



2023 Paraclimbing National Championships Info Sheet

Mesa Rim Climbing Center | 1205 Sheldon Cove Building 3, Austin, TX 78753
Sonesta Select Austin North | 7522 N Interstate Hwy 35, Austin, TX 78752

2023 Paraclimbing National Championships Preliminary Schedule		
3/2/2022	In-Person Classification	Sonesta Select Austin North
3/3/2023	In-Person Classification	Sonesta Select Austin North
3/3/2023	Technical Meeting	Zoom Meeting
3/4/2023	Qualification Round	Mesa Rim Climbing Center
3/5/2023	Final Round	Mesa Rim Climbing Center

Event Organizers:

Event Manager: Trevor Clay
Sport Manager: John Muse

Officials:

Jury President: Josh Calfy
USAC Judge: Joel Fisher
Aspirant USAC Judge: Randy Osborne
Chief Belay: Steve Baker
Chief Routesetter: Aaron Davis

Schedule:

The event schedule can be found [HERE](#).
At the relevant time, the schedule will be updated to indicate it's the final version.

Competition Registration/Athlete Classification:

Date/Time:	Registration Period:	Registration Fee:
Wednesday, December 21 st 12:00pm MT	Normal Registration begins	\$105
Wednesday, February 15 th 11:59pm MT	Normal Registration deadline; Extended Registration begins	Increases to: \$155
Monday, February 20 th 11:59pm MT	Extended Registration deadline; Late Registration begins	Increases to: \$355
Wednesday, March 1 st 11:59pm MT	Late Registration deadline	-

All Paraclimbing competitors must meet the specification for at least one category.

For each gender, the base categories are: Upper Limb Amputee (AU2), Lower Limb Amputee (AL2), Range of Power (RP3), Visually Impaired (B3), Youth and Citizens

Adult Paraclimbing competitors must be at least sixteen (16) years of age or older, by December 31st, of the year in which the National Championship is held. Each Adult Paraclimbing competitor registering for a competition shall register in an appropriate category as defined in the Paraclimbing Classification System.

Youth Paraclimbing competitors must not exceed sixteen (16) years of age, by December 31st, of the year in which the National Championship is held. Each Youth Paraclimbing competitor registering for a competition shall register in the appropriate age category. Such competitor shall also indicate on their registration their appropriate category as defined in the Paraclimbing Classification System.

USA Climbing will be conducting in-person classification at Paraclimbing Nationals this year. During registration, competitors must select a classification appointment on March 2nd or 3rd. Medical doctors will perform physical examinations to assess the competitor's range of motion, strength, and function. They will then use that information to classify each athlete based on the most current IFSC Classification rules linked [here](#).

In order to compete in the 2023 Paraclimbing National Championship classified categories, all competitors must be classified. If you have a confirmed classification status or a review date later than 2023 from the IFSC, you do not need to get classified at Nationals. If you do not have a "Confirmed" classification status from the IFSC, you will need to be classified at Nationals.

During Nationals registration you will select your classification time and select the sport class you have either competed in in the past or you think you fit in. During classification

you will be placed in the correct sport class. Classification will be done in accordance with current IFSC Classification rules ([linked here](#)) or any updated IFSC Classification rules if available. To be classified, each competitor, must submit a new Medical Diagnostic Form: Physical Impaired MDF; Visual Impaired MDF. To upload your Medical Diagnostic Form, follow these steps:

1. Log into your USA Climbing account
2. View your profile
3. Click on the “Documents” tab on the left-hand side
4. Click “Add Document”
5. Select “Physical Medical Diagnostic Form” or “Visual Medical Diagnostic Form”
6. Upload your Medical Diagnostic Form for the 2023 Paraclimbing National Championships

***IMPORTANT:** Medical Diagnostic Forms must be completed and signed by a physician (a physical therapist, occupational therapist, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner signature is not valid). The forms may be submitted before January 20th which would ensure enough time for the classification team to review and provide feedback. Athletes would then have some time to rectify and identified issues. Form must be submitted prior to February 28th to participate in a classification evaluation. If forms are submitted between January 20th and February 28th, we cannot guarantee the forms will be reviewed prior to the competition and competitors risk their eligibility for classification.

Within Nationals registration, competitors will also select if they plan to represent USA Climbing if they are eligible to at IFSC competitions. If a competitor is not a U.S. Citizen and/or does not have a valid U.S. Passport, please select no, even if they plan to represent their home country at IFSC competitions. Each competitor will also be asked to complete a Google Form before the end of Nationals if they are interested in international competition.

Volunteers:

USA Climbing is seeking volunteers to assist throughout the event; volunteers will receive a complimentary event shirt. Volunteers, please sign up [HERE](#).

Travel Information:

Hotel information for Austin, TX can be found [HERE](#).

Technical Meeting:

The Jury President will host a virtual technical meeting Friday, March 3rd at 5:30pm CT. Competition information such as format, timing, and rules will be presented, and time will be allocated to answer questions. A Zoom link will be provided via the event page on the USA Climbing Website and is also linked below.

[2023 Paraclimbing National Championships Technical Meeting](#)

Waiver:

All competitors, aides, and VI callers must have completed the Mesa Rim – Austin waiver to check-in. Waivers should be filled out in advance via the Mesa Rim - Austin website:

[Mesa Rim Climbing Center Waiver](#)

Coaches:

Coaches will be required to register and scan their electronic or PDF membership card upon check in at the event. Membership cards can be found in the membership confirmation email. The PDF card can be printed, or the electronic card can be downloaded to your smartphone. Instructions can be found in your membership confirmation email. To access your membership confirmation email, please log in to your USA Climbing account, click on the “Memberships” tab/ “Current”/ “Resend Membership Email”.

Aides:

Aides will be required to register in the "[2023 Paraclimbing National Championships Aide Registration](#)" through Sport80 and scan their electronic or PDF membership card upon check in at the event.

Membership cards can be found in the membership confirmation email. The PDF card can be printed, or the electronic card can be downloaded to your smartphone. Instructions can be found in your membership confirmation email. To access your membership confirmation email, please log in to your USA Climbing account, click on the “Memberships” tab/ “Current”/ “Resend Membership Email”. Aides will need to have a “covered” volunteer membership and successfully complete the Center for SafeSport training and a background screen.

Please follow these steps to get a background screen:

1. Log in to your USA Climbing Membership Account
2. Click "View Profile"
3. Go to "Background Screen" Tab on the left-hand side of the screen
4. Click the blue "Add Background Screen" button to initiate the background screen

A background screen can take up to two weeks to be completed, so please leave plenty of time to have a current screen prior to registering as an aide or caller for Paraclimbing Nationals. USA Climbing covers the cost of a national screen, if an international screen is run, based on your address history, you will be invoiced for the difference.

Open Category:

Athletes who are not interested in pursuing the classification process or cannot be classified for any reason are encouraged to compete in the revised Open categories offered this year. You do not need to complete a Medical Diagnostic Form or classification evaluation to compete in these categories.

- Open 1 – Ability to onsight 5.4 – 5.9
- Open 2 – Ability to onsight 5.10 – 5.12

The Open categories will have podiums and rankings; however, these placements will not qualify athletes for the National Team in any form. USA Climbing will be reviewing how the Open categories perform at the 2023 Paraclimbing National along with seeking further community input on how to improve the categories for future Paraclimbing competitions.

VI Callers:

Callers for visually impaired climbers are required to have a USA Climbing Paraclimbing Membership. Callers also need to register for Paraclimbing National Championship. To do this, callers will reach out to Michelle Harris (michelle@usacimbing.org) to get a code to register at zero cost.

In order for a VI Caller to be able to register for Paraclimbing Nationals, they will be required to successfully complete the Center for SafeSport training and a background screen. Please follow these steps to get a background screen:

1. Log in to your USA Climbing Membership Account
2. Click "View Profile"
3. Go to "Background Screen" Tab on the left-hand side of the screen
4. Click the blue "Add Background Screen" button to initiate the background screen

A background screen can take up to two weeks to be completed, so please leave plenty of time to have a current screen prior to registering as an aide or caller for Paraclimbing Nationals. USA Climbing covers the cost of a national screen, if an international screen is run, based on your address history, you will be invoiced for the difference.

Entry & Ticketing:

Information on spectator tickets and how they may be purchased for the 2023 Paraclimbing National Championship will be available soon. Registered competitors, VI Callers and Aides will receive entry into the venue for each round of competition free of charge.

Qualification:

USA Climbing will run a modified redpoint qualification round. Competitors will check-in to their session at Mesa Rim Climbing Center. The Jury President of this competition will host a Competitor Meeting prior to the session.

Finals:

The quota for the Final round shall be floating quota determined as follow:

Number of Competitors in the Qualification Round	Final Round Quota
1 to 6	4
7 to 15	5
16 or more	6

The Final Round is to be Onsite Format, except for B category (visually impaired) athletes. Final round for athletes with a visual impairment shall use the flash system. Coaches can guide several visually impaired athletes, in the same category or not. Visual impaired Athletes and their callers are subject to the same constraints concerning isolation rules, but they are authorized to leave the isolation zone to join the competition area when proposed by the Jury President which could not be later than 30 minutes before the beginning of the competition. A video recording of the route should be continuously played back in the transit area from this moment to the end of the final round or, if a video recording is not possible, a live demonstration of the route shall be made not less than 30 minutes before the attempt of the first competitor. Demonstration shall not be done by someone having a disability.

All finalists must check-in to isolation within the time frame outlined on the Paraclimbing National Championship schedule.

Awards:

The awards ceremony for all disciplines will take place at the conclusion of the Finals Round at Mesa Rim Climbing Center.

National Team Selection:

The U.S. Paraclimbing National Team and invitations to international competitions, in each category, shall be composed of the top three (3) U.S. citizen competitors from the Paraclimbing National Championships. Invitations to compete at IFSC Paraclimbing World Championships and World Cups may be extended to:

- a. Members of the U.S. Paraclimbing National Team, up to the maximum number of USA Climbing competitors eligible to compete based on the competition quota.

- b. In addition to (a), where the IFSC grants byes to Champion status competitors to compete in the Paraclimbing World Championships, U.S. citizens that hold such status may also be extended an invitation.

USA Climbing has the discretion to distribute additional or unused international competition invites among Paraclimbing National participants.

Covid Resources:

Please look at the USA [Covid Countermeasures](#).

Questions:

If you have any questions, please contact Trevor Clay: trevor@usacimbing.org