



2015 Senior Irish Bouldering Championship

1. Eligibility

- 1.1. All competitors must complete the online registration and pay the entry fee prior to the cut off time.
- 1.2. The cut off time is 20:00 on the Wednesday prior to the competition.
- 1.3. All competitors must be current members of Mountaineering Ireland or their national governing body.
- 1.4. Competitors are welcome from all nations.
- 1.5. Competitors can compete in only one category.
- 1.6. Competitors eligible to compete in a Masters category may choose to compete in a Senior category.
 - 1.6.1. Competitors must make their choice known when they register for the competition.
 - 1.6.2. Competitors who do not make their choice known will compete in their default category.
- 1.7. Competitors are categorised according to gender and age in the following categories:
 - 1.7.1. Senior Male (Minimum of fourteen years of age on the day of the competition)
 - 1.7.2. Senior Female (Minimum of fourteen years of age on the day of the competition)
 - 1.7.3. Masters Male (Minimum of forty five years of age on the day of the competition)
 - 1.7.4. Masters Female (Minimum of forty five years of age on the day of the competition)

2. Anti-doping

- 2.1. Mountaineering Ireland fully subscribes to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) procedures and promotes a drug free sport.

3. Safety

- 3.1. It is the personal responsibility of competitors to make themselves aware of the safety guidelines of the host venue
- 3.2. Landing mats shall protect each boulder. It is the responsibility of the Chief Setter to position the mats provided by the Organiser, and to adjust the number and character of the boulders to the mats available
- 3.3. The Head Judge, Judge's and Chief Setter shall inspect each boulder prior to the start of each round of the competition in order to ensure the maintenance of safety standards.
- 3.4. Competitors are not permitted to carry or use audio listening equipment whilst climbing.

4. Format

- 4.1. The Senior Irish Bouldering Championship shall consist of three rounds, namely:
 - 4.1.1. A Qualification round consisting of twelve boulder problems;
 - 4.1.2. A Semi-Final Round consisting of four boulder problems;
 - 4.1.3. A Final Round consisting of four boulder problems.

5. Design of boulders

- 5.1. Each boulder shall have a clearly marked start which shall consist of:
 - 5.1.1. Marked handhold(s) for both hands; and
 - 5.1.2. Marked foothold(s) for both feet.
- 5.2. In exceptional circumstances, the starting holds may be labelled left and right to denote a specific required starting position.
- 5.3. Each boulder shall have a clearly marked finish which shall be a designated "Finishing Hold".

- 5.4. Each boulder shall have a clearly marked "Bonus Hold". The positioning of this hold should aid the separation of competitors with markedly different performances and will be selected at the Chief-Setter's discretion.
- 5.5. Each boulder shall be designed in such a way that the lowest part of the body of the competitor shall never be higher than three metres above the landing mat.
- 5.6. Each boulder shall be designed in such a way so as to avoid the danger of a competitor's fall injuring the competitor, or injuring or obstructing any other competitor or third party.
- 5.7. Each boulder shall be designed without any downward jumps.
- 5.8. Demarcation tape shall be used to clearly define the boundaries, features or area of a boulder problem, as deemed by the Chief Setter to be out of bounds.
- 5.9. The markings used shall be the same for the entire duration of a competition.
- 5.10. The maximum number of handholds for one boulder shall be twelve and the average number of handholds per boulder in any round shall be between four and eight.

6. Climbing

- 6.1. An attempt shall be deemed to have started when every part of the competitor's body has left the ground.
- 6.2. The competitor must begin with both hands and feet in contact with the holds which have been marked as start holds before initiating any further moves.
- 6.3. An attempt shall be deemed unsuccessful if the competitor;
 - 6.3.1. Uses any part of the wall, holds or features demarcated using continuous and clearly identifiable tape;
 - 6.3.2. Uses with their hands, holes provided in the climbing wall for the placement of bolt-on holds;
 - 6.3.3. Touches the ground with any part of the body after having started their attempt;
 - 6.3.4. Does not begin with both hands and feet in contact with the holds which have been marked as start holds, before initiating any further moves.
- 6.4. The Judge or Head Judge may order that a competitor's attempt be terminated if they decide that further progress on the route would be dangerous.

7. Judging

- 7.1. The Organiser shall appoint a Head Judge.
- 7.2. The Organiser shall assign a Judge to each boulder problem.
- 7.3. Each Judge shall have sole responsibility for the boulder problem they have been assigned to.
- 7.4. Each Judge will record:
 - 7.4.1. The number of attempts required by the Competitor to gain a bonus hold;
 - 7.4.2. The number of attempts required by the Competitor to successfully complete the boulder.
- 7.5. The Judge will declare an attempt successful to the Competitor by announcing 'OK' when the Competitor successfully completes the boulder problem in accordance with rules.
- 7.6. The Judge will notify the competitor as soon as an attempt is deemed unsuccessful.
- 7.7. The decision of the Head Judge over rules and may amend the decision of any other Judge.

8. Scoring

- 8.1. For the purposes of scoring, an attempt will be counted each time:
 - 8.1.1. All parts of the competitors' body leave the ground entirely;
 - 8.1.2. The competitor touches, with hands or feet, any holds other than the starting holds;
 - 8.1.3. The competitor adds any tick mark
- 8.2. Any competitor who successfully completes the route in accordance with the rules shall be scored as such by indicating 'Top'.
- 8.3. On each boulder, a bonus point will be awarded if the competitor controls the bonus hold, which has been chosen and marked by the Chief Route Setter. The bonus hold will also be awarded automatically where a competitor successfully completes the boulder.

8.4. The competitors' number of attempts for both Tops and Bonuses are recorded.

9. Timing

- 9.1. An electronic timing system shall be used in the Qualification Round to display the climbing time remaining for the qualification round.
- 9.2. In the case of the Qualification Round, each group is allocated a maximum of one hour and a half to attempt their designated boulder problems. If the group contains more than thirty climbers, then the time will be increased by ten minutes per each five climbers more.
- 9.3. An electronic timing system shall be used in the Semi-Final Round and Final Round to display the climbing time remaining for each competitor's attempts. The timing display should show time remaining to the nearest second.

10. Starting order

- 10.1. Competitors choose when they wish to climb during the Qualification Round, within the designated time.
- 10.2. The starting order for the Semi-Final and Final Rounds shall be the reverse of the ranking order from the qualifying round.
- 10.3. In the case of tied competitors from the qualifying round the starting order shall be randomized.

11. Qualification Round climbing procedure

- 11.1. Twelve boulder problems are proposed for each category
- 11.2. Each competitor has a maximum of five attempts on each boulder.
- 11.3. The qualification round is flash without demonstration.
- 11.4. In the case of few competitors, age groups and categories may be joined in the same qualification groups.
- 11.5. Each competitor chooses the moment to attempt each boulder in the order he/she wants and gives his/her score card to the designated Judge before making his/her attempt.
- 11.6. Each competition group is allocated a maximum of one hour and a half to attempt their designated boulder problems. If the group contains more than thirty climbers, then the time will be increased by ten minutes per each five climbers more. The allocated time must be announced before the round.
- 11.7. If necessary a Judge may make a starting list in the order of competitors attempting a boulder.
- 11.8. The beginning and end of the qualification round will be announced or signalled. One minute before the end of the qualification round, there will be another announcement or signal.

12. Qualification ranking

- 12.1. Each competitor participating in the Qualification round shall be ranked according to the sum total of Tops and Bonuses.
- 12.2. The ranking of competitors for the Qualification Round shall be in ascending order of the highest number of tops.

13. Competitor quotas for the Semi-Final Round

- 13.1. The quota for the Semi-Final round shall be filled with the highest ranked competitors from the qualifying round.
- 13.2. The number of climbers to progress from the qualifying round to the Semi-Final round is sixteen per category.
- 13.3. If competitor numbers for a category in a qualification round is less than twenty the number of climbers to progress from the qualifying round to the Semi-Final Round is twelve.
- 13.4. If competitor numbers for a category in a qualification round is less than ten there will be no Semi-Final Round.
- 13.5. If the competitor numbers for a category in a qualification round is less than six then the results of the Qualification Round are the final results.

13.6. If the quota is exceeded as a result of tied competitors, all tied competitors shall qualify for the Semi-Final Round.

14. Semi-Final Round climbing procedure

- 14.1. There shall be a minimum time gap of half an hour between the time when the last competitor finishes the qualification round and the closing of the Isolation Zone for the Semi-Final Round.
- 14.2. The starting order for the Final Round shall be the reverse of the ranking order from the qualification round.
- 14.3. Each category is allocated four boulder problems to be attempted by all semi-finalists in the category.
- 14.4. Competitors have five minutes to attempt a boulder problem. The competitor must leave the competition area once it is deemed that their attempt has ended.

15. Competitor quotas for the Final Round

- 15.1. The quota for the Final round shall be filled with the highest ranked competitors from the qualifying round.
- 15.2. The number of climbers to progress from the qualifying round to the final round is six per category.
- 15.3. If the quota is exceeded as a result of tied competitors, then the ranking of these competitors from the Qualification Round shall be used to break the tie.

16. Final Round climbing procedure

- 16.1. There shall be a minimum time gap of half an hour between the time when the last competitor finishes the Semi-Final round and the closing of the Isolation Zone for the Final Round.
- 16.2. The starting order for the Final round shall be the reverse of the ranking order from the Semi-Final Round.
- 16.3. Each category is allocated four boulder problems to be attempted by all finalists in the category.
- 16.4. Competitors have four minutes to attempt a boulder problem. The competitor may remain on the wall once the four minutes have ended, as long as the competitor's body has left the ground before the allocated four minutes have ended.
- 16.5. The competitor must leave the competition area once it is deemed that their attempt has ended.

17. Isolation Rules

- 17.1. The Isolation Rules shall apply only to the Semi-Final Round and the Final Round of the competition.
- 17.2. Once the closing time for the Isolation Zone has passed, Competitors must remain within the Isolation Zone, unless otherwise instructed.
- 17.3. Competitors or other persons authorised by the Head Judge to enter the Isolation Zone may choose to leave the Isolation Zone at any time, but having left the Isolation Zone may not return once the closing time has passed, and must leave the Competition Area, unless specifically asked to remain by the Head Judge.
- 17.4. The Isolation Zone closing time for any round of the competition shall not be earlier than thirty minutes before the first competitor on the starting list is scheduled to commence climbing.
- 17.5. Competitors shall have no knowledge of the boulders other than that obtained during the Observation Period or that communicated by the Head Judge or the Judges. It is the sole responsibility of each competitor to fully inform themselves with respect to all instructions regarding the boulders.
- 17.6. Whilst in the Competition Area, competitors are not permitted to seek any information from persons outside the Competition Area, unless specifically authorised to do so by the Head Judge.
- 17.7. Competitors who have completed their attempt(s) on a boulder and who for any reason remain in the Competition Area must not pass any information concerning that boulder to any competitor who has not yet attempted that boulder.
- 17.8. Failure to comply with the Isolation Rules when in force shall result in disciplinary action.

18. Preparation prior to climbing

- 18.1. After having received an official instruction to leave the Isolation Zone and proceed to the Call Zone, competitors shall not be accompanied by any person other than authorised officials.

- 18.2. On arrival to the Call Zone, each competitor shall make all final preparations for their attempt, such as putting on their climbing shoes etc.
- 18.3. Each competitor shall be ready to leave the Call Zone and enter the Competition Zone when instructed to do so.

19. Observation Period

- 19.1. The Observation Period is for the Final Round only. There is no Observation Period for the Semi-Final Round.
- 19.2. Competitors competing in the Final Round will assemble in the Isolation Zone no later than thirty minutes before the scheduled start of the Final Round.
- 19.3. A collective Observation Period of two minutes per boulder shall be held immediately prior to the start of the Final Round.
- 19.4. Only competitors competing in the Final Round are allowed in the Competition Zone during observation.
- 19.5. Competitors are allowed to touch the first hold(s), without leaving the ground with both their feet.
- 19.6. No other observation or recording equipment shall be permitted.
- 19.7. At the end of the Observation Period, competitors shall immediately return to the Isolation Zone.
- 19.8. Competitors may seek clarification only from the Head Judge, a Judge or a Route Setter present in the Competition Zone during the Observation period. During the observation period, all competitors remain under the Isolation Rules.

20. Final Ranking

- 20.1. If any competitors are tied following the ranking calculation, then the ranking of these competitors from the previous round shall be used to break the tie.
- 20.2. The competitors shall be ranked according to the following criteria:
 - 20.2.1. The number of successfully completed boulders;
 - 20.2.2. The total number of attempts to complete these boulders ;
 - 20.2.3. The total number of bonus points;
 - 20.2.4. The total number of attempts to achieve these bonus points.

21. Technical Incidents

- 21.1. A Technical Incident is defined as any occurrence that results in a disadvantage or unfair advantage to a competitor, which is not the result of an action on the part of the competitor.
- 21.2. The Judge, if necessary in consultation with the Chief Setter shall make the confirmation or non-confirmation of a Technical Incident.
- 21.3. In the case of a technical incident on a boulder during the Qualification Round, the boulder is closed for the duration of restoration. If the restoration of the technical incident takes less than ten minutes, then the boulder is re-opened without additional time. If the restoration of the technical incident takes more than ten minutes, then the boulder is cancelled.
- 21.4. In the case of a Technical Incident during the Semi-Final Round if the Technical Incident can be repaired or fixed before the end of the current Rotation Period, the competitor involved will be offered the opportunity to continue with their attempts.
- 21.5. If the competitor chooses to continue, then the Technical Incident is finished and no further appeals shall be allowed.
- 21.6. If the competitor chooses not to continue, then the competitor will resume their attempts in a Rotation Period to be decided by the Head Judge.
- 21.7. If the Technical Incident cannot be repaired or fixed before the end of the current Rotation Period, then at the end of the Rotation Period:
 - 21.7.1. The Judge will suspend the round for the competitor who has suffered the Technical Incident and all competitors on the preceding boulders; and

- 21.7.2. For all the other competitors, the round shall continue.
- 21.8. Once the Technical Incident has been repaired or fixed, the competitor who has suffered the Technical Incident shall resume their attempt. Any other competitors whose round was suspended shall restart at the first full rotation period afterward.
- 21.9. In the case of a Technical Incident during the Final Round the competitor suffering the Technical Incident shall return to the Isolation Zone and await the repair. When the Technical Incident has been repaired or fixed, the affected competitor shall re-commence their attempts.
 - 21.9.1. The first attempt made by the competitor who has suffered a Technical Incident, on the same boulder, after the attempt in which the Technical Incident occurred shall be deemed a continuation of that attempt.
 - 21.9.2. When the competitor who has suffered the Technical Incident resumes their attempts after restoration, the competitor shall be allowed the time remaining at the moment when the Technical Incident occurred, with a minimum of two minutes.

22. Appeals Process

- 22.1. An appeal concerning the judgement of a competitor's attempt must be made within five minutes of the incident.
- 22.2. In the case of both the Qualification and Final round, any such appeal must be resolved and any action required as a consequence completed prior to the competitors moving on to the next boulder.
- 22.3. Any appeal against the ranking of a competitor must be submitted to the Chief Judge in writing within five minutes of the publication of all Official Results for that round.
- 22.4. On receipt of an appeal, the Head Judge shall act immediately to address the appeal.
- 22.5. If the appeal concerns the Official Results, the Head Judge will ensure that an announcement is made that the Official Results are "Under Appeal", noting which results are the subject of the appeal
- 22.6. The Head Judge shall resolve any appeal without delay or prejudice to the competition timetable and shall use all personnel and facilities at their disposal to achieve this goal.

23. Disciplinary Action

- 23.1. The Head Judge will issue a warning to any competitor, parent, coach, support staff and spectator who knowingly and willingly breaks any of the competition rules, interferes with another competitor or interferes with the running of the competition.
- 23.2. On receipt of a second warning the person concerned will be removed from the competition and may be asked to leave the Competition Area, Isolation Zone etc.
- 23.3. Disciplinary Action is not appealable