



The Mountaineering Council of Scotland

MCoFS Youth Climbing Series

Parental Information Summary

General

The Youth Climbing Series is a FUN series for children in Scotland aged between 8 and 17 years of age. Age is calculated on the age a climber will be on 31st December in the year of the competition.

The Scottish Series identifies two Scottish Teams which go on to compete in a British Final against other teams from England, Ireland and Wales. The 2012 British Final takes place in EICA: Ratho on 23rd June.

The whole competition is run by volunteers and the host climbing wall staff.

There are 2 'Regions' in Scotland: North and South

- Application must be in the region in which competitors reside
- There are 3 rounds in each region
- Competitors can attend any number of rounds they wish, but to be selected to the final they must compete in at least 2 rounds
- Application to the MCoFS is preferred in advance by email or post with full payment either by cheque, credit card or Paypal.
- Last minute applications (on-the-door) can be taken but only at the discretion of the Area Youth Coordinator and dependent on numbers.

On the Day

- Each Round of the competition is a 1-day event
- The length of time the competition takes is dependent on the number of competitors and the number of volunteers
- The day starts with registration (9am -9.30am) followed by a general welcome and introductions from Area Youth Co-ordinator
- A group warm-up area is often provided for competitors before starting the comp.
- Competitors are divided into their categories – Youth E (born 2003/04), Youth D (born 2001/02), Youth C (born 1999/2000), Youth B (born 1997/98) and Youth A (born 1995/96). Where numbers allow boys and girls may be combined into the same group to assist organisation. Climbers must stay with their group at all times and pay attention to when it is their turn to climb. A climber must notify the category judge if leaving the group for any reason.
- There are 3 routes and 3 boulder problems to complete. For Youth A and B the routes are lead for all other categories top-roped.
- Each route is demonstrated by a volunteer. Each route will be of a single colour. A climber has one attempt to top each route and must pay attention to the judge's instructions regarding area 'out of bound'. Points are awarded according to how far up a route a climber has gone before they fall off or make an illegal move.
- Boulder Problems are not demonstrated, but climber may have 3 attempts to reach the top. Points are awarded according to how far up a problem a climber has gone before they fall off or make an illegal move. The highest score achieved over the 3 problems is counted. A score achieved on the first attempt will be

ranked more highly than the same score achieved on a subsequent attempt should two climbers finish with the same number of points

- Time will be allocated for a break for lunch by the group judge according to the flow of the competition – it will be flexible on the day
- When all the categories' competitors have completed their turn they are moved to the next available route / problem until they have finished them all. There may be delays if more than one category is using the same route/problem so climbers should ensure they have warm clothing to wear during these periods.
- Scores are confirmed and a 'climb-off' is arranged if scores are equal and climbers cannot be separated by 'count-back'.
- Top three placings are announced; Certificates are awarded

Organisational staff

- The MCofS Area Youth Coordinator (AYC) is in attendance and coordinates the whole event. A deputy AYC may also be in attendance
- The AYC may act as the Chief Judge. Any queries regarding a climber's score must be referred to the Chief Judge and not directed at the Category Judge.
- The Wall manager will usually also be on hand during the day
- Belayers and Judges are all volunteers who have participated in a MCofS Volunteer Training Workshop.

Results and the British Final

- The results from each round are emailed to competitors and placed on the MCofS website as soon as possible after the event. These show round scores and series rankings.
- After all three rounds are complete all climbers receive a participation certificate.
- The top 3 climbers in each category are invited to join the Regional team for the British Final.

Child Protection

- A parent **MUST** remain at the event with their children
- Parents are responsible for the general behaviour of their child(ren)
- The AYC is responsible for the safety of the children during climbing
- If parents are willing to help as volunteers, they can make this known to the AYC prior to the event or on the morning of the event
- Anyone wishing to take photographs (including Parents) **MUST** register their details at the start of the event
- Volunteers **MUST** register their details at the start of the event
- The MCofS will often wish to use photographs of the event in publications and on the website. Any parent taking photos who is willing to allow their use should contact the MCofS development Officer at the address below.

More information is available from the MCofS website (<http://www.mcofs.org.uk/youth-climbing-series.asp#rules>):-

- **The Rough** Guide to YCS
- **The YCS Rules and Regulations** (including complaints procedures)

Development Officer: Kevin Howett

The MCofS, The Old Granary, West Mill Street, Perth PH1 5QP

Tel: 01638 493 946

Email: kev@mcofs.org.uk