

OPEN A COMPETITION RULES

(Boulderjam - Final round)



General

Bouldering competitions shall take place on short climbing routes, called boulders, climbed without ropes, constructed on purpose-designed, artificial climbing walls.

The competition will consist of:

- a) *A Qualification round on a BoulderJam format with five (5) boulders for each Category;*
- b) *A Final round with a course of four (4) boulders for each Category to be attempted on a World Cup format.*

Climbing Structure

1. Design of boulders

- Each boulder shall have a clearly marked start which shall consist of:
 - a) *Marked handhold(s) for both hands; and*
 - b) *Marked foothold(s) for both feet.*
 - c) *The use of taped "flashes" to mark as the start a blank or unbounded area of the wall is not permitted.*
 - d) *In exceptional circumstances, the starting holds may be labelled left and right to denote a specific required starting position.*
- Each boulder shall have a clearly marked finish which shall be either:
 - e) *A designated finishing hold; or*
 - f) *A defined standing position on top of the boulder.*
- Each boulder shall have a clearly marked "Bonus Hold". The positioning of this hold should aid the separation of competitors with markedly different performance and will be at the Route-Setter's discretion.
- The colours used to mark the starting position and the finishing holds shall be the same and a different colour shall be used for the bonus holds. Both colours shall be different from the colour used for. An example of these markings shall be installed within the Isolation Zone.
- The maximum number of handholds for one boulder shall be twelve (12) and the average number of handholds per boulder in any round shall be between four (4) and eight (8).



2. Safety

- Each boulder shall be designed:
 - a) *In such a way that the lowest part of the body of the competitor shall never be higher than three (3) meters above the landing mat; and*
 - b) *So as to avoid the danger of a competitor's fall injuring the competitor, or injuring or obstructing any other competitor or third party; and*
 - c) *Without any downward jumps.*
- Landing mats shall protect each boulder. It is the responsibility of the Chief Route-Setter to position the mats provided by the organiser, and to adjust the number and character of the boulders to the mats available. If mats are joined, the gaps shall be covered in order to avoid that competitors can fall in between them.

3. Personal Equipment

Competitors are not permitted to carry or use any audio listening equipment during observation or whilst climbing.

4. Safety Checks

The Jury President, the Head Judge and the Chief Route-Setter shall inspect each boulder and the safety matting for that boulder prior to the start of each round in order to ensure the maintenance of safety standards. In particular, the Head Judge and the Chief Route-Setter shall ensure that all boulders comply with the requirements of Articles 5.3.1 and 5.3.2 of the Sport Climbing Australia General Rules for Bouldering.

Scoring and Timing

The jury for each boulder shall be:

- a) *a minimum of one (1) Boulder Judge;*
- b) *In respect of the final round, ideally two Boulder Judges or a single Judge with experience (certified Judge, Head Judge or the Jury President).*

1. Scoring

- On each boulder, a 'bonus' will be awarded if the competitor controls the Bonus Hold. The 'bonus' will be awarded also where a competitor successfully completes the boulder without having controlled the Bonus Hold. The Bonus Hold shall be considered as "controlled" where a competitor has made use of the hold to achieve a stable or controlled position.



- For each competitor attempting a boulder, the Boulder Judge will record:
 - a) *The number of attempts required by that competitor to gain the bonus hold; and*
 - b) *The number of attempts required by that competitor to successfully complete the boulder.*
- For the purposes of scoring, an attempt will be counted each time a competitor:
 - a) *Starts the boulder ;*
 - b) *Touches, with hands or feet, holds other than the starting holds;*
 - c) *Adds any "tick marks"*
 - d) *Touches, with any part of the body, the mat after the climber has started.*

2. Timing

- An electronic timing system shall be used for the final round to display the climbing time remaining. The timing display(s) should show time remaining to the nearest second. The timing display(s) shall be of a number, position and size so that all competitors in the Competition Zone can see the display.
- For Finals: The beginning (and the end) of every Rotation Period in the Final rounds shall be announced by a loud and clear signal. When one minute remains of the Rotation Period, this will be announced by a clear signal. Each competitor will have 4plus minutes to climb and each finalist will get on that same climb before they get on the next climb.

3. Quota for each round

- The quota of competitors qualifying for the Final round is six (6) competitors.
- If in any Category there are two (2) Starting Groups in the Qualification round, the quota for the next round shall be equally divided and applied to both groups.
- The quota for the Final round shall be filled with the highest ranked competitors from the previous round. If the quota is exceeded as a result of tied competitors, all tied competitors shall qualify for the next round of the competition.

Starting Order

1. Qualifier (BoulderJam)

In the qualification round competitors will attempt the boulders in any order they choose.

2. Final Round



The starting order for the Final round shall be the reverse of the ranking order from the previous round, i.e. the highest ranked competitor shall start last. In the case of tied competitors from a previous round, the starting order between them shall be:

- a) *Where the tied competitors each have a Current National Ranking, in descending order of their Current National Ranking (i.e. highest ranked starts last);*
- b) *Where the tied competitors are each unranked or have the same National Ranking, randomised; and*
- c) *Where competitor(s) having a National Ranking and unranked competitor(s) are tied, the unranked competitor shall start first.*

Competition Procedure

1. Isolation Rules (only for Final)

- Once the closing time for the Isolation Zone has passed, Competitors and/or Team Officials must remain within the Isolation Zone unless otherwise instructed.

Note: Competitors/Team Officials or other persons authorised by the Jury President to enter the Isolation Zone may choose to leave the Isolation Zone at any time, but having left the Isolation Zone they may not then return once the closing time has passed, and must leave the Competition Area, unless specifically authorised to remain by the Jury President.

- Competitors shall have no knowledge of the boulders other than that obtained during the official observation period or that communicated to them by the Jury President or the judges. It is the sole responsibility of each competitor to fully inform themselves with respect to all instructions regarding the boulders. For the avoidance of doubt:
 - a) *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 Jury President;*
 - b) *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 route/boulder.*

2. Preparation prior to Climbing (only for Final)

- After having received an official instruction to leave the Isolation Zone/Warm-Up Area and proceed to the Call Zone, competitors shall not be accompanied by any person other than authorised officials.
- On arrival in the Call Zone, each competitor shall make all final preparations for their attempt, such



as putting on their climbing shoes.

- Each competitor shall be ready to leave the Call Zone and enter the Competition Zone when instructed to do so. Any undue delay in this regard may result in the issuing of a Yellow Card. Any further delay shall result in disqualification in accordance with *Disciplinary Procedures*.

3. Cleaning

- For Boulderjam: Competitors may clean holds that they can reach from the ground. Only brushes or other materials that are provided by the organisation shall be used for this purpose.
- For the final round: The Boulder Judge or organising staff shall clean all holds when deemed necessary. A competitor may also request that holds be cleaned before any attempt on the boulder. Competitors may clean holds that they can reach from the ground. Only brushes or other materials that are provided by the organisation shall be used for this purpose.

4. Qualifiers (BoulderJam)

- Climbers receive 3 hours to complete 5 specific problems, marked with tops and bonuses. Scoring and ranking is made as mention above.
- A competitor may continue an attempt after the end of the fixed climbing period if the attempt started before the end of the fixed climbing period.
- Competitors will hand their scorecard to the boulder judge. This will be placed at the back of the queue. Competitors will then wait for their signal before attempting the boulder.

5. Final round

The Final round shall take place on one (1) course of four (4) boulders for each Category. Both Categories shall normally compete simultaneously.

In the Final round, each competitor participating in the round:

- Each problem in the Final Round shall be attempt by all competitors in the prescribed order.*
- Once a competitor has finish their attempts, they shall return to a separate isolation area and the next competitor shall start their climbing time immediately.*
- Once all competitors have completed their attempts, the competitors shall move on to the next boulder as a group.*

The climbing period during the Final Round shall be four (4) minutes for each competitor. However, if a competitor begins an attempt prior the end of the climbing period, they shall be allowed to finish that attempt.



6. Tie-Break boulder

Tied competitors shall attempt a "Tie-Break" boulder:

- a) *The starting order for attempts shall be the same as that for the Final round*
- b) *The performance of each competitor shall be judged in accordance with SCA rules.*
- c) *If two or more competitors remain tied for first place after having attempted this "Tie-Break" boulder, then these competitors may make further attempts on the boulder (up to a maximum of six attempts in total).*
- d) *If a tie still exists after six (6) attempts, then the relevant competitors will be given an equal ranking.*

Observation Procedure

1. Qualifier (BoulderJam)

There shall be no separate observation period as the observation period is part of the allocated time for the boulders.

2. Final Round

- A collective observation period of two (2) minutes per boulder shall be held immediately prior to the commencement of the Final round.
- Team Officials shall not be permitted to accompany the competitors during the observation period. While in the observation area, all competitors remain under the Isolation Rules. Competitors shall remain within the designated observation zone during the observation. They are not permitted to climb on the climbing wall or stand on any equipment or furniture. They may seek clarification only from the Jury President, the Head Judge or the Boulder Judge assigned to the boulder.
- During the observation period, competitors are allowed to touch only the marked starting holds, without leaving the ground with both their feet. No recording equipment shall be permitted.

Climbing Procedure

1. The Start

- An attempt shall be deemed to have started when every part of the competitor's body has left the ground.
- Having left the ground, competitors must achieve the start position before making any other climbing movement.



- If a competitor cannot reach the starting holds from the ground, they shall be permitted to start the boulder by jumping for the starting holds.

2. Completion of Attempt

- An attempt on a boulder shall be considered successful when the Boulder Judge has announced “OK”, having determined that the competitor has either:
 - a) *Controlled the marked finishing hold of the Boulder with both hands; or*
 - b) *Where the top of the boulder is indicated, achieved a standing position on top of the boulder, in each case within any fixed time period defined for the competitor's attempts.*
- An attempt on a boulder shall be considered unsuccessful if the competitor fails to control with both hands the marked finishing hold or, if relevant, achieve a standing position on top of the boulder; or the competitor:
 - a) *Fails to start the boulder in accordance;*
 - b) *Uses any part of the wall, holds or features demarcated using continuous and clearly identifiable black tape (or if another colour is required to be used, as specified by the Jury President in a technical briefing to competitors);*
 - c) *Uses with their hands any holes provided for the placement of bolt-on holds , excluding any such hole on a bolt-on hold;*
 - d) *Uses any advertising or informatonal placard affixed to the wall, or any part of such material;*
 - e) *Uses the side edges or the top edges of the wall for climbing;*
 - f) *Touches the ground with any part of the body; or*
 - g) *If a fixed climbing period has been defined, fails to complete their attempt before the end of that period;*
- In case of infractions related to 6.9.5a) to 5.9.5.7, the Boulder Judge shall instruct the competitor to stop climbing.

Ranking after each round

- After each round of the competition, each competitor participating in that round shall be ranked within their Starting Group/Category using the following criteria:
 - a) *First, in descending order, the number of successfully completed boulders (“TOPS”) in the current round;*
 - b) *Second, in ascending order, the total number of attempts to complete these boulders;*
 - c) *Third, In descending order, the total number of bonus points gained by the competitor in the current round;*



d) Fourth, in ascending order, the total number of attempts to achieve these bonus points.

Example:

Rank	Tops	T-Attempts	Bonus Points	B-Attempts
1	4	4	5	7
2	4	5	5	6
3	4	5	4	5
4	3	3	5	5

- If a competitor eligible to participate in a round fails to start in the Final Round, they shall be ranked last in that round.
- If any competitors are tied following the ranking calculation, then the ranking of these competitors from the preceding round shall be used to break the tie (“countback”). Tied competitors shall be ranked relative to each other in ascending order of their ranking from the preceding round.
- If following the countback process any competitors remain tied:
 - a) *If such tie relates to competitors ranked equal 1st following the Final round, the relative ranking of these competitors will be determined as set out in Article 5.7.13 of the Sport Climbing Australia’s General Bouldering Rules or*
 - b) *If such tie relates to any other competitors, the relevant competitors will be given an equal ranking.*

Technical Incidents

- 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.
- The Head Judge, if necessary in consultation with the Chief Route-Setter shall make the confirmation or refusal of a Technical Incident.

1. Procedure following a Technical Incident

- 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.



- When the competitor who has suffered the Technical Incident resumes their attempts after repairing or fixing, the competitor shall be allowed the time remaining at the moment when the Technical Incident occurred, with a minimum of two (2) minutes.
- If a confirmed Technical Incident occurs during the Qualification or Semi-Final rounds:
 - a) *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:*
 - i) If the competitor chooses to continue, then the Technical Incident is finished and no further appeals shall be allowed.
 - ii) If the competitor chooses not to continue, then the competitor will resume their attempts in a Rotation Period to be decided by the Jury President.
 - b) *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:*
 - i) The Head Judge will suspend the round for the competitor who has suffered the Technical Incident and all competitors on the preceding boulders; and
 - ii) For all the other competitors, the round shall continue.
 - iii) Once the Technical Incident has been repaired or fixed, the competitor who has suffered the Technical Incident shall resume their attempts. Any other competitors whose round was suspended shall restart at the first full Rotation Period afterward.
- If a confirmed Technical Incident occurs during the Final round, the competitor suffering the Technical Incident shall return to separate isolation in the Transit Zone and await the repair. When the Technical Incident has been repaired or fixed, the affected competitor shall re-commence their attempts.

Appeals

All appeals must be submitted in writing by your team officials to the Jury President during the allocated appeals period (see timetable). All appeals must be submitted in English.

1. Safety Appeals

A Safety Appeal may be submitted if at least three different competitors are of the opinion that safety is seriously jeopardized. The Jury President shall consider the matter and, if applicable, take the necessary actions.

2. Appeals Process

- An appeal concerning the judgment of a competitor's attempt must be made immediately.
- Where such an appeal is made the affected competitor shall, if necessary, be treated as though a



- Technical Incident had occurred and Articles 5.11.5.1 and 5.11.6 of the *Sport Climbing Australia's General Bouldering Rules* shall apply. In the case of the 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.
- An appeal can only be lodged by paying the \$100 appeal fee. If the appeal is upheld, the fee will be returned.
- Any appeal against the ranking of a competitor (i.e. in relation to some error/inconsistency in the published results) must be submitted to the Jury President within fifteen (15) minutes of the publication of all Official Results for that round
- On receipt of an appeal, the Jury President shall (or, if the Jury President was involved in the original decision, the SCA Delegate shall) act immediately to address the appeal
- If the appeal concerns the Official Results, the Jury President will ensure that an announcement is made that the Official Results are "Under Appeal", noting which results are the subject of the appeal
- The Jury President (or where relevant, the SCA Delegate) 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.
- If the available evidence in relation to an appeal is inconclusive, then the original decision shall stand and the appeal fee shall be returned. In the case of written appeals, the results of the appeal shall be made in writing and handed by the Jury President to the person who officially lodged the appeal.

3. Consequences of Appeals

A decision of the Appeals Jury shall be final and not subject to further appeal.