

RULE 2018/2019
EUROPEAN CLIMBING
COMPETITIONS

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1. GENERAL

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 The European Council is responsible for and shall approve the following competitions:

- (a) the European Championships;
- (b) the European Cup series of competitions;
- (c) the European Youth Championships;
- (d) the European Youth Cup series of competitions.

1.2 Applicability

1.2.1 All competitions organised by the European Council shall adopt the IFSC Rules for International Competition Climbing (the “**IFSC Rules**”) as modified by this document. The analogous provisions of the IFSC Rules shall be as follow:

European Event	Corresponding IFSC Event
European Championship	World Championship
European Youth Championship	Youth World Championship
European Cup	World Cup
European Youth Cup	World Cup

1.2.1 In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this document and the IFSC Rules, the provisions of this document shall take precedence.

1.2.2 Terms used in these rules shall have the meanings given to them within the IFSC Rules and as set out in Annex 1 of this document.

1.2.3 Where some matter concerning the organisation or conduct of a competition is not specified in either the IFSC Rules or these rules, a decision of the European Council Board shall determine the matter.

1.3 Eligibility

1.3.1 The competitions governed by this document shall be open only to competitors who are nationals of countries whose National Federations are members of the European Council (“**Member Federations**”).

1.3.2 Member Federations may register a national team of competitors and officials as set out in sections 5 to 8 of this document.

1.3.3 All competitors and officials proposed for registration by a Member Federation:

- (a) must be in possession of a valid international licence;
- (b) must be registered within the deadlines published for the competition (or where no such deadlines are published, at least 5 days prior to the first day of the event), and
- (c) must be registered through the IFSC web service.

1.3.4 Registered team officials and competitors shall be afforded free entry to the competition venue.

1.4 **Competition Officials**

1.4.1 Unless otherwise specified in these rules:

- (a) The Jury President shall be an International Judge. All tasks normally performed by the IFSC Judge shall be the responsibility of the Jury President when there is no IFSC Judge appointed to the competition
- (b) The Appeals Jury shall consist of the Jury President and a national judge not involved in the matter under appeal. The Jury President shall take the final decision.
- (c) The Chief Route Setter must be an International Route Setter.

DISCIPLINE RULES

2. BOULDER CONTEST FORMAT

- 2.1 The Contest Format is a fixed period, limited attempts, “flash” format, conducted without demonstration.
- 2.2 Each course shall consist of eight (8) boulders, which shall be numbered from 1 to 8 in approximate order of difficulty, e.g. 1/2 = Soft, 3/4/5 = Medium, 6/7/8 = Hard.
- 2.3 The climbing time for any round shall be determined as follow:

Number of Competitors	Climbing Time
0 - 30	105
31 – 35	115
36 – 40	125
41 - 45	135

An additional 10 minutes shall be allocated for each increment of five 5 competitors.

- 2.4 The start and end of the climbing time shall be announced by a loud signal. The end of the round shall be preceded by a warning signal when one minute of time remains.
- 2.5 Boulders may be marked using a single colour of holds and shall be marked accordingly where this is the case, any holds in a different colour shall be considered for judging purposes as if demarcated as ‘out of bounds’. Colour-blind competitors must be identified as such to the European Council and to the Event Organiser prior to the registration deadline for the competition.
- 2.6 Competitors may attempt the boulders in any order, and shall indicate which boulder they intend to attempt by handing their scorecard to the relevant Boulder Judge. Competitors shall attempt the boulder in the order in which their scorecards are handed to the Boulder Judge. If a competitor is not ready to attempt a boulder when called by the Boulder Judge, the relevant competitor shall be reassigned to climb last on that boulder. Each competitor shall make no more than five (5) attempts on each boulder.
- 2.7 If a technical incident occurs affecting any boulder:
- 2.7.1 the boulders affected by a technical incident shall be closed until the incident is cured.
- 2.7.2 any competitor directly affected by the technical incident shall have the relevant attempt discounted. e.g. if a technical incident occurs on the competitor’s 1st attempt on the relevant boulder, their attempt following restoration of the boulder shall be treated as their 1st attempt.
- 2.7.3 If the restoration time is less than or equal to 10 minutes, the affected boulders shall be re-opened and no additional time allocated. If the restoration time is more than 10 minutes, the relevant boulders shall be cancelled, unless such cancellation would result in the course comprising less than 6 boulders. (2019) In such circumstances, the duration of the round shall be extended by the amount by which the restoration time exceeds 10 minutes.

3. LEAD FORMAT

- 3.1 Lead competitions subject to these rules shall be staged on either indoor or outdoor (sheltered) walls. The minimum height of the wall shall be 10 metres, and the minimum length of the routes shall be 15 metres.

4. **SPEED FORMAT**

4.1 **European Speed Records**

- 4.1.1 The European Council recognises European Speed Records for competitors who are or will be at least 16 years of age in the year of the competition.
- 4.1.2 European Speed Records may be set during any event governed by these rules, any IFSC World Cup, World Championship and/or any Youth World Championship, in each case subject to the conditions set out in articles 10.1.3 and 10.3.2 of the IFSC Rules.

EVENT RULES

5. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 In accordance with the Statutes of the IFSC, the European Council:

- (a) should organise a European Championship (ECH) every second, odd-numbered, year. e.g. 2017, 2019, 2021; and
- (b) shall be entirely responsible for the organisation of the European Championship.

5.1.2 Each European Championship should include competitions in the following disciplines:

- (a) Boulder;
- (b) Lead
- (c) Speed;
- (d) Combined,

any of which may be organised as separate events.

5.1.3 European Championship competitions should take place during weekend periods. The maximum duration of a European Championship shall be:

Number of disciplines	Maximum duration (days)
1	2
2	5
3	TBA
4	TBA

5.1.4 The competitors ranked first, second and third in each Category and discipline shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. The competitors ranked first in each Category and discipline shall be awarded a European Championship trophy.

5.1.5 Where no European Championship competition in the Combined discipline is held, an overall ranking shall be prepared of all competitors who have started in the European Championship competitions for Boulder, Lead and Speed disciplines in each Category. The competitors ranked first, second and third in these overall rankings shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. In addition, the competitors ranked first within this overall shall be awarded an Overall European Championship trophy.

5.2 Registration Quota

5.2.1 Each European Championship competition shall include Categories for male and female competitors who are or will be at least 16 years of age in the year of the competition.

5.2.2 Member Federations may register as competitors:

- (a) any current adult/youth World/European Champions (who shall be registered for the discipline in which they are champion) and any current adult/youth Overall World/European Champions; and in addition

(b) up to five (5) competitors in each Category for each relevant discipline.

5.2.3 Where either:

(a) no European Championship competition in the Combined discipline is held; or

(b) one or more rounds in any of the Boulder, Lead or Speed competitions form part of the Combined competition,

the European Council may specify an Additional Quota for the Boulder, Lead and Speed competitions. Competitors registered within this Additional Quota who do not compete in all three of these competitions shall be disqualified.

5.3 **Anti-doping tests**

5.3.1 Anti-Doping tests shall, in all cases, be administered for the winners in each discipline of the competition.

6. **EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS**

6.1 **Introduction**

6.1.1 In accordance with the Statutes of the IFSC, the European Council:

- (a) should organise a European Youth Championship (EYCH) every year; and
- (b) shall be entirely responsible for the organization of the European Youth Championship.

6.1.2 EYCH competitions should take place between the first weekend of March and the last weekend of November, excluding

- (a) the two last weekends of June; and
- (b) the two first weekends of September

6.1.3 EYCH competitions should take place during weekend periods.

- (a) The maximum duration of a European Youth Championship shall be:

Number of disciplines	Maximum duration (days)
1	3
2	5
3	TBA
4	TBA

- (b) special consideration shall be given to determining the dates of such competitions in order to minimise problems associated with attendance at educational institutions.

6.1.4 Each EYCH should include competitions in the following disciplines:

- (a) Boulder;
- (b) Lead;
- (c) Speed;
- (d) Combined,

any of which may be organised as separate events.

6.2 **Registration and quotas**

6.2.1 Each EYCH shall include Categories for male and female competitors in the Youth B, Youth A, and Junior age groups.

6.2.2 Member Federations may register, within statutory deadlines, team officials for one of the following roles:

- (a) One (1) Head of Delegation
- (b) Up to three (3) coaches per discipline;
- (c) Up to three (3) qualified medical or para-medical personnel.

6.2.3 Member Federations may register as competitors:

- (a) any current adult/youth World/European Champions (who shall be registered for the discipline in which they are champion) and any current adult/youth Overall World/European Champions; and in addition
- (b) up to four (4) competitors for each Category in each relevant discipline.

6.2.4 Where for any Category:

- (a) no EYCH competition in the Combined discipline is held; or
- (b) one or more rounds in any of the Boulder, Lead or Speed competitions form part of the Combined competition,

the European Council may specify an Additional Quota for the Boulder, Lead and Speed competitions. Competitors registered within this Additional Quota who do not compete in all three of these competitions shall be disqualified.

6.2.5 The Event Organiser's entry fees shall not exceed €25 per competitor per discipline. In addition, each Member Federation registering a team for the EYCH shall pay an annual fee and an individual fee per competitor per discipline in accordance with the European Council fee system.

6.3 **Rankings, medals and prizes**

6.3.1 The competitors ranked first, second and third in each Category and discipline shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. The competitors ranked first in each Category and discipline shall be awarded a European Youth Championship trophy.

6.3.2 Where no European Championship competition in the Combined discipline is held for any age group, an overall ranking shall be prepared for of all competitors in the relevant Categories who have started in each of the European Youth Championship competitions for Boulder, Lead and Speed disciplines. The competitors ranked first, second and third in this overall ranking shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively.

6.4 **Competition Formats**

General

6.4.1 The closing time for isolation for any final round may be greater than one hour before the start of the round if a final route is used by several Categories.

Boulder

6.4.2 EYCH Boulder competitions shall take place over:

- (a) (2018) two rounds, qualification and a final (with a fixed quota of 6 competitors in each Category).
- (b) (2019) three rounds, a qualification, and semi-final/final (with respective fixed quotas of 20 and 6 competitors in each Category).

6.4.3 The qualification round for each Category shall be organised in the Contest Format described in Section 2 (*Boulder Contest Format*) of these rules.

6.4.4 The semi-final and final rounds shall be organised in the format specified within the IFSC Rules of a World Cup competition for such rounds.

Lead

6.4.5 EYCH Lead competitions shall be conducted in accordance with the relevant IFSC Rules for World Cup competitions.

Speed

6.4.6 EYCH Speed competitions shall take place over two rounds, other than where the number of competitors register in a Category is less than four (4).

6.4.7 Competitors may make one false start within the qualification round. Competitors making a false start shall be recorded as having no valid time for the relevant race.

6.4.8 Subject to paragraph 8.7.1, the final round for each Category shall have a fixed quota of:

- (a) Eight (8), where the number of competitors completing the qualification round is eight (8) or more;
- (b) Four (4), where the number of competitors completing the qualification round is less than eight (8). If less than four competitors complete the qualification round, the round shall be repeated (once only), and if less than four competitors complete the qualification round, following this repeat, no final shall be held.

6.5 Anti-doping tests

6.5.1 Anti-Doping tests shall, in all cases, be administered for the winners of the Junior Category in each discipline of the competition.

6.5.2 Anti-Doping tests should, where practical and in addition to the tests prescribed in rule 6.5.1, be administered within each discipline for:

- (a) at least three (3) finalists chosen at random (excluding the winners) from the six Categories, or
- (b) at least two (2) winners from the Youth A and Youth B Categories, chosen at random.

7. EUROPEAN YOUTH CUPS

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 In accordance with the Statutes of the IFSC, the European Council shall organise a European Youth Cup series of competitions (EYC) every year.

7.1.2 Each EYC competition shall take place between the first weekend of March and the last weekend of November, excluding

- (a) the two last weekends of June; and
- (b) the two first weekends of September.

7.1.3 Each EYC should include competitions in the following disciplines:

- (a) Boulder (which should be held in the period March to July);
- (b) Lead (which should be held in the period July to November); and
- (c) Speed.

7.1.4 Each EYC competition shall not last longer than two (2) days, during weekends and preferably during holiday periods:

- (a) whenever possible, EYC competitions should be completed in one and a half days and end before 16.00 on the Sunday.
- (b) Event Organisers shall declare on the information sheet for the competition if the competition is planned to finish after 16.00 on the Sunday.
- (c) The qualification rounds shall be organised on the Saturday, the final rounds shall be organised on the Sunday.

7.1.5 The European Council may, in any year, nominate one EYC competition as a test event for new rules formats. Such nomination shall be made prior to the commencement of the season and not less than three months in advance of that competition.

7.2 Registration and quotas

7.2.1 Each EYC competition shall include Categories for male and female competitors in the Youth B, Youth A, and Junior age groups.

7.2.2 Member Federations may register, within statutory deadlines, team officials for one of the following roles:

- (a) One (1) Head of Delegation
- (b) Up to three (3) coaches per discipline;
- (c) Up to three (3) qualified medical or para-medical personnel.

7.2.3 Member Federations may register as competitors:

- (a) any current adult/youth World/European Champions (who shall be registered for the discipline in which they are champion) and any current adult/youth Overall World/European Champions;
- (b) up to four (4) competitors for each Category in each relevant discipline; and
- (c) the host federation shall be entitled to register an additional two (2) competitors in each Category for each relevant discipline.

7.2.4 The Event Organiser's entry fees shall not exceed €20 per competitor per discipline. In addition, each Member federation registering a team within the European Youth Cup shall pay an annual fee and an individual fee per competitor per event in accordance with the European Council fee system

7.3 **Rankings, medals and prizes**

Competition Rankings, medals and prizes

7.3.1 On completion of an EYC competition:

- (a) The competitors ranked first, second and third in each Category and discipline shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively.
- (b) The competitors ranked first in each Category and discipline shall be awarded a competition trophy.
- (c) A National Team Ranking shall be calculated for each discipline of the competition. The National Team Ranking shall be calculated by aggregating the ranking points (as set out in article 11.7.2 of the IFSC Rules) awarded to the best competitor from that team in each Category. No podium ceremony shall be organised for the National Team Ranking.

Cup Rankings, medals and prizes

7.3.2 Cup Rankings shall be calculated separately for each discipline and Category where at least three (3) EYC competitions (including for this purpose, any EYCH held in that discipline) have been held in that year:

- (a) The competitors ranked first, second and third in each Category and discipline shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively.
- (b) The competitors ranked first in each Category and discipline shall be awarded a competition trophy.

7.3.3 The Cup Rankings proposed in paragraph 7.3.2 shall be calculated using the methodology set out in the IFSC Rules for the calculation of World Cup rankings, with the following adaptations:

- (a) When three (3) EYC competitions (including, where necessary, any EYCH competition in that discipline) are organised, all results shall be counted;
- (b) When more than three (3) EYC competitions are organised (**excluding** any EYCH competition in that discipline), the number of counting results shall be the number of competitions less one (1).

7.3.4 Overall Cup Rankings shall be calculated for each Category by summing the ranking points awarded to each competitor in all disciplines in which that competitor has participated. The maximum number of counting results shall be two (2) in each discipline. Where any competitor has more than two (2) results in any discipline, the competitor's worst results shall not be counted.

7.3.5 Any tie for first place in the Cup Rankings at the end of the season shall be resolved in accordance with the IFSC Rules for World Cup rankings.

7.4 Competition Formats

General

7.4.1 The closing time for isolation for any final round may be greater than one hour before the start of the round if a final route is used by several Categories.

Boulder

7.4.2 Competitions shall take place over two rounds.

7.4.3 The qualification round for each Category shall be organised in the Contest Format described in Section 2 (*Boulder Contest Format*) of these rules.

7.4.4 The final round for each Category shall have a fixed quota of ten (10) competitors and shall be organised in the format specified within the IFSC Rules for the semi-final round of a World Cup competition.

7.4.5 The closing time for isolation for the final round may be greater than one hour before the start of the round if any boulders in that round are used by several Categories.

Lead

7.4.6 Competitions shall take place over two rounds.

7.4.7 The qualification round for each Category:

- (a) (2018): may be held with either one or two starting groups, each starting group competing on two routes.
- (b) (2019): should be held with two starting groups, each starting group competing on two routes.

7.4.8 The final round for each Category shall have a fixed quota of ten (10) competitors.

Speed

7.4.9 Competitions shall take place over two rounds, other than where the number of competitors register in a Category is less than four (4).

7.4.10 Competitors may make one false start within the qualification round. Competitors making a false start shall be recorded as having no valid time for the relevant race.

7.4.11 Subject to paragraph 7.4.9, the final round for each Category shall have a fixed quota of:

- (a) Eight (8), where the number of competitors completing the qualification round is eight (8) or more;
- (b) Four (4), where the number of competitors completing the qualification round is less than eight (8). If in any Category, less than four competitors have at least one valid time from the qualification round, the relevant qualification round shall be repeated (once only). If, following this repeated qualification less than four competitors have at least one valid time, no final shall be held for that Category.

7.5 **Anti-doping tests**

7.5.1 Anti-Doping tests should, where practical, be administered within each discipline of the competition. The recommended test regime is as follow:

- (a) at least three (3) finalists chosen at random (excluding the winners) from the six Categories, or
- (b) at least three (3) winners from the six Categories, chosen by random.

8. EUROPEAN CUPS

8.1 INTRODUCTION

8.1.1 In accordance with the Statutes of the IFSC, the European Council may organise a European Cup series of competitions (EC) every year.

8.1.2 Each EC competition shall take place between the first weekend of May and the last weekend of November, excluding

- (a) the two last weekends of June; and
- (b) the two first of September.

8.1.3 Each EC may include competitions in the following disciplines:

- (a) Boulder;
- (b) Lead; and
- (c) Speed.

8.1.4 Each EC competition shall not last longer than two (2) days, during weekends.

- (a) Whenever possible, EC competitions should be completed in one and a half days and end before 16.00 on the Sunday.
- (b) Event Organisers shall declare on the information sheet for the competition if the competition is planned to finish after 16.00 on the Sunday.
- (c) The qualification rounds shall be organised on the Saturday, the finals shall be held on the Sunday.

8.2 Registration and quotas

8.2.1 Each EC competition shall include Categories for male and female competitors. Only competitors who are or will be at least 16 years of age in the year of the competition shall be eligible to compete.

8.2.2 Member Federations may register, within statutory deadlines, team officials for one of the following roles:

- (a) One (1) Head of Delegation
- (b) Up to two (2) coaches per discipline;
- (c) Up to two (2) qualified medical or para-medical personnel.

8.2.3 Member Federations may register as competitors:

- (a) any current adult/youth World/European Champions (who shall be registered for the discipline in which they are champion) and any current adult/youth Overall World/European Champions; and in addition
- (b) up to four (4) competitors for each Category in each relevant discipline.

- (c) the host federation shall be entitled to register an additional two (2) competitors in each Category for each relevant discipline.

8.2.4 The Event Organiser's entry fees shall not exceed €20 per competitor per discipline. In addition, each Member Federation registering a team for the European Cup shall pay an annual fee and an individual fee per competitor per event in accordance with the European Council fee system.

8.3 **Rankings, medals and prizes**

Competition Rankings, medals and prizes

8.3.1 On completion of an EC competition:

- (a) The competitors ranked first, second and third in each Category and discipline shall be awarded, respectively, a gold, silver and bronze medal.
- (b) The competitors ranked first in each Category and discipline shall be awarded a competition trophy;
- (c) Event Organisers may, if they choose, award prize money. Where such prize money is awarded, then at least all competitors ranked first, second and third in each Category and discipline shall be awarded (more to the first, then second, then third, and so on).

Cup Rankings, medals and prizes

8.3.2 Cup Rankings shall be calculated for each Category and discipline where at least three (3) EYC competitions (including for this purpose, any EYCH held in that discipline) have been held in that year:

- (a) The competitors ranked first, second and third in each Category and discipline shall be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals respectively.
- (b) The competitors ranked first in each Category and discipline shall be awarded a competition trophy.

8.3.3 Cup Rankings shall be calculated for each Category and discipline using the methodology set out in the IFSC Rules for the calculation of World Cup rankings, with the following adaptations:

- (a) When three (3) EYC competitions (including, where necessary, any EYCH competition in that discipline) are organised, all results shall be counted;
- (b) When more than three (3) EYC competitions are organised (**excluding** any EYCH competition in that discipline), the number of counting results will be the number of competitions less one (1).

8.3.4 Any tie for first place in the Cup Rankings at the end of the season shall be resolved in accordance with the IFSC Rules for World Cup rankings.

8.4 Competition Formats

Boulder

- 8.4.1 Competitions shall take place over two rounds.
- 8.4.2 The qualification round for each Category shall be organised in the Contest Format described in Section 2 (*Boulder Contest Format*) of these rules.
- 8.4.3 The final round for each Category shall have a fixed quota of six (6) competitors and shall be organised in the format specified within the IFSC Rules for the final round of a World Cup competition, but with three (3) boulders only.

Lead

- 8.4.4 Competitions shall take place over two rounds.
- 8.4.5 The final round for each Category shall have a fixed quota of ten (10) competitors and shall be organised with each Category climbing at the same time.

Speed

- 8.4.6 Competitions shall take place over two rounds, other than where the number of competitors register in a Category is less than four (4).
- 8.4.7 Subject to paragraph 8.4.1, the final round for each Category shall have a fixed quota of:
 - (a) Eight (8), where the number of competitors completing the qualification round is eight (8) or more;
 - (b) Four (4), where the number of competitors completing the qualification round is less than eight (8). If in any Category, less than four competitors have at least one valid time from the qualification round, the relevant qualification round shall be repeated (once only). If, following this repeated qualification less than four competitors have at least one valid time, no final shall be held for that Category.

8.5 Anti-doping

- 8.5.1 Anti-Doping tests should, where practical, be administered within each discipline of the competition. The recommended test regime is as follow:
 - (a) at least two (2) finalists chosen at random (excluding the winners) from the two Categories, or
 - (b) the winners from each Category.

APPENDIX 1
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. **DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

8.6 The following terms shall apply throughout this document:

8.6.1 “**shall**” (and the alternative “**must**”) references a mandatory requirement in relation to some matter;

8.6.2 “**shall not**” (and the alternative “**must not**”) references an absolute prohibition in relation to some matter;

8.6.3 “**should**” means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular matter, but the full implications must be understood and the case carefully weighed before choosing a different course;

8.6.4 “**should not**” means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the particular matter referenced is acceptable or useful, but the full implications must be understood and the case carefully weighed before taking any action described with this phrase;

8.6.5 “**may**” references a discretionary matter;

8.7 The following definitions shall apply throughout this document:

8.7.1 “**Category**” means a group of competitors of one specific gender and age group;

8.7.2 “**Junior**” means the age group comprising competitors who are or will be 18 or 19 years of age in the year of the competition, as set out in Appendix 2;

8.7.3 “**Member Federation**” means any National Federation that is a member of the European Council of the IFSC.

8.7.4 “**Youth A**” means the age group comprising competitors who are or will be 16 or 17 years of age in the year of the competition, as set out in Appendix 2;

8.7.5 “**Youth B**” means the age group comprising competitors who are or will be 14 or 15 years of age in the year of the competition, as set out in Appendix 2;

APPENDIX 2
CATEGORIES FOR YOUTH COMPETITIONS

Year of event	Category / birth years					
	Youth B		Youth A		Juniors	
2018	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
2019	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
2020	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
2021	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
2022	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003