

MCofS Youth 2010 Climbing Series



Rough Guide to MCofS Youth Climbing Series Rules

The following is a brief summary of the MCofS Youth Climbing Series regulations. It is intended to help people gain a quick appreciation of the structure and rules of the series and should not be regarded as a replacement for a full understanding of the official regulations.

Full details are available at www.mcofs.org.uk/youth-climbing-series.asp

The Series:

- 11 regional series take place simultaneously and climbers may only enter one series only
- Entrants must enter the series in or nearest to the region in which they live
- The top 3 climbers in each category qualify for the British Final event

The Climbers:

- There are 3 age categories:
 - a) Those born in 1994, 1995, and 1996
 - b) Those born in 1997, 1998 and 1999
 - c) Those born in 2000, 2001 and 2002
- There are separate male and female categories
- All entrants must have climbing experience
- All entrants are responsible for providing their own climbing equipment, i.e. harness, rock shoes, chalk bag and helmet. There may be some available from the host venues but remember to check first

The Competitions:

- Each event comprises 3 routes and 3 boulder problems for each category
- There is no isolation (competitors can watch each other climb) but there may be for a super final or climb-off
- All routes will usually be demonstrated
- Those born in 1993, 1994, and 1995 will LEAD routes. Other categories will TOP ROPE routes
- Competitors will have one attempt at each route
- Competitors will have up to 3 attempts at each boulder problem
- There may be time limits set on each attempt at a route or boulder problem
- The highest (furthest) hold used, held or touched will determine the points awarded
- An attempt ends when a competitor: steps back down to the ground, falls off, rests on the rope, uses prohibited holds or features, the the side edges or top edge of the wall, runs out of time, fails to clip a quickdraw appropriately
- Boulder problems and routes are not finished until the last hold is held with both hands
- Scores for all climbs are totalled to give an overall score for the round
- Regional changes to the format and rules may apply

Conduct:

Each regional round is run by volunteers such as parents, local climbers. They are supported by the host climbing wall staff. Certain regulations (applying to everyone involved including competitors, spectators, parents and guardians) help ensure a smooth running, good natured and FUN event:

- The instructions of the Category Judge and Chief Judge must be followed at all times
- Any disagreement with judging decisions must be taken up with the Chief Judge, NOT the Category Judge
- Unsporting or abusive behaviour at any time will not be tolerated
- Competitors must be ready to take their turn on time
- A competitor who is preparing for, or in the process of attempting a climb, should, not be distracted or interfered with

Technical Considerations:

- Judging will be along broadly similar lines to the British Lead Climbing Competition events (see the BMC website for more about the BLCC's)
- The climbing order for the first climb is random
- For subsequent climbs the order is rotated so the same climbers do not go first again
- All holds will be marked with tags or tape to aid identification
- The case of a tie at the end of the round, the following 'countback' calculations will be considered:
 - a) The number of 1st, 2nd, 3rd places etc.
 - b) The total number of maximum scores (Tops)
 - c) The total number of attempts at boulder problems
- If a tie still exists after countback, a superfinal will be held

Prizes:

There will be trophies or awards for the overall winners in each category in each region. There may be additional prizes

The British Final:

- Entry to the British Final is free
- The best 3 climbers in each category qualify from each region
- All three results count when deciding qualifiers for the British Final
- Qualifiers must have attended at least 2 rounds
- Climbers may enter individual rounds if they choose

Safety:

Parents are reminded that wearing helmets in competitions may prevent head injuries that may result from a fall or from being struck by falling objects. Inexperienced climbers should normally wear helmets and even experienced climbers should consider their actions carefully before deciding not to wear a helmet.

Risk & Responsibility

Parents and young participants should be aware that climbing, hill walking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Parents and participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement. The MCofS publishes a wide range of publicity and good practice advice and provides training opportunities for its members. A parent, or an adult that a parent has arranged to be responsible for their child, must remain at the event to look after their child.

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