility after reasonable diligence and regularly scheduled maintenance, as applicable, and subject to the limitations and notifications in the Host Agreement.

9 Speed

Rule 9.12.3 shall be modified so that a competitor making a False Start in their first scheduled race in a round that is considered for Time Rank purposes may start their second race, but only for Time Rank purposes.

9.12.3 A competitor making a False Start (with the exception of a Probationary False Start, as outlined in Rule 9.15.5) in their first scheduled race will not be eligible to start their second scheduled race. [However, such a competitor, only in a round that contributes to Time Rank \(as set forth in Rule 9.20.7\), will be allowed to start their second race for Time Rank consideration only, and any such second race for said competitor shall not contribute to the competitor's rank in the round.](#) In all cases where a False Start occurs, the competitor who has not made the False Start may re-run without a partner, this re-run taking place before the next scheduled race.

Rule 9.20.7 shall be modified so that Time Rank only considers races in the Final Round and the Round immediately prior to the Final Round.

9.20.7 For purposes other than Final and General Ranking, a "Time Rank" shall be calculated such that the competitors in a category are ranked by their fastest valid time during any [Final Round or any round immediately prior to the Final Round](#)~~round~~ in the competition, including any time that was valid before a False Start or allowed by these Rules following a False Start. Such "Time Rank" may be used for purposes including without limitation National Records, invitations to subsequent competitions, and Team Selection. [For the avoidance of doubt, if a Speed competition has a Semi Final Round, the races in the Qualification Round shall not be considered for Time Rank purposes.](#)

14 National Team Trial Invitational

The terms National Team Trial Invitational and National Team Trials (and the acronyms NTTI and NTT) are used interchangeably.

Rule 14.2.2 shall be modified as follows:

14.2.2 To be eligible to register for and compete in a Discipline's National Team Trial Invitationals competition, an athlete must be eligible for the Elite Series (where the 2021 National Team Trial Invitational eligibility is based on the Elite Series age eligibility in Rule 1.3.2(a) using the 2021 National Championship) and be (or have been at the specified time) one or more of the following:

- a) A member of the U.S. Olympic National Team.
- b) Ranked in the IFSC World Ranking in the Discipline as of the end of the 2019 IFSC season.
- c) A current (as of December 31st, 2020) World Champion, Pan American Champion or National Champion in the Discipline or Combined, for Adult/Elite, Youth, or Collegiate.
- d) Top-3 ranked in the Discipline or Combined among all competitors at the 2019 Youth World Championships.
- e) Top-30 ranked in the Discipline among US Citizens at the 2020 Bouldering National Championships.
- f) Top-10 ranked in the Discipline among US Citizens at the 2019 Bouldering Open National Championships.
- g) Top-40 ranked in the Discipline among US Citizens at the 2019 Sport & Speed Open National Championships.
- h) Top-10 ranked in the Discipline among US Citizens at the 2018 Sport & Speed Open National Championships.
- i) Top-3 ranked in the Discipline among US Citizens at the 2020 Bouldering Youth National Championships.
- j) A National Champion in the Discipline at the 2019 Bouldering Youth National Championships.
- k) Top-3 ranked in the Discipline among US Citizens at the 2019 Sport & Speed Youth National Championships.
- l) A National Champion in the Discipline at the 2018 Sport & Speed Youth National Championships.
- m) Top-3 ranked in the Discipline among US Citizens at the 2019 Collegiate National Championships.
- n) A National Champion in the Discipline at the 2018 Collegiate National Championships.
- o) Top-3 ranked in the 2019 Combined (Overall) using the 2019 National Championships, in the Open or Youth Series.

The 2021 National Team Trials Invitational ("NTTI") results will be used to select the athletes who represent the USA at 2021 IFSC events. USA Climbing recognizes that cancelled and postponed events due to the pandemic may have impacted the organization's ability to objectively identify all athletes with a reasonable potential to advance to a Final Round at the NTTI. Therefore, an otherwise ineligible athlete who can establish based on competition results that they have an objectively reasonable potential to advance to the Final Round at the NTTI in a Discipline, may petition the USA Climbing Team Selection Committee for a discretionary waiver to the eligibility criteria set out in Rule 14.2.2. Information on such a waiver petition process will be published on the National Team Trials page of the USA Climbing website.

Rules 14.6.2 and 14.6.3 shall be added:

14.6.2 For determining the Final Round rankings in the Lead and Bouldering Disciplines:

- a) in the Lead Discipline, Rule 7.12.3(c)(ii) shall apply to ties in any rank; and
- b) in the Bouldering Discipline, Rule 8.13.3(a)(ii) shall apply to ties in any rank.

14.6.3 In the Lead and Bouldering Disciplines, for competitors who have the same Semi-Final ranking and no Final ranking, the General Ranking shall be determined using the procedure set forth:

- a) in the Lead Discipline, in Rule 7.12.3(c)(ii); and
- b) in the Bouldering Discipline, in Rule 8.13.3(a)(ii).

16 Youth Qualification Speed Trials

Rule 16.1.5 shall be added:

16.1.5 The Jury President for the competition shall be assigned by USA Climbing.

Rule 16.3.3 shall be modified as follows:

16.3.3 Youth Qualification Speed Trial competitions shall have one (1) registration round and the deadline shall be the end of the competition. ~~for the registration round normal period shall be at the discretion of the Event Organizer, but no earlier than three (3) days prior to the competition. For the avoidance of doubt, the deadline could be as late as the start of the competition.~~

Rule 16.4.3 shall be added:

16.4.3 Youth Qualification Speed Trial competitions shall use the Virtual Speed Trial Format, which shall follow the rules for standard Youth Qualification Speed Trial format, with the following modifications:

- a) In lieu of a Technical Meeting (Rule 3.15), the Event Organizer may publish materials prior to the competition to communicate information specific to the host facility. It is the competitor's responsibility to understand the relevant sections of the USA Climbing Rulebook and any relevant Addendum related to the competition.
- b) The competition shall run for two (2) weeks, starting on a Monday and ending on the Sunday that is thirteen (13) days later. Subject to Sport Discretion, the competition duration may be extended to run for three (3) weeks, starting on a Monday and ending on a Sunday.
- c) As set forth in Rule 9.4, the certification standards in the USA Climbing Speed Certification Standards document must be met, including the Wall Standards and Belay Standards, with the following modifications:
 - i. The Wall Standards notwithstanding, a speed wall designed with only a single speed lane and a speed wall where only a single lane is configured for speed climbing shall each meet the standard for a Virtual Speed Trial competition.
 - ii. While all Timing System Standards must be met, including the requirement of an Automatic Timing System, such Standards may be modified for a given competition subject to Sport Discretion (as set forth in Rule 1.9.2) in response to a request from the Host facility to USA Climbing.
 - iii. Meeting the Floor Area Standards and Staffing Standards is recommended, but not required. However, the Host Facility is required to maintain its safety-related policies and standards.
- d) The Virtual Speed Trial Format shall be run using only Qualification Round format rules, with the following modifications:
 - i. A competitor may race (make an attempt) on their own, with no other competitor racing at the same time.
 - ii. Virtual Speed Trial Format rules place no limit on the number of attempts allowed a competitor.
 - iii. A False Start does not affect a competitor's eligibility to make subsequent attempts.

- e) In order to be awarded a Speed Trial valid time, the competitor must timely submit the Speed time via the online scoring module system as set forth by USA Climbing.
 - i. Such record must include unaltered video documentation of the competitor successfully climbing the Speed route, from before the start continuously through the successful finish, and where possible, clearly show the electronic timing system's recorded time for the attempt.
 - ii. The video must meet all the video requirements set forth in the USA Climbing Virtual Redpoint and Speed FAQ document.
 - iii. The submission of the Speed time record, including said video, must be completed before noon Mountain Time on the day immediately following the end of the relevant competition.
 - iv. Any update, modification, or alteration of any video after the video submission deadline shall result in the revocation of the corresponding Speed time.
- f) USA Climbing may audit any Virtual Speed Trial record submission to the online scoring module system (including any submitted video) as set forth in the USA Climbing Virtual Redpoint and Speed FAQ document.
 - i. In the event of a Speed time submission on a Speed wall without an electronic timing system or with a video that does not clearly show the electronic timing system's recorded time for the attempt, the submitted Speed time shall be considered provisional, and shall only be considered official after an audit by USA Climbing.
 - ii. The official Speed time for any provisional Speed time shall be determined exclusively by analysis of the video during USA Climbing's audit.
 - iii. The audit shall be conducted by and decided by the Jury President, in consultation with the office of the USA Climbing VP of Sport.
- g) Appeals contesting the decision of a USA Climbing audit of the Speed time must be submitted:
 - i. by email to info@usaclimbing.org; and
 - ii. with the appropriate appeal fee paid; and
 - iii. before a deadline of twenty-four (24) hours after notification to the competitor with the results USA Climbing audit of the Speed time.

Rule 16.5.4 shall be added:

16.5.4 There are no Starting Lists for a Virtual Speed Trial Format competition.

17 Youth Qualification Series

17.1 General Provisions

- 17.1.1 USA Climbing shall be responsible for the organization and execution of the Youth Qualification Series competitions in each of the Lead and Bouldering Disciplines where each such competition shall:
- include the Junior, Youth A, Youth B, Youth C, and Youth D Age Categories.
- 17.1.2 Each Youth Region should arrange for at least four (4) such competitions in each Discipline.
- 17.1.3 USA Climbing shall publish competition information for each Youth [Qualification Series Regional Championships](#) competition, [and it should do so](#) not less than thirty (30) days in advance of the first day of the competition or event at which the competition will be hosted, outlining:
- the location and dates for the competition or event; and
 - the eligibility requirements; and
 - the registration procedure and deadlines; and
 - the preliminary schedule.
- 17.1.4 [The Jury President for the competition shall be assigned by USA Climbing.](#)

17.2 Eligibility

- 17.2.1 All athletes meet the eligibility requirements of the Youth Qualification Series competitions.

17.3 Registration

Note: Registration is governed by Rule 2.6, subject to the following:

- 17.3.1 In order to register for and compete in a Youth Qualification Series event, an athlete must have either:
- an active USA Climbing Competitor Membership; or
 - an active USA Climbing Introductory Membership.
- Note: only athletes with an active Competitor Membership at the time of the competition are eligible to accrue Youth Qualification Ranking Points, as outlined in the Results and Rankings section below.
- 17.3.2 Competitors shall register for Youth Qualification Series competitions only in their Membership Youth Division.
- 17.3.3 Competitors may register for more than one (1) Youth Qualification Series competition in a discipline.
- 17.3.4 Youth Qualification Series competitions shall have one (1) registration round and the deadline [shall be the end of the competition. for the registration round normal period shall be at the discretion of the Event Organizer, but no earlier than three \(3\) days prior to the competition. For the avoidance of doubt, the deadline could be as late as the start of the competition.](#)

17.4 Competition Procedure

- 17.4.1 The format for each competition shall be as set out in the relevant Sections and Rules of Part 2 (Discipline Rules) in [the](#) Rulebook, with the following modifications:
- A Bouldering competition shall be [a Bouldering Virtual Redpoint Format, as set forth in Rule 17.4.3](#) ~~either a single round Isolation Format or a Modified Redpoint Format.~~
 - A Lead/Top Rope competition shall be [a Lead/Top Rope Virtual Redpoint Format, as set forth in Rule 17.4.4.](#) ~~either a single round Isolation (Onsight) Format, Flash Format, or a Modified Redpoint Format.~~

17.4.2 In lieu of a Technical Meeting (Rule 3.15), the Event Organizer may publish materials prior to the competition to communicate information specific to the host facility. It is the competitor's responsibility to understand the relevant sections of the USA Climbing Rulebook and any relevant Addendum related to the competition. ~~A Technical Meeting (Rule 3.15), shall be held prior to commencement of each competition.~~

17.4.3 A Bouldering Virtual Redpoint Format competition shall follow the Classic Redpoint Format set out in Part 2 (Discipline Rules) in the Rulebook, with the following modifications:

- a) The competition shall run for two (2) weeks, starting on a Monday and ending on the Sunday that is thirteen (13) days later. Subject to Sport Discretion, the competition duration may be extended to run for three (3) weeks, starting on a Monday and ending on a Sunday.
- b) Notwithstanding Rules 3.13.1 and 3.13.2, boulders that are part of the competition may include boulders that competitors have viewed and/or climbed prior to the start of the competition.
- c) All Bouldering rules for Classic Redpoint Format shall apply. For the avoidance of doubt, and by way of example, all boulders shall be set for four (4) point starts and shall require a successful four (4) point start in order to be considered a completed boulder.
- d) The scoring value (points) for each completed boulder shall be based on the V-scale grade assigned to the boulder, and shall use the following table:

Bouldering Virtual Redpoint Format V-Scale Grade Points														
V-Scale Grade	V0	V1	V2	V3	V4	V5	V6	V7	V8	V9	V10	V11	V12	V13
Points	50	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	1000	1100	1200	1300

- e) In order to receive points for a boulder they complete during the competition, the competitor must timely submit the boulder completion record via the online scoring module system as set forth by USA Climbing. Such record must include unaltered video documentation of the competitor successfully climbing the boulder, from a successful start continuously through the successful Top, and that meets the video requirements set forth in the USA Climbing Virtual Redpoint and Speed FAQ document. The submission of the boulder completion record, including said video, must be completed before noon Mountain Time on the day immediately following the end of the competition. Any update, modification, or alteration of any video after the video submission deadline shall result in the revocation of the relevant boulder.
- f) A competitor's total score for the competition shall be the cumulative value of their top five (5) completed boulders, where such completed boulders may be completed on different days during the competition.
 - i) When tabulating the scores for the top five (5) completed boulders, where more than five (5) boulders have been submitted by a competitor, the selection order of priority shall be: first, by greater number of points (higher points first), then by reverse order of submission (the latest submissions first), and finally, by USA Climbing boulder number (highest numbers first).
 - ii) Only the top five (5) completed boulders scored at the end of the competition shall be considered for scoring. In the event that a boulder completion is later revoked under these rules, by audit, appeal, or otherwise, no other boulder completion shall be considered for scoring, subject to appeals under these rules. For the avoidance of doubt, if one (1) boulder of five (5) scored boulders is revoked, then the competitor's score is limited to the four (4) remaining boulders.
- g) A competitor's unsuccessful attempts are not recorded, and are not used in ranking competitors or breaking ties.
- h) USA Climbing may audit the videos submitted to the online scoring module system as set forth in the USA Climbing Virtual Redpoint and Speed FAQ document, subject to the following:

- i) A first-level audit shall be conducted using a randomly selected subset of the videos submitted by competitors who, at the time of the audit, are within the range of eligibility for Regionals based on their rank in their Region's Youth Qualification Series Rankings.
 - ii) In the event that the Jury President, in consultation with the office of the USA Climbing VP of Sport, determines that the first-level audit exposes any inaccuracies, violations or other irregularities contrary to the USA Climbing rules, a second-level audit shall be conducted using the collection, or a randomly selected subset of the collection, of videos suspected to be affected by the inaccuracies, violations or other irregularities.
 - iii) In the event that the Jury President, in consultation with the office of the USA Climbing VP of Sport, determines that any audit (first-level or second-level) exposes a possible violation of any USA Climbing safety or behavior/conduct rule or any USA Climbing Code of Conduct, a third-level audit shall be conducted of the complete collection of videos related to the possible violation.
 - iv) A first-level audit may result in revocation of a completed boulder. A second-level or third-level audit may result in one or more sanctions including, but not limited to, revocation of a completed boulder, a Yellow Card, a Red Card, and loss of membership, all subject to the due process protections afforded under Article 15 of USA Climbing's Bylaws.
 - v) USA Climbing shall conclude all audits by a deadline one week immediately following the final competition of the Youth Qualification Series season for the Discipline.
- i) Appeals:
- i) shall be submitted in writing, with the appropriate appeal fee, before the deadline of 5pm Mountain Time the day after the end of the competition, subject to the deadline as set forth in Rule 17.4.3(j) for Appeals submitted to contest a revoked boulder; and
 - ii) shall begin with the notification via email from USA Climbing to all directly affected competitors; and
 - iii) that contest a competitor's claimed completed boulder shall not be considered; and
 - iv) shall be reviewed by the competition's Jury President; and
 - v) may, at the discretion of the Jury President, be forwarded to the office of the USA Climbing VP of Sport for further consideration; and
 - vi) shall be decided by the Jury President in conjunction with the office of the USA Climbing VP of Sport.
- j) In the event an audit results in the revocation of a completed boulder or an Appeal is determined as Successful;
- i) all directly affected competitors shall be immediately notified by USA Climbing via email and updated results shall be posted; and
 - ii) a competitor who has had their boulder completion revoked shall:
 - A) not be allowed to resubmit a video of that boulder for scoring; and
 - B) be allowed to file a related Appeal (or counter-Appeal), subject to a deadline of twenty-four (24) hours after above notification of revocation of boulder completion.

17.4.4 A Lead/Top Rope Virtual Redpoint Format competition shall follow the Classic Redpoint Format set out in Part 2 (Discipline Rules) in the Rulebook, with the relevant analogous modifications as set forth in Rule 17.4.3 for Bouldering and boulders, but in this case for Lead/Top Rope and routes, with the following exceptions:

- a) Where Rule 17.4.3 applies to Bouldering, Rule 17.4.4 shall apply to Lead/Top Rope.
- b) Where Rule 17.4.3 applies to boulders, Rule 17.4.4 shall apply to the routes.
- c) Where Rule 17.4.3 applies to a competitor's top five (5) completed boulders, Rule 17.4.4 shall apply to a competitor's top three (3) completed routes.

- d) Where Rule 17.4.3 requires that the submission for Bouldering must include an unaltered video “from a successful start continuously through the successful Top,” Rule 17.4.4 shall require that the submission for Lead/Top Rope must include an unaltered video of the upper portion of the climb, including the successful Top, where the “upper portion of the climb” and other submission requirements are set forth in the USA Climbing Virtual Redpoint and Speed FAQ document.
- e) The scoring value (points) for each completed route shall be based on the YDS grade assigned to the route, and shall use the following table:

Lead/Top Rope Virtual Redpoint Format YDS Grade Points									
YDS Grade	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.10a	5.10b	5.10c	5.10d
Points	500	600	700	800	900	1000	1025	1050	1075
YDS Grade		5.11a	5.11b	5.11c	5.11d	5.12a	5.12b	5.12c	5.12d
Points		1100	1125	1150	1175	1200	1225	1250	1275
YDS Grade		5.13a	5.13b	5.13c	5.13d	5.14a	5.14b	5.14c	5.14d
Points		1300	1325	1350	1375	1400	1425	1450	1475

- f) All routes must be designed to be climbed on Top Rope.
 - i) Some routes may be designed to be climbed on both Top Rope and Lead.
 - ii) Routes must not be designed to be climbed only on Lead.
 - iii) The scoring value (points) for climbing a route on Lead is the same as that for climbing the route on Top Rope.

17.5 Starting Lists

- 17.5.1 As applicable, Starting Lists shall be published as set out in Rule 3.17.
- 17.5.2 There shall be no seeding of competitors for this competition.
- 17.5.3 The starting order for each competition shall be determined as set out in the relevant Sections and Rules of Part 2 (Discipline Rules) in the Rulebook.
- 17.5.4 There are no Starting Lists for a Bouldering or Lead/Top Rope Virtual Redpoint Format competition, however:
 - a) the host facility must not allow competitors access to the boulders/routes except during times in which all competitors have an equal opportunity to access or reserve access to the boulders/routes; and
 - b) the host facility may restrict the number of competitors with access to the boulders/routes at any one time, provided all competitors have an equivalent opportunity to request access to the boulders/routes.

For the avoidance of doubt, if a host facility employs a reservation system that limits access to the boulders/routes to a pre-set number of competitors for each timeslot, all competitors should have an equal opportunity to reserve such timeslots, and the host facility must enforce reasonable limits on the number of outstanding reservations for any one competitor so as to prevent one set of competitors from reserving numerous timeslots in such a way that has a significant adverse effect on other competitors’ equitable access to competition timeslots.

17.6 Event Results and Rankings

- 17.6.1 Competition Results shall be published as set out in Rule 3.18.
- 17.6.2 The rules regarding making an appeal relating to the scoring or ranking of any competitor (Rules 7.13.6(b) and 8.14.5(b)) shall be modified so that the deadline for making the appeal shall be ten (10) minutes after the publication of the Official Results, except in the case of a Bouldering or Lead/Top Rope Virtual Redpoint Format competition, where appeals are governed by Rule 17.4.3.

17.7 Qualification Series Rankings

17.7.1 At the conclusion of each competition within a Youth Qualification Series, ~~the forty (40) highest ranked~~ competitors in a Category who are registered under a Competitor Membership at the time of the competition, shall be awarded Ranking Points ~~equal in number to their total score for the competition as set out in the table below~~ for the purpose of calculating Youth Qualification Series Rankings in the Discipline. ~~Tied competitors will be awarded the average of the points allocated for the tied rank positions.~~

Youth Qualification Series Ranking Points								
Rank	Points		Rank	Points		Rank	Points	
1	100		11	31		21	10	
2	80		12	28		22	9	
3	65		13	26		23	8	
4	55		14	24		24	7	
5	51		15	22		25	6	
6	47		16	20		26	5	
7	43		17	18		27	4	
8	40		18	16		28	3	
9	37		19	14		29	2	
10	34		20	12		30	1	

For the avoidance of doubt:

ranking Points may be awarded to non-U.S. Citizen competitors; ~~competitors are ranked against other competitors with Competitor or Introductory Memberships; and competitors ranked outside of the top forty (40) are not awarded Ranking Points.~~

17.7.2 USA Climbing shall maintain, updated following each relevant competition, a Youth Qualification Series Ranking for each Youth Region for each Category for the Lead/Top Rope and Bouldering Disciplines, where:

- a) rankings include results from only Youth Qualification Series competitions in the same Discipline, ~~in the same Membership Youth Division~~, and in the current season; and
- b) each Ranking shall be in descending order of the total number of Ranking Points accumulated, where:
 - i) the maximum number of Youth Qualification Series competition results contributing to the total number of Ranking Points in that Discipline shall be ~~one (1) two (2)~~; and
 - ii) competitors with an equal total number of Ranking Points are assigned the same rank.

18 Youth Regional Championships

18.1 General Provisions

- 18.1.1 USA Climbing shall be responsible for the organization and execution of the Youth Regional Championships for each Youth Region for each of the Lead/Top Rope and Bouldering Disciplines where each such competition shall:
- include the Junior, Youth A, Youth B, Youth C, and Youth D Age Categories.
- 18.1.2 USA Climbing shall publish competition information for each Youth Regional Championship competition not less than thirty (30) days in advance of the first day of the competition or event at which the competition will be hosted, outlining:
- the location and dates for the competition or event; and
 - the eligibility requirements; and
 - the registration procedure and deadlines; and
 - the preliminary schedule.

18.2 Eligibility

- 18.2.1 An athlete shall be pre-qualified (i.e., have a bye) for a Discipline's Youth Regional Championships competition if the athlete:
- is a member of the U.S. Olympic National Team, or was a member of the U.S. Olympic National Team at any time in the twelve (12) months immediately prior to the competition; or
 - is a current World Champion, Pan American Champion, or National Champion in the Discipline (or "Combined") in the Youth or Elite Series; or
 - was ranked in the top three (3) in the National Rankings in the Discipline in the Youth or Elite Series in any category at the end of the prior year; or
 - represented the U.S. at the most recent Youth World Championships in the Discipline; or
 - is a resident of the state of Alaska or Hawaii.
- 18.2.2 To be eligible for a Discipline's [Regional Championship](#), an athlete must:
- be pre-qualified for the Discipline's Youth Regional Championships competition; or
 - be a U.S. Citizen ranked in the top twenty-five (25) in the Youth Qualification Rankings in their Category in the Discipline for their Membership Youth Region among only U.S. Citizens not pre-qualified for the Discipline's Youth Regional Championships; or
 - be ranked in the top twenty-five (25) in the Youth Qualification Rankings in their Category in the Discipline for their Membership Youth Region; or
 - be extra-qualified as set forth in 18.2.3.

For the avoidance of doubt, a non-U.S. Citizen ranked in the top twenty-five (25) in the Youth Qualification Rankings shall be eligible for the Youth Regional Championships.

[Subject to Sport Discretion, USA Climbing may expand the eligibility criteria, so long as such criteria are published at least thirty \(30\) days prior to the competition.](#)

Examples:

If all the athletes in the top twenty-seven (27) are U.S. Citizens except for the 12th and 26th ranked and none in the top twenty-seven (27) is pre-qualified for Regionals, then the top twenty-five (25) (including the non-U.S. Citizen at 12th) and the 27th ranked (a U.S. Citizen) will all be eligible. The 26th ranked (a non-U.S. Citizen) will not be eligible.

If all the athletes in the top twenty-six (26) are U.S. Citizens and the 2nd rank is pre-qualified for Regionals (e.g., National Champion), then the top twenty-six (26) athletes are all eligible, as the pre-qualified athlete at 2nd is eligible under Rule 18.2.2(a) and the other twenty-five (25) are all eligible under Rule 18.2.2(b).

- 18.2.3 If an [athlete's Membership Youth Region change during the season meets the requirement of Rule 2.7.3\(a\)](#), and the athlete:

- a) has provisionally available Qualification Series competition results from their previous Youth Region, as set forth in Rule 2.7.3; and
- b) does **not** meet the Youth Regional Championships eligibility requirements as set forth in Rules 18.2.2 (a), (b), or (c) in their current Membership Youth Region; and
- c) has provisional ranking points, calculated using the best ~~two (2)~~ results of their provisionally available Qualification Series competition results from their previous Youth Region ~~and the Qualification Series competition results from their current Region~~, that ~~are~~ are greater than or equal to the ranking points held by the twenty-fifth (25th) ranked competitor in the current Region's Youth Qualification Rankings,

then the athlete shall be extra-qualified for the Youth Regional Championships in the Discipline.

18.3 Registration

Note: Registration is governed by Rule 2.6, subject to the following:

- 18.3.1 In order to register for and compete in a Youth Regional Championships event, an athlete must have an active USA Climbing Competitor Membership, and the Membership Region must match the Region of the Youth Regional Championships.
- 18.3.2 Youth Regional Championships competitions shall have one (1) registration round, ~~as determined by USA Climbing and published on the USA Climbing website. Subject to Sport Discretion, USA Climbing may alter the registration procedures, so long as such procedures are published at least fifteen (15) days prior to the competition .~~
 - ~~a) The registration normal period should be at least twenty-one (21) days in duration, and shall be at least fourteen (14) days in duration.~~
 - ~~b) The deadline for each competition's registration normal period shall be the Monday immediately after the last weekend of the Qualification Series season in the Discipline.~~

18.4 Competition Procedure

- 18.4.1 The format for each competition shall be as set out in the relevant Sections and Rules of Part 2 (Discipline Rules) in ~~the~~ Rulebook, with the following modifications:
 - a) The competitions shall consist of a single round, using the Qualification Round Format under Isolation conditions.
 - b) For the Lead/Top Rope Discipline, the use of climbing time as set out in Rule 7.12.3(c)(ii) shall ~~not~~ be used to break ties ~~in all ranks, where the climbing time used is that of the last route for the Category.~~ For the avoidance of doubt, ~~and by way of example, in a Final Round utilizing three (3) routes, the Final Round ranking of competitors with equal Geometric Points (Rule 7.12.2) shall use their respective climbing time on the third (3rd) route. ~~not use the competitors' climbing time and such competitors shall remain tied.~~~~
 - c) ~~For the Bouldering Discipline, the procedure set out in Rule 8.13.3(a)(ii) shall be applied to break ties in all ranks.~~
- 18.4.2 A Technical Meeting (Rule 3.15) shall be held prior to commencement of each competition.

18.5 Starting Lists

- 18.5.1 Starting Lists shall be published as set out in Rule 3.17.
- 18.5.2 ~~There shall be no seeding of competitors for this competition.~~ Competitors shall be seeded according to a procedure published by USA Climbing at least ten (10) days prior to the competition.
- 18.5.3 The starting order for each competition shall be determined as set out in the relevant Sections and Rules of Part 2 (Discipline Rules) in this Rulebook.

18.6 Results and Rankings

- 18.6.1 Competition Results shall be published as set out in Rule 3.18.

- 18.6.2 The rules regarding making an appeal relating to the scoring or ranking of any competitor (Rules 7.13.6(b) and 8.14.5(b)) shall be modified so that the deadline for making the appeal shall be ten (10) minutes after the publication of the Official Results.
- 18.6.3 To be awarded Youth Divisional Championships first (1st) registration round eligibility in the discipline, a competitor must:
- a) be a U.S. Citizen ranked in the top twelve (12) in the Youth Regional Championships in the Discipline among only U.S. Citizens not pre-qualified for the Discipline's Youth Divisional Championships in the Discipline; or
 - b) be ranked in the top twelve (12) in the Youth Regional Championships in the Discipline.
- For the avoidance of doubt, a non-U.S. Citizen ranked in the top twelve (12) shall be awarded such eligibility for the Youth Divisional Championships.
- 18.6.4 To be awarded Youth Divisional Championships second (2nd) registration round provisional eligibility in the discipline, a competitor must:
- a) be a U.S. Citizen ranked in the top fifteen (15) in the Youth Regional Championships in the Discipline among only U.S. Citizens not pre-qualified for the Discipline's Youth Divisional Championships.

18.7 Medals and Ceremonies

- 18.7.1 At the conclusion of each Youth Regional Championship competition:
- a) medal ceremonies will be held for each relevant Category for the relevant Discipline; and
 - b) Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals shall be awarded to the competitors respectively ranked First (1st), Second (2nd), and Third (3rd). For the avoidance of doubt, multiple medals will be awarded where competitors are tied.

19 Youth Divisional Championships

Rule 19.2.1 shall be modified to add a new criterion so as to read:

19.2.1 An athlete shall be pre-qualified for a Discipline's Youth Divisional Championships competition if the athlete:

- a) is a member of the U.S. Olympic National Team, or was a member of the U.S. Olympic National Team at any time in the twelve (12) months immediately prior to the competition; or
- b) is current World Champion, Pan American Champion, or National Champion in the Discipline (or "Combined") in the Youth or Elite Series; or
- c) is a resident of the state of Hawaii.

20 Youth National Championships

Rule 20.2.1 shall be modified to add a new criterion so as to read:

20.2.1 An athlete shall be pre-qualified for a Discipline's Youth National Championships competition if the athlete:

- a) is a member of the U.S. Olympic National Team, or was a member of the U.S. Olympic National Team at any time in the twelve (12) months immediately prior to the competition; or
- b) is a current World Champion, Pan American Champion, or National Champion in the Discipline (or "Combined") in the Youth or Elite Series; or
- c) Is a resident of the state of Hawaii.

Rules 20.2.5 and 20.3.4 shall be added:

20.2.5 USA Climbing shall alter the eligibility criteria to use the competitor rankings from Youth Regional Championships instead of Youth Divisional Championships, including a change in the number of competitors advancing to Youth National Championships from each qualifying competition, and shall publish said criteria at least thirty (30) days prior to the first occurring Youth Regional Championships.

20.3.4 USA Climbing shall alter the registration procedure, and shall publish said procedure at least fifteen (15) days prior to the competition.

22 Collegiate Qualification Series

22.1 General Provisions

- 22.1.1 USA Climbing shall be responsible for the organization and execution of the Collegiate Qualification Series competitions.
- 22.1.2 Each USA Climbing Collegiate Division should arrange a minimum of four (4) Collegiate Qualification Series events, where each such event may include a competition in multiple disciplines.

22.2 Eligibility

- 22.2.1 All Collegiate Series athletes (Rule 1.3) meet eligibility requirements of the Collegiate Qualification Series competitions.

22.3 Registration

Note: Registration is governed by Rule 2.6, subject to the following:

- 22.3.1 In order to register for and compete in a Collegiate Qualification Series event, an athlete must have either:
 - a) An active USA Climbing Collegiate Membership; or
 - b) An active USA Climbing Collegiate Introductory Membership.
- 22.3.2 Competitors may register for Collegiate Qualification Series competitions in any Collegiate Division.
- 22.3.3 Collegiate Qualification Series competitions shall have one (1) registration round and the deadline for the registration round normal period shall be at the discretion of the Event Organizer, but no earlier than three (3) days prior to the competition. For the avoidance of doubt, the deadline could be as late as the start of the competition.

22.4 Competition Procedure

- 22.4.1 The format for each competition shall be as set out in the relevant Sections and Rules of Part 2 (Discipline Rules) in [the Rulebook](#), [with the following modifications](#):
 - a) A Bouldering competition shall be a Bouldering Virtual Redpoint Format, as set forth in Rule 17.4.3.
 - b) A Lead/Top Rope competition shall be a Lead/Top Rope Virtual Redpoint Format, as set forth in Rule 17.4.4.
 - c) A Speed competition shall be a Virtual Speed Trial Format, as set forth in Rule 16.4.3, and must use the Standard Field of Play rules, as modified by Rule 16.4.3.
- 22.4.2 In lieu of a Technical Meeting (Rule 3.15), the Event Organizer may publish materials prior to the competition to communicate information specific to the host facility. It is the competitor's responsibility to understand the relevant sections of the USA Climbing Rulebook and any Addendum thereto related to the competition. ~~A Technical Meeting (Rule 3.15) shall be held prior to commencement of each competition.~~

22.5 Starting Lists

- 22.5.1 As applicable, Starting Lists shall be published as set out in Rule 3.17.
- 22.5.2 There shall be no seeding of competitors for this competition.
- 22.5.3 The starting order for each competition shall be determined as set out in the relevant Sections and Rules of Part 2 (Discipline Rules) in this Rulebook.
- 22.5.4 ~~There are no Starting Lists for a Bouldering or Lead/Top Rope Virtual Redpoint Format competition or a Virtual Speed Trial Format competition.~~

22.6 Event Results and Rankings

- 22.6.1 Competition Results shall be published as set out in Rule 3.18.
- 22.6.2 The rules regarding making an appeal relating to the scoring or ranking of any competitor (Rules 7.13.6(b) and 8.14.5(b)) shall be modified so that the deadline for making the appeal shall be ten (10) minutes after the publication of the Official Results, except in the case of a [Bouldering or Lead/Top Rope Virtual Redpoint Format competition](#), where appeals are governed by Rule 17.4.3, or in the case of a [Virtual Speed Trial Format competition](#), where appeals are governed by Rule 16.4.3.

22.7 Qualification Series Rankings

- 22.7.1 At the conclusion of each competition within a Collegiate Qualification Series, ~~the forty (40) highest ranked~~ competitors in a Category shall be awarded Ranking Points ~~equal in number to their total score for the competition as set out in the table below~~ for the purpose of calculating Collegiate Qualification Series Rankings in the Discipline. ~~Tied competitors will be awarded the average of the points allocated for the tied rank positions.~~

Collegiate Qualification Series Ranking Points										
Rank	Points		Rank	Points		Rank	Points		Rank	Points
1	100		11	31		21	10		31	0.95
2	80		12	28		22	9		32	0.90
3	65		13	26		23	8		33	0.85
4	55		14	24		24	7		34	0.80
5	51		15	22		25	6		35	0.75
6	47		16	20		26	5		36	0.70
7	43		17	18		27	4		37	0.65
8	40		18	16		28	3		38	0.60
9	37		19	14		29	2		39	0.55
10	34		20	12		30	1		40	0.50

For the avoidance of doubt:

ranking Points may be awarded to non-U.S. Citizen competitors; ~~all competitors are ranked, including Collegiate Introductory members; and competitors ranked outside of the top forty (40) are not awarded Ranking Points.~~

- 22.7.2 USA Climbing shall maintain, updated following each relevant competition, a Collegiate Qualification Series Ranking for each Collegiate Division for each Category for the Lead/Top Rope, Bouldering, and Speed Disciplines, where:
- rankings include results from only Collegiate Qualification Series competitions in the same Discipline and in the current season; and
 - each Ranking shall be in descending order of the total number of Ranking Points accumulated, where:
 - the maximum number of Collegiate Qualification Series competition results contributing to the total number of Ranking Points in that Discipline shall be ~~two (2)~~ **one (1)**; and
 - competitors with an equal total number of Ranking Points are assigned the same rank.

27 National Rankings and National Ranking Points

The concept of Time Rank for the Elite Series Speed National Ranking was inadvertently omitted from the 2020-2021 USA Climbing Rulebook, so the following rule changes are enacted. (Note that due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the 2021 National Team Trials is the sole competition where 2020-2021 National Ranking Points are awarded.)

Rule 27.2.3(b) is modified so that 27.2.3 reads as:

27.2.3 National Ranking Points, in each Category and for each of the Lead, Bouldering, and Speed Disciplines, awarded to a U.S. citizen competitor shall be the greater value of:

a) for U.S. Olympic National Team members (Rule 28.2), two-thousand (2,000) points, awarded upon achieving Olympic qualification, and expiring at the end of the IFSC season in which the relevant Olympics occur; or

~~b) the competitor's cumulative ranking points (as set forth in the table in Rule 27.2.5) for final ranking in the top forty (40) in up to two (2) of the following competitions in the Discipline:~~

~~i) the USA Climbing National Championships, where ranking points are determined using the competitor's rank as measured against only U.S. Citizen competitors; or~~

~~ii) the USA Climbing National Team Trial Invitationals,~~

b) for competitors in the National Team Trials competition in the Discipline, the greater value of: points for final rank in the top forty (40) as set forth in the table in Rule 27.2.5; or, for the Speed Discipline only, points for Time Rank as set forth in the table in Rule 27.2.6,

where the ranking points shall be awarded at the conclusion of the relevant competition and shall expire at the conclusion of the following National Championship or fifteen (15) months after being awarded, whichever occurs first.

Rule 27.2.6 is added:

27.2.6 In the event that the National Team Trials Speed Competition uses a Knockout Format, each U.S. Citizen competitor in the Speed Discipline with a finishing rank in the top five (5) of Time Rank as measured against only U.S. Citizen competitors in their Category shall be awarded Ranking Points in the Speed Discipline based on their Time Rank according to the following table:

Time Rank	NTT
1	950
2	900
3	750
4	600
5	520

29 Invitations to International Competitions

So that the National All-Around Combined Ranking shall not be used for invitations to World Cups, World Championships, or Pan American Championships, Rule 29.2.1(a) shall be removed.

29.2.1 For each gender and each Discipline, for World Cups, World Championships, or Pan American Championships where the U.S. quota to the competition is at least five (5), invitations for Bouldering, Lead, and Speed to this competition shall be extended as set forth in Rule 29.1 and as follows:

~~a) Where the competition includes an All-Around Combined competition or result, one invitation shall be first extended in order of ranking to competitors ranked in the top five (5) in the National All-Around Combined Ranking, where any unused invitation shall be extended to the next highest ranked eligible competitor not already extended an invitation, and if there remains no such eligible competitor, the invitation shall be extended as in subrule (b) below.~~

a) ~~b)~~ Up to the U.S. quota for the competition, invitations shall then be extended in order of ranking to competitors ranked in the top sixteen (16) in the National Ranking in the Discipline, where any unused invitation shall be extended to the next highest ranked eligible competitor not already extended an invitation.

For the avoidance of doubt, Rule 29.3.1 (regarding invitations to IFSC Youth World Championship, Youth Pan American Championship, and World University Championship Invitations) is not modified.