

MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND



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Youth Climbing Series 2009 Regulations

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1. GENERAL

1.1 Series of Competitions

- 1.1.1 A MCOFS Youth Climbing Series shall be organised each year.
- 1.1.2 The event shall involve regional rounds, of three events per region, followed by a British final.
- 1.1.3 MCOFS Youth Climbing Series competitions shall normally take place on Saturdays. Organisers should aim to complete MCOFS Youth Climbing Series competitions within one (1) day.
- 1.1.4 Each MCOFS Youth Climbing Series competition approved by the MCOFS shall include separate categories for junior boys and junior girls in three age categories; aged 8 to 10, 11 to 13 and 14 to 16 on 31st December in the year of the series, making six categories in total.

Year of Event	Year of Birth								
	8-10 category			11-13 category			14-16 category		
2009	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
2010	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994
2011	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995
2012	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996
2013	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997

- 1.1.5
- 1.1.6 Each MCOFS Youth Climbing Series competition shall include for each category:
 - a) 3 routes
 - b) 3 boulder problems.
- 1.1.7 All routes will be demonstrated.
- 1.1.8 All climbers will be allowed up to three attempts at each boulder problem, climbing in turn (i.e. taking their second attempt after all competitors, in their group, have had their first attempt and so on).
- 1.1.9 All climbers will be allowed only one attempt at each route. The 14 to 16 age groups will lead climb. All other age groups will top rope.

- 1.1.10 There will be no isolation – except in the case of a superfinal.
- 1.1.11 In each area the series winners will be awarded a trophy; and a trophy will be awarded to the overall series winners.
- 1.1.12 At the conclusion of the British final competition of the annual series, the Championship trophies shall be awarded to the competitor(s) in each category achieving the highest number of points in accordance with these regulations.

1.2 Eligibility

- 1.2.1 All ages are inclusive. Competitors must be not less than 8 and not more than 16 on the December 31st in the year of the series.
- 1.2.2 Competitors will be obliged to enter the British series in the region in which they live. If a Youth Climbing Series is not organised in their nation competitors will be entitled to enter the series in a region of another nation.
- 1.2.3 Competitors may not enter events in more than one region.
- 1.2.4 MCOFS Youth Climbing Series competition entry is open to competitors of all nationalities.
- 1.2.5 Any competitor who has route set at one of the rounds will not qualify for ranking points.
- 1.2.6 In order to prevent over-use injuries, members of the British Competition Climbing Team are not allowed to enter MCOFS Youth Climbing Series once they are old enough to compete on the international circuit in European Youth Series or World events.
- 1.2.7 Aspirant British Competition Climbing Team members are permitted to enter the MCOFS Youth Climbing Series.

2. ORGANISERS AND OFFICIALS

2.1 Belaying and security

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

2.2 Height Measurement and Time Keeping

- 2.2.1 The organisers shall arrange a judging team, specifically responsible for providing a height measurement, time keeping and results. The results will be given to the MCOFS, wall and competitors at the end of the competition.
- 2.2.2 A results service will be provided if possible.
- 2.2.3 The route setters will provide judges with route maps.
- 2.2.4 Routes:
The final hold on each route shall be assigned a point value of 99. On routes to be led, clipping the rope through the lower-off scores 100. On routes to be top-roped, matching the final hold with both hands scores 100. Each successive hold beneath the top shall be assigned three points fewer (i.e. 96, 93, 90, etc.).
- 2.2.5 Problems:
The final hold on each problem shall be assigned a point value of 59. Matching the final hold with both hands scores 60. Each successive hold beneath the top shall be assigned three points fewer (i.e. 56, 53, 50, etc.).
- 2.2.6 No hold shall be assigned a value less than zero.
- 2.2.7 The number of falls prior to gaining the highpoint on problems shall be recorded and used to split tied competitors where applicable.

2.3 Competition Starting Lists

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

2.4 Climbing Wall

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

2.5 Wall Maintenance

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

2.6 Medical Facilities

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

2.7 Photographers and Television Camera Crews

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

2.8 Ranking After Each Regional Event of the Series

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

2.9 Points Awarded for Each Competition Event

- 2.9.1 At the end of each event, the first thirty (30) competitors in each category not excluded under section 1.2 shall be awarded the following points:

1st	100 pts	11th	31 pts	21st	10 pts
2nd	80 pts	12th	28 pts	22nd	9 pts
3rd	65 pts	13th	26 pts	23rd	8 pts
4th	55 pts	14th	24 pts	24th	7 pts
5th	51 pts	15th	22 pts	25th	6 pts
6th	47 pts	16th	20 pts	26th	5 pts
7th	43 pts	17th	18 pts	27th	4 pts
8th	40 pts	18th	16 pts	28th	3 pts
9th	37 pts	19th	14 pts	29th	2 pts
10th	34 pts	20th	12 pts	30th	1 pt
- 2.9.2 The aggregate points shall be recalculated after each competition and the competitors having points shall be ranked in descending order of points accumulated. The ranking shall be made available after each event of the series.
- 2.9.3 The top three climbers in each category at the end of the regional series who have competed in at least 2 rounds will qualify to enter the British Final, free of charge.
- 2.9.4 If there is a tie for third place (or a more-than-two-way tie for second place or any ties for first place) in any category at the end of the third event the results of the individual climbs (boulder problems and routes) at all rounds where all tied competitors competed together shall be taken into account in separating tied competitors. The winner will be the tied climber to have gained the greatest number of 1st place results, or if this is the same 2nd place results, etc. Please also consult the flowchart in Article 6.

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- 2.9.5 In the event that a third place tie exists after the application of 2.9.4, the sum of the number of 'tops' (boulder problems and routes) at all rounds where all tied competitors competed together is compared and the greater number is considered better.
- 2.9.6 In the event that a third place tie exists after the application of 2.9.4 and 2.9.5 the sum of the number of attempts a competitor took to reach their high point on all boulder problems at all rounds where all tied competitors competed together is compared and the lower number of attempts shall be considered better.
- 2.9.7 In the event that a third place tie exists after the application of 2.9.4, 2.9.5 and 2.9.6, the tied competitors will be offered the choice of competing in a climb-off to be arranged as soon as possible or resolution by tossing a coin or drawing straws. All parties must agree the method of resolution.
- 2.9.8 If there exists a tie for first place in any category at the end of the British final a super final shall be held. If a tie exists at the end of the super final the competitors that remain tied shall be deemed equal.

2.10 Ranking After the British Final

- 2.10.1 After the British Final, the competitors shall be ranked.
- 2.10.2 In the case of a tie for first place, a count-back procedure shall be used such that the results of the individual climbs (boulder problems and routes) in the final be taken into account in separating tied competitors. The winner will be the tied climber to have gained the greatest number of 1st place results, or if this is the same 2nd place results, etc.
- 2.10.3 If after applying the procedure in 2.10.2 there are still competitors tied for first place the sum of the number of 'tops' is compared and the greater number is considered better.
- 2.10.4 If after applying the procedures in 2.10.2 and 2.10.3 there are still competitors tied for first place the sum of the number of attempts a competitor took to reach their high point on all boulder problems is compared and the lower number of attempts shall be considered better.
- 2.10.5 If after applying the procedure described in 2.10.2, 2.10.3 and 2.10.4 there exists a tie for the first place a super-final shall be held. If a tie exists at the end of a super-final, the competitors that remain tied shall be deemed equal and the competition will be terminated.

2.11 Withdrawal of Finalists

- 2.11.1 If at any time after the end of the regional series a qualifying climber withdraws from the British final due to illness or injury they may be substituted by the climber who finished in fourth place in the regional series in the same category.
- 2.11.2 If the fourth placed climber described in 2.11.1 withdraws from the British final due to illness, injury or late notification they may be substituted by the climber who finished in fifth place and so on until a replacement is found.
- 2.11.3 A qualifying climber or their substitute shall not be replaced if:
- The reason for withdrawal is not illness or injury;
 - The replacement attended fewer than two rounds of the regional series.
 - There are no remaining climbers in the category.

2.12 Award Ceremonies

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

2.13 British Final Team Competition

- 2.13.1 A regional team competition will run concurrently with the British final. At the end of the event, the competitors in each category shall be awarded ranking points as shown in the table in 2.9.1.
- 2.13.2 A region's team score is the sum of the best ranking points in that team. The number of individual scores counting towards the regional team score will be the fewer of;
- The average of all regional team sizes rounded down to the nearest whole number;
 - The whole regional team;

3. COMPETITORS

3.1 Competitors' Climbing Equipment and Clothing

- 3.1.1 All equipment used by a competitor in a competition shall comply with CE standards unless otherwise specified by the IFSC or, under exceptional circumstances, by the Chief Judge. Each competitor shall be free to use whatever CE-marked make of harness (NOTE: the wearing of a seat/hip or full-body harness is compulsory), climbing shoes, chalk bag, climbing helmet (where the competitor chooses to do so), and clothing he/she prefers in accordance with the regulations specified in 3.1.
- 3.1.2 It is compulsory to wear the competition vest if one is provided by the Competition Organisers for the use of climbers while competing in the series.
- 3.1.3 The following sponsorship and branding regulations will apply during each climber's attempt on each climb:
- Headwear: Only the manufacturer's name and/or logo;
 - Competition vest: As supplied by the competition organiser. This vest, which each competitor must wear, must not be cut or otherwise modified;
 - Harness: the manufacturer's name and/or logo and sponsor's label(s) no larger than 200 square centimetres in total;
 - Chalk bag: Only the manufacturer's name and/or logo and sponsor's label(s) no larger than 100 square centimetres;
 - Legs: Only the manufacturer's name and/or logo and sponsor's label(s) on each leg no larger than 300 square centimetres in total on each leg;
 - Shoes and socks: Only the manufacturer's name and/or logo.
- 3.1.4 Failure to comply with these regulations shall result in disqualification from the competition.

3.2 Registration

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

3.3 Preparation Prior to Climbing

- 3.3.1 All climbing equipment and the knot used shall be inspected and approved by an authorised official both for safety and compliance with other regulations before the competitor shall be permitted to proceed to their attempt on their climb.
- 3.3.2 The approved knot is the "figure of eight" knot with a stopper knot.
- 3.3.3 Each competitor shall be regarded as entirely and solely responsible for the equipment and clothing that he/she intends to wear during his/her attempt on a climb.

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

3.4 Technical Incidents

- 3.4.1 A technical incident is defined as:
- A tight rope which either assists or hinders a competitor;
 - A broken or loose hold;
 - An improperly positioned quickdraw or karabiner;
 - Any other occurrence that results in a disadvantage or unfair advantage to a competitor which is not the result of an action on the part of the competitor;
- 3.4.2 The belayer must leave an appropriate amount of slack in the rope at all times. Any tension on the rope may be deemed as an artificial aid or hindrance to a competitor and a technical incident shall be declared by the Category Judge.
- 3.4.3 A technical incident shall be dealt with as follows:
- If a technical incident is indicated by the Category Judge:
 - If the competitor wishes, and is still in a legitimate position, he/she may choose to continue to climb or accept the technical incident. If the competitor chooses to continue to attempt the climb no further appeal connected with that technical incident shall be accepted;
 - If the competitor is in a non-legitimate position due to the technical incident, the Category Judge shall make an immediate decision on whether to declare a technical incident and thereby terminate the competitor's attempt on the climb (and in accordance with the rules governing technical incidents, permit the competitor a subsequent attempt).
 - If a technical incident is indicated by a competitor:
 - While the competitor is climbing, the competitor must specify the nature of the technical incident and, with the agreement of the Category Judge, may continue or cease climbing. If the competitor is in a non-legitimate position due to the incident the Category Judge shall make an immediate decision and that decision shall be final. If the competitor elects to continue to climb, no subsequent appeal shall be accepted in respect to that technical incident.
 - If a competitor falls and claims that a technical incident precipitated the fall, the Chief Routesetter shall immediately check (and where appropriate correct) the claimed technical incident and report to the Forerunner, Category Judge and the Chief Judge. The decision of the Chief Judge (having taken into account the technical incident and any misuse of a

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- hold by a competitor) shall be final and no appeal shall be accepted in respect to this decision.
- c) The competitor subject to a confirmed technical incident shall be allowed a recuperation period. The competitor must decide immediately when he/she wishes to start his/her next attempt on the climb which must be after the immediately following competitor and before the fifth following competitor. The competitor shall be allowed a minimum of 20 minutes between attempts on the climb;
 - d) On completion of a legitimate attempt on a climb, a competitor shall be recorded as having achieved the best result of their permitted attempts on the climb.
- 3.4.4 A climb shall be considered successfully completed if it is climbed in accordance with the regulations and rules and:
- a) in the case of a lead, if the competitor safely clips the rope into the karabiner on the final quickdraw from an allowed position.
 - b) in the case of a top-rope or boulder problem, if the climber 'holds' the last marked hold from a legitimate position with both hands.

3.5 Climbing Procedure

- 3.5.1 Individual routes or problems may be allocated a pre-designated period during which a competitor may attempt the climb (or, in the case of a boulder problem, complete their turn).
- 3.5.2 An attempt by a competitor shall be deemed to have started when all parts of the body have left the ground.
- 3.5.3 A competitor may ask the Category Judge at any time during their attempt how much of their allotted time remains and the Category Judge shall immediately inform the competitor of the remaining time. In a Superfinal the Category Judge shall also inform a competitor when only 60 seconds of the allocated time remains. When the allocated time has ended, the Category Judge shall stop the competitor and instruct the measurement procedure to take place. A competitor who fails to obey the Category Judge's instruction to stop climbing shall be liable to the disciplinary procedures.
- 3.5.4 During their attempt on a route:
- a) The competitor shall clip the quickdraws in sequence. A competitor is in a legitimate position to clip a quickdraw either as long as his/her entire body has not moved beyond the karabiner at the lower end of the quickdraw in the line of the route, or as long as the competitor can clip the quickdraw without having to back climb along the line of the route. Back climbing means that a competitor leaves holds with both hands when moving from the original position. Any violation of this rule shall result in the competitor's attempt on the route being terminated and a measurement taken. The refusal by a competitor to obey the instruction of a Category Judge to terminate their attempt on a route shall make the competitor liable to the disciplinary procedures.

- b) In special circumstances (e.g. in the interests of safety) the Chief Judge shall be authorised to amend Article 3.5.4 a) above and decide that a particular quickdraw shall be clipped from a particular hold, or earlier. This information shall be announced to the competitors during the briefing, and the actual hold and the quickdraw shall be clearly marked, preferably with a blue cross, and pointed out immediately prior to the competitor's attempt at the route. Any movement made by a competitor after the marked hold without him/her having clipped the marked quickdraw shall not be taken into account for scoring.
- c) A competitor may down-climb at any point during their attempt on a route as long as he/she is not in violation of Article 3.5.4 a) or returns to the ground.
- d) Where a competitor clips the rope into a karabiner in accordance with 3.5.4 a) above but where some technical error has occurred, the competitor shall be permitted to clip the next karabiner in sequence and then unclip and re-clip (if necessary, by down-climbing) the previous karabiner. At the end, all the protection points must be clipped in.
- e) The Category Judge may order that the attempt be terminated and the greatest height (or greatest distance) measured if he/she decides that to proceed further would contravene the safety regulations.

3.6 Height Measurement

- 3.6.1 In the event of a fall or the Category Judge instructing a competitor to stop climbing, the highest handhold held or touched (or in the case of a traverse or roof section of a climb, the furthest handhold held or touched), in the line and in the climbing sequence of the climb as determined by the Forerunner, shall be measured. Each handhold shall be deemed as such by the Forerunner before the start of the competition or following positive use by a competitor during the competition.
- 3.6.2 As determined by the Category Judge, a hold that is 'held' shall be considered as having a higher ranking than a hold that is 'touched':
- a) A climber having 'held' a hold shall be awarded the point value of the hold;
 - b) A climber having 'touched' a hold shall be awarded the point value of the hold minus one point;
 - c) A climber having 'held' a hold and having made a climbing movement in the interest of progressing along the climb shall be awarded the point value of the hold plus one point.
 - d) A climber will be awarded 100 points for successfully completing a route and 60 points for successfully completing a boulder problem.
- 3.6.3 Only such parts of an object which are usable for climbing shall be considered when determining the score of a competitor.

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

3.6.5 If a lead competitor takes hold of the final quickdraw before the rope is safely clipped into the final karabiner this shall be considered as an artificial aid and the competitor's attempt on the route shall be terminated and measured in accordance with Article 3.6.

3.7 Termination of an Attempt on a Climb

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

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

- a) Falls;
- b) Exceeds the permitted time for the climb;

- c) Makes use for climbing of any part of the wall, holds or features which have been demarcated against use for climbing;
- d) Makes use for climbing, with his/her hands, of holes provided in the climbing wall for the placement of bolt-on holds;
- e) Makes use of the side edges or top edges of the wall for climbing;
- f) Makes use of hangers (including its bolts) or quickdraws for climbing;
- g) Fails to clip a quickdraw in accordance with regulations governing the competition;
- h) Once having started, touches the ground with any part of the body;
- i) Uses any artificial aid;

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

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

4. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES DURING COMPETITION

4.1 General

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

4.2 Competitors

- 4.2.1 The Chief Judge and the Category Judges shall be authorised to take the following actions, as specified below, in respect to infringements of the competition regulations and in regard to matters of indiscipline by any competitor whilst in the competition area:
- Informal, verbal warning
 - The Chief Judge only shall be authorised to take the following sanction:
 - An official warning - accompanied by the showing of a 'Yellow Card';
 - Disqualification from the competition - accompanied by the showing of a 'Red Card';
- 4.2.2 A Yellow Card warning may be issued for any of the following infringements of the regulations:
- Failure to start in accordance with a Category Judge's instruction;
 - Failure to obey the instruction of a Category Judge and/or the Chief Judge;
 - Directly questioning or challenging a Category Judge about his/her ruling;
 - Use of obscene or abusive language or behaviour of a relatively mild nature;
 - Unsporting behaviour of a relatively minor nature.
- 4.2.3 Appeals against such decisions shall follow the procedure specified in article 5 below.
- 4.2.4 Disqualification without Further Sanction:
The following infringements of the regulations shall result in issuing of a Red Card and the immediate disqualification of the competitor from the competition without further sanction:
- Failure to report properly equipped at the start of a climb;
 - The use of non-approved equipment;
 - Unapproved modification of, and/or failure to wear, any competition vest and/or competitor's number as provided by the competition organiser;
 - The issue of a second yellow card in one series;
- 4.2.5 Appeals against such decisions shall follow the procedure specified in article 5 below.

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

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

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

- 4.2.8 At the earliest convenient time after issuing a 'Yellow' or 'Red Card', the Chief Judge shall:
- Submit a written statement to the competitor regarding the offence and whether the Chief Judge proposes to refer the matter for consideration in respect to further disciplinary action in accordance with the regulations.
 - The Chief Judge shall submit a copy of this written statement together with a detailed report of the offence against the regulations, any evidence, and any recommendations regarding consideration of additional sanction to the MCOFS for referral to the MCOFS's Disciplinary Body.

4.3 Other Persons

- 4.3.1 The Chief Judge and Category Judges shall be authorised to take the following actions, as specified below, in respect to infringements of the competition regulations and in regard to matters of indiscipline by any persons anywhere at the competition venue:
- Informal, verbal warning
 - The Chief Judge only shall be authorised to demand the following sanction:
 - Immediate dismissal from the competition venue of any person in contravention of these regulations and, if necessary, suspend all competition activities until this demand has been complied with.

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

5. COMPETITION APPEALS

5.1 Procedure

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

6. DEALING WITH REGIONAL TIES

6.1 Flowchart

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

