# 2024 Speed Format - Olympic Games 

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## DISTRIBUTION

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## 1. FORMAT

1.1 Speed competitions adopting this format will be organised with two rounds:
A) A Qualification Round following a multiple-elimination tournament format; and
B) A Final Round following a single-elimination tournament format,
each round taking place on a two-lane course designed and built to the IFSC regulations governing the Speed discipline and Speed World Records.
1.2 The climbing surface, holds, auto-belay and timing systems used for any competition in this format must also be certified by the IFSC are satisfactory for the recording of World Records.

Quota:
1.3 The quotas for each round of the competition are set out below:

| Round | Type | Number |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Qualification | Fixed | 14 |
| Final | Fixed | 8 |

n.b. The number of competitors starting the Final Round cannot exceed the fixed quota

Qualification Round
1.4 The Qualification Round consists of two stages: the Qualification Seeding Heats, where competitors attempt each lane in a defined order and are ranked based on the results of their two results. The best 14 competitors at the conclusion of these heats advance to the following Qualification Elimination Heats, the winners of which advance to the Final Round, with any remaining spots going to the fastest losers.
1.5 If the number of competitors starting the Qualification Seeding Heats is ten (10) or less, no Qualification Elimination Heats will be run and the competitors ranked eight (8) or better will advance to the Final Round.

## Final Round

1.6 The Final round consists of three stages:

| Quarter Final Heats | Semi-Final Heats | Final Heats |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Four (4) heats, the winners progressing to the semifinal stage | Two (2) heats to determine participation in each Final heat | A "Small Final" to determine $3^{\text {rd }}$ and $4^{\text {th }}$ place |
|  |  | A "Big Final" to determine $1^{\text {st }}$ and $2^{\text {nd }}$ place |

## 2. STARTING ORDER AND STARTLISTS

2.1 The starting order and pairings within each round, stage and heat will be determined as set out in Annex 1 (Starting Order and Startlists).

## Qualification Round

2.2 The starting order and race pairings for each stage and heat will be published for the Qualification Round:
A) In respect of the Qualification Seeding Heats, following the confirmation of registration for the competition. Amendments to the starting list (i.e. deletions where an athlete is unable or no longer eligible to start) may be made up to one (1) hour prior to the scheduled start time for the Qualification Seeding Heats and in the event of such deletions the race pairings will be recalculated. No amendments will be made to the starting list or race pairings after this time.
B) In respect of the Qualification Elimination Heats, immediately following the publication of results for the Qualification Seeding Heats and the sentencing of any appeals in relation to the results.

## Final round

2.3 The starting order and pairings for the Final Round will be published:
A) In respect of the quarterfinal stage, immediately following the publication of results for Qualification round and the sentencing of any appeals in relation to the results. No amendments to the startling list or pairings for the quarterfinal stage of the Final round will be made where competitors are subsequently unable or no longer eligible to start.
B) In respect of each succeeding stage, immediately following the publication of results for preceding stage and the sentencing of any appeals in relation to the results

## 3. COMPETITION PROCEDURE

## General

3.1 The Qualification Round and Final Rounds of the competition may be held on the same or different days. Where held on the same day, a minimum time gap of two (2) hours should be respected between the finish of the Qualification Round for any category and the start of the Final Round for that same category.
3.2 Each route will be cleaned following:
A) the completion of the practice period, and
B) the completion of the Qualification Round for each category.
3.3 During the course of the competition, each competitor must remain in the Competition Area as directed by the Jury President.
3.4 In each round, competitors shall be afforded a minimum resting time of five (5) minutes between races other than where any race is re-run for any reason.

## Speed Practice

3.5 Competitors should be allowed a practice period ahead of the Qualification Seeding Heats. Where organised, the time and arrangements for this practice period should be set out in the Competition Instructions and confirmed at the Technical Meeting.
3.6 Where a practice period is held, competitors will be entitled to one (1) practice run on each route. Competitors should not be stopped in the event of a False Start. The practice period:
A) should include a demonstration of the false start signal and of the timing equipment; and
B) should follow the format of the Qualification Seeding Heats.

## Qualification Round

### 3.7 In the Qualification Seeding Heats:

A) Subject to paragraph (B), (C) and (D) following, each competitor may make one attempt on each lane in the order set out on the last published Starting List.
B) Competitors will be called to start in pairs. If a competitor is not in the Call Zone when called, or does not respond when called, the relevant race will proceed without that competitor.
C) In any race where a False Start is made (or a Technical Incident occurs):

1) by (or affecting) one competitor, the competitor who has not made the False Start (or who was affected by the Technical Incident) may re-run alone.
2) by (or affecting) both competitors, the race will be re-run, and in each case, the re-run should take place prior to the next scheduled race.
3.8 Qualification Elimination Heats
A) Subject to paragraph (B) and (C) following, each competitor may make one attempt in the order and on the lane set out on the Starting List.
B) Competitors will be called to each race start in pairs. If one or both competitors are not in the Call Zone when called, do not respond when called, or do not start the race, they shall be recorded as "Did Not Start" or "DNS". The starting competitor (if any) will be declared the winner and no race will be run. The competitor(s) recorded as
C) In any race where a False Start is made (as determined under paragraph 5.5):
3) by one competitor, the competitor who has not made the False Start will be deemed the winner and the competitor making the False Start the loser and no race will be run.
4) by both competitors, the race will be re-run prior to the next scheduled race.
D) In any race where a Technical Incident occurs, the relevant race will be re-run prior to the next scheduled race.

## Final Round

3.9 Final round:
A) The Final Round will take place as a series of stages, each consisting of a number of "Duel" races where the winner of each race in any stage proceeds forward to the next stage. Subject to paragraph (B) and (C) following, each competitor may make attempts in the order and on the lanes set out on the Starting Lists for each stage. A presentation of all Semi-Finalists will be made before the first Semi-Final race.
B) Competitors will be called to start each race in pairs. If one or both competitors are not in the Call Zone when called, do not respond when called, or do not start the race, they shall be recorded as "Did Not Start" or "DNS" and will not be eligible to start in any subsequent stage/heat. The starting competitor (if any) will be declared the winner and no race will be run.
C) In any race where a False Start is made (as determined under paragraph 5.5):

1) by one competitor, the competitor who has not made the False Start will be deemed the winner and the competitor making the False Start the loser and, with the exception of the Big Final only, no race will be run. If a False Start occurs in the Big Final, the winning competitor may be offered the option to run alone.
2) by both competitors, the race will be re-run prior to the next scheduled race.
D) In any race where a Technical Incident occurs, the relevant race will be re-run prior to the next scheduled race.

## 4. CLIMBING PROCEDURE

4.1 All races shall be started with a clearly audible signal initiated by an assigned Starter, who will not be an IFSC Official. The source of the starting signal should be positioned as near possible equidistant from both competitors.
4.2 Each race shall use a common starting protocol:
A) On being called to the start of a route, each competitor will promptly position the starting pad as appropriate for their preferred starting position. During this period competitors may touch (only) the first holds on the route and must remain on the ground;
B) Having prepared the starting pad each competitor will present themselves to the belayer, who shall confirm that:

1) the competitor's harness is properly fastened; and
2) the competitor's harness is safely connected to the automatic belay system or toprope.
C) Following (B), each competitor should take up an assembly position as designated by the Starter, not more than two (2) meters in front of and facing away from the wall.
D) At the command 'At your marks', each competitor will without delay take a position with both hands and one foot on their preferred starting holds, and one foot on the starting pad.
E) Once all competitors are motionless in their starting positions, the Starter shall announce 'Ready', and initiate the timing system.
F) If for any reason following the command 'At your marks' but prior to the Starter announcing 'Ready':
3) the Starter is not satisfied that the race can proceed; or
4) a competitor raises a hand to indicate that they are not ready to start,
the Starter shall order all competitors to return to the assembly position.
If a competitor fails to comply with (A) through (D), or by any action disturbs other competitors, the Starter shall order all competitors to return to the assembly position. The Jury President may issue a Yellow Card to the offending competitor.
4.3 In any race where one or both competitors make a False Start, then in addition to any recall signal made by the timing system, the Starter shall also declare "Stop!" as soon as possible. A competitor ignoring the recall signal will not be given any additional time to recuperate ahead of any re-run.
4.4 A competitor who falls/slips in the course of an race may attempt to complete the race. The IFSC Judge will make a determination in this case whether any time recorded by the competitor is a "Valid Time" or a whether the competitor's result should be recorded as a "Fall".

## 5. JUDGING AND SCORING

## Valid \& Invalid Results

5.1 A competitor's attempt in any race will be recorded as either:
A) A Valid Result, where the competitor records a Valid Time, a Fall or makes a False Start; or
B) An Invalid Result where the competitor:

1) is recorded as "Did Not Start" or "DNS"; or
2) is the subject of a technical disqualification during the course of the race ("Disqualified" or "DSQ"); or
3) is disqualified for non-technical reasons prior to (or where the relevant race is the last race during which they are scheduled to participate in any round, following) the race ("Disqualified for Behaviour" or "DQB").

## Valid Times, Falls \& False Starts

5.2 A Valid Time will be recorded where the relevant competitor has struck the top timing pad/switch with either hand and stopped the timer.
5.3 Valid Times are measured as the period between the Starting Signal and the time at which the timer is stopped and will be measured and recorded to an accuracy of at least $1 / 1000$ s; and displayed rounded down to the nearest $1 / 100$ s other than where necessary to show a tie-break.
n.b. A Valid Time cannot be recorded in a race where any competitor records a False Start.
5.4 A "Fall" will be recorded where the relevant competitor, in the course of an attempt, either:
A) strikes the top timing pad/switch with either hand but fails to stop the timer;
B) falls/slips and arrests any fall/slip other than using the highest hold Controlled/Used prior to the fall/slip;
C) uses the side edges or the top edges of the wall for climbing; or
D) touches the ground with any part of the body after having started.
5.5 A "False Start" will be recorded where, following the Starter declaring 'Ready!':
A) one competitor records a Reaction Time less than 0.100 s , that competitor shall be recorded as having made a False Start;
B) both competitors record a Reaction Time less than 0.100 s , the competitor with the lowest (fastest) Reaction Time shall be recorded as having made the False Start.
n.b. where both competitors in a race record the same sub-0.100s Reaction Time, no result will be recorded for either competitor and the race will be re-run.

## Duel Races

5.6 Where any heat is run as a duel (i.e. any Qualification Elimination Heat or any heat in the Final Round), the result of each race (including any race re-run in accordance with paragraphs Error! R
eference source not found., 3.9 or 5.5 ) will be determined as follow:
A) Where one or both competitors are not in the Call Zone when called, do not respond when called, or do not start the race, they shall be recorded as "Did Not Start" or "DNS". The starting competitor (if any) will be declared the winner.
B) Where one competitor is determined to have made a False Start in accordance with paragraph 5.5, the competitor who has not made the False Start will be deemed the winner and the competitor making the False Start the loser.
C) Where both competitors have made a valid start:

1) the competitor who records the fastest (or only) Valid Time will be deemed the winner and the other competitor the loser;
2) if both competitors each record the same Valid Time or Fall, the tie will be broken as set out in paragraphs 5.7 to 5.9.
5.7 Where in any heat run as a duel the two competitors each record the same Valid Time or Fall, the heat will be re-run and the winner determined from the result of this re-run.
5.8 Where any heat re-run under paragraph 5.7 fails to produce a winner, the winner will be determined by comparing the two competitors' fastest recorded times in the competition (excluding practice times). If the competitors have the same fastest time, their second best result will be compared and the winner determined from that. In all case the faster competitor (or if only one competitor has a Valid Time, that competitor) will be deemed the winner and the other competitor the loser.
5.9 Where any heat re-run under paragraph 5.7 fails to produce a winner and a winner cannot be determined under paragraph 5.8, then:
A) where the heat is not a medal heat, the winner will be the competitor with the better Olympic Seeding;
B) where the heat is a medal heat, the two competitors will remain tied.

## 6. RANKING

## General Ranking:

6.1 The General Ranking shall be determined in the order following:
A) competitors having a Final ranking, in that order; and
B) competitors not having a Final ranking, in order of their Qualification ranking,
where any stage in the Final round is cancelled, the competition will be considered concluded and the General Ranking will be calculated after the last completed stage, the race winners in the last completed stage being ranked relative to each other by comparing the times recorded by each competitor through the competition (excluding practice times).
6.2 Any competitor Disqualified for Behaviour during the competition period, or disqualified at, or in relation to any breach of the WADA Code only, following the relevant competition will be unranked in the General Ranking and their result marked with the appropriate Invalid Results Mark:

## Final ranking:

6.3 Any competitor who fails or is ineligible to start their Quarter-Final race will be unranked in the Final and their result marked Did Not Start or with another appropriate IRM.
6.4 Competitors starting the round, will be ranked in the round in order of the last stage in which they competed and within each stage in the following order:
A) The race winners in that stage as determined in accordance with paragraphs 5.6(A) through (C) ahead of;
B) The race losers in that stage as determined in accordance with paragraph 5.6(B) or (C), ahead of;
C) any competitors recorded as "DNS" in accordance with paragraph 5.6(A),
and within each of $(A),(B)$ and $(C)$, ranked relative to each other by comparing the competitors' fastest recorded times in the competition (excluding practice times). If the competitors have the same fastest time, their second best result will be compared and their relative ranking determined from that.

## Qualification ranking

6.5 Competitors starting the round will be ranked in the round in the order following:
A) Any competitors with a ranking from the Qualification Elimination Heats, in order of their ranking from those heats; followed by
B) Any competitors with a ranking from the Qualification Seeding Heats who did not start in the Qualification Elimination Heats, in order of that ranking.

### 6.6 Qualification Elimination Heats

A) Any competitor who fails or is ineligible to start their heat will be unranked within the Qualification Elimination Heats and their result marked Did Not Start or with another appropriate IRM.
B) Any competitor starting their heat will be ranked in the order following:

1) each race winner as determined in accordance with paragraphs $5.6(\mathrm{~A})$ through (C), ranked relative to each other by comparing each competitors' recorded times in the competition;
2) each race loser as determined in accordance with paragraph 5.6(B) or (C), ranked relative to each other by comparing each competitors' recorded times in the competition,
and in each case, comparisons of time will including times recorded in both Qualification Seeding Heats and Qualification Elimination Heats, but exclude practice times.

### 6.7 Qualification Seeding Heats:

A) A competitor will be unranked in the Qualification Seeding Heats where, following the completion of all Seeding Heats:

1) they have failed to record a Valid Result in at least one race; or
2) they are "Disqualified for Behaviour" during prior to the publication of the Official Results for the Qualification Seeding Heats.
B) Subject to (A) above, competitors who record a Valid Result in either or both of their races will be ranked as follow:
3) any competitors who (i) have not recorded a False Start in a race and (ii) have recorded at least one Valid Time, ranked in ascending order of their best (or only) time, measured to $1 / 1000$ s. Where two (or more) competitors have the same best Valid Time, their relative ranking will be determined as follow:
a) where the competitors have a second Valid Time, by comparison of these times;
b) where a competitor has a second Valid Time, ranked ahead of a competitor with no second Valid Time;
c) where no competitor has a second Valid Time, ranking competitors who have recorded two results ahead of any having recorded only one result.
4) after (1), equal, any competitors who:
a) have started at least one race; and
b) have not recorded a False Start in any race; and
c) have recorded no Valid Time (e.g., have recorded a "Fall" in one or both races) ranking competitors who have recorded two results ahead of any having recorded only one result,
5) after (2), any competitors who recorded a False Start in one or both races. Where multiple competitors have recorded a False Start, their relative ranking will be determined as follow:
a) where the competitors have a Valid Time, by comparison of these times;
b) where a competitor has a Valid Time, ahead of a competitor with no Valid Time;
c) where no competitor has a Valid Time, ranked in the order following:
i) any competitors whose second result is a Fall;
ii) any competitors whose second result is a False Start;
iii) any competitors who have recorded only one result
C) if, following the above ranking procedure, the quota for the Qualification Elimination Heats is exceeded because of ties, any such ties will be broken comparing the Olympic Seeding for the tied competitors.

## ANNEX 1 - STARTING ORDER \& STARTLISTS

## 1. QUALIFICATION ROUND

1.1 The pairings for the Qualification Seeding Heats will be determined as follow:
D) the starting order for Lane A will be determined by random selection; and
E) the starting order for Lane B, will follow the same order as Lane A with a stagger of $50 \%$. e.g. where the Starting List includes 20 or 21 competitors, the competitor starting 11th on Lane A will start 1st on Lane B,
race pairings being set by the starting order.
1.2 Where any competitor on the startlist becomes ineligible or fails to start a scheduled race, the other competitor will race alone.
1.3 The pairings for the Qualification Elimination Heats will be as set out in Table 1 (Qualification Elimination Heats) of this Annex 1, which also sets out the lane allocations for each heat.
1.4 Where any competitor on the startlist becomes ineligible or fails to start a scheduled race, the other competitor will climb alone.

## 2. FINAL ROUND

2.1 The final round takes the form of a "single elimination tournament" with competitors facing off against each other in a bracket structure. Each stage of the round eliminates half of the competitors in that stage.
2.2 The pairings for the quarterfinal stage of the Final round will be as set out in Table 2 (Final round) of this Annex 1, which also sets out the lane allocation for each heat. This table also shows the pairings and lane allocations for each subsequent heat with the Final round.

## Table 1

## Qualification Round

|  | A | Qualifier \#1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | B | Qualifier \#14 |



|  | A | Qualifier \#4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | B | Qualifier \#11 |


|  | A | Qualifier \#5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 5 | B | Qualifier \#10 |


$\begin{array}{ll}\text { A } & \text { Qualifier \#7 } \\ \text { B } & \text { Qualifier \#8 }\end{array}$

Note 1. Race Pairs for the Qualification Elimination Heats will be determined by the ranking of the competitors following the Qualification Seeding Heats. e.g. Heat \#1 will pair the competitor ranked $1^{\text {st }}$ following the Qualification Seeding Heats with the competitor ranked $14^{\text {th }}$ following the Qualification Seeding Heats.

Note 2. Where two or more competitors are ranked equal following the Qualification Seeding Heats, the competitors will be paired for the Qualification Elimination Heats based on their Olympic Seeding. e.g. if two competitors are tied in $9^{\text {th }}$ place following the Qualification Seeding Heats, the competitor with the better Olympic Seeding will be assigned to Heat \#6 (Lane B) and the competitor with the worse Olympic Seeding to Heat \#5 (Lane B).

Note 3. Where less than 14 competitors have a ranking following the Qualification Seeding Heats, the affected heat of the Qualification Elimination Heats will be skipped and the other competitor recorded as the winner. e.g. if only 13 competitors are ranked, Heat \#1 of the Qualification Elimination Heats will be recorded as a "bye" with competitor \#1 recorded as the winner and no race will be run.

Note 4. If a competitor scheduled to start the Qualification Elimination Heats becomes ineligible or fails to start, the affected heat will be skipped (the race will not be run) and the other competitor recorded as the winner. The non-starting competitor will be eliminated from the competition and ineligible to start the Final round. e.g. if the competitor ranked \#5 following the Qualification Seeding Heats fails to start, race \#5 of the Qualification Elimination Heats will be recorded as a "bye" with competitor \#10 recorded as the winner.

## Table 2

Final Round


Note 1. The eight (8) highest ranked competitors from the Qualification Elimination Heats will be qualified for the Final round.

Note 2. Pairings for the quarterfinal heats of the Final round will be determined from the fastest time recorded by each qualified competitor during the Qualification Round of the competition (i.e. including times recorded in both the Qualification Elimination Heats and Qualification Seeding Heats), irrespective of the ranking of the competitor.

Note 3. Where two or more competitors have recorded the same fastest time during the Qualification round of the competition (measured to $1 / 1000$ s), their race pairing for the quarterfinal heats of the Final round will be determined by their second fastest time from the Qualification Round (measured to $1 / 1000$ s). If still tied following this comparison of times, competitors will be assigned to a quarterfinal heat based on their Olympic Seeding. e.g. if two competitors have the $6^{\text {th }}$ fastest time following the Qualification round, and have the same or no second time, the competitor with the better Olympic Seeding will be assigned to Heat \#4 and the competitor with the worse Olympic Seeding to Heat \#3.

Note 4. Pairings for Heats 5 through 8 will be determined by the outcome of the preceding heats.

## ANNEX 2 - SPEED RECORDS

## 3. SPEED RECORDS

3.1 The IFSC recognises World, Olympic and Continental speed records for the following Categories:
A) Men (aged 16 or over in the year of the event)
B) Women (aged 16 or over in the year of the event)
3.2 A record may be set only during scoring races (i.e. not during any practice period or any race which is abandoned or cancelled) and where:
A) the Climbing Surface, Artificial Holds, timing and auto-belay systems have been certified by the IFSC to meet the requirements for a world record;
B) the competition has been designated, in advance, by the IFSC Sport Department as a "Record Event";
C) a Jury President has been appointed by the IFSC Sport Department; and
D) the Event Organiser has provided for anti-doping tests on any competitor recording a time lower than or equal to the current record in compliance with the national regulations governing international sport in their country, the World Anti-Doping Code, the IFSC AntiDoping Policy and Procedure and the IFSC Disciplinary Rules.
3.3 IFSC speed records are recorded and displayed rounded down to 0.010 s in order to allow comparison between times recorded in different competitions and on different climbing structures, recognising the temporary nature of the structures and allowed build tolerances.
3.4 Subject to article 2 above, when a record-setting time is first recorded:
A) the time will be designated as a record and the Jury President will record the competition, the round in which the race took place, the name, category and nationality of the competitor and the date/time of the race;
B) if multiple competitors in the same race each record a record-setting time:

1) where the relevant competitors record different times when measured to the nearest $1 / 1000$ s, the record will be held by the race-winning competitor; or
2) where the relevant competitors record the same time when measured to the nearest $1 / 1000$ s, the record will he held jointly by each of the competitors,
3.5 A record-setting time may be invalidated where either:
A) the timing system in use is ruled faulty during the course of the competition; or
B) no anti-doping test is performed on or reported for the relevant competitor;
C) the relevant competitor is Disqualified or Disqualified for Behaviour at the relevant competition, or
D) the relevant competitor is disqualified at, or in relation to any breach of the WADA Code only, following the relevant competition.

## ANNEX 3 - TECHNICAL INCIDENTS \& APPEALS

## 1. TECHNICAL INCIDENTS

1.1 Only Official Video Recordings, and at the discretion of the Jury President any official IFSC broadcast video recording, shall be used for the purposes of determining Technical Incidents and Appeals. The Official Video Recordings must as a minimum record:
A) the starting position for both lanes;
B) the top timing pad/switch for both lanes; and
C) the attempt of each pair of competitors in each race.
1.2 A Technical Incident:
A) in relation to a competitor's attempt, they must notified to the Jury President by either the affected competitor or a relevant team official before the start of the next race. No Technical Incident may be awarded where notification is made after the Starter has called 'At your marks' for the next following race.
B) in relation to the performance of the timing system may be made only in relation to some evident or systematic error.
1.3 The Jury President shall determine whether a Technical Incident has occurred:
A) in order to make this determination, the Jury President may as necessary:

1) review the official video recordings;
2) require the timing system (or any part of the system) to be tested.
B) where a Technical Incident is confirmed and:
3) can be remedied and is considered to have affected a single race, the competitors directly affected by the failure shall re-run their attempts; or
4) cannot be remedied or is considered to have affected all competitors in the relevant stage, the Jury President shall either:
a) cancel the affected and all subsequent stages; or
b) abandon and restart the stage

## 2. APPEALS

2.1 No Appeal may be made in relation to the validity of a Reaction Time recorded by an automatic timing system approved by the IFSC.
2.2 An Appeal concerning:
A) the judgment of:

1) a competitor's attempt in any race; or
2) the result of any race in the Qualification Elimination Heats or the Final round,
must be made before the start of the next race. No Appeal may be awarded where

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notification is made after the Starter has called 'At your marks' for the next following race. The next race shall not start before the appeal has been decided. Such appeals may be made verbally and no Appeal Fee will be applicable.
B) the published result or ranking of a competitor, must be made in writing and:

1) in respect of any appeal concerning the Qualification Seeding Heats, within five (5) minutes of the publication of the Official Results; or
2) in respect of the Qualification Elimination Heats or the Final round, upon publication of the relevant result/ranking.
