



Rules for International Ice Climbing Competitions - Difficulty

In April 2005 the Commission set up a forum and invited comments for the Rules for international ice climbing competitions. In July and September 2005 the Commission met to discuss the general principles for the Rules. The following Rules apply to events in the 2006 UIAA Ice Climbing Calendar. Although it is not expected that the main principles will change, the Rules are subject to modification by the Commission for Ice Climbing Competitions.

1. Entry

Entry into events on the UIAA Ice Climbing Calendar is only made by UIAA Member Associations.

2. Discipline and Anti Doping

UIAA Member Associations and the Competitors entered into UIAA Ice Climbing Competitions are subject to the UIAA Discipline Rules and the UIAA Anti Doping Policy and Procedure.

3. Equipment

3.1 Competitors may only use the following climbing equipment:

- a.) A climbing helmet that has the UIAA Standard.
- b.) A climbing harness that has a UIAA Standard.
- c.) Two Ice Tools that have no leash and fit into the UIAA 'Ice Box'.
- d.) A pair of Crampons that comply with the measurements on the 'Ice Box'.

3.2 A Competitor who uses any other climbing equipment, or who does not have a climbing helmet and harness that has a UIAA Standard, or Ice Tools and Crampons that do not conform to the sizes measured by the UIAA 'Ice Box' will be disqualified.

4. Registration and Briefing

4.1 Competitors who have been entered by their federation, register with the event organiser before the start of the competition.

4.2 The event organiser provides the competitors with information about the competition.

4.3 The UIAA Judge determines the start list.

5. Isolation

5.1 There will always be isolation for the final and semi-final.

5.2 The UIAA Judge has discretion about the use of isolation for quarterfinals and open rounds.

5.3 The UIAA Judge decides on the closing time for isolation.

5.4 Communication devices and cameras of any sort are not permitted in isolation.

5.5 Once a competitor, coach or other official has left the isolation area, no return is permitted.

5.6 The organiser will provide warm-up facilities in the isolation area.

5.7 The penalty for a breach of isolation rules is disqualification.

6. Transit, Waiting Area and Secondary Isolation

6.1 The organiser must obtain the approval of the UIAA Judge for the arrangements for:

- a.) Transit procedure
- b.) Waiting Area
- c.) Secondary Isolation (in case of a technical incident).

6.2 The penalty for a breach of isolation in the above areas may result in disqualification.

7. Route Preview

7.1 The UIAA Judge decides on the time allowed for Competitors to preview the route.

7.2 Competitors may use binoculars to view the route, and they may make a sketch on paper.

7.3 Competitors may not use communication devices and cameras of any sort until after they have finished climbing.

7.4 The penalty for a breach of the Route Preview rules may result in disqualification.

8. Climbing

8.1 The maximum time for the climb is set by the UIAA Judge.

8.2 The Competitors starting time is determined by the Route Judge.

8.3 The picks of the Ice Tools may touch or cross if they are being used on the same hold or position, but the Ice Tools may not be connected to each other or to the Crampons.

8.4 The Ice Tools may only be used by the hands or arms.

8.5 Out of bounds is shown by red markers.

8.6 'Plus points' are shown by blue markers.

8.7 The UIAA Judge can stop a Competitor at any time for safety reasons.

8.8 The maximum point along the route is determined by the Route Judge who may award a 'minus' if a hold or position is just touched, or a 'plus' if there is some progression on the hold or position.

8.9 The penalty for a breach of the Climbing Rules is the termination of the Competitors attempt on the climb.

9. Technical Incidents

A Competitor may claim a technical incident if their progress has been impaired by a fault in the climbing structure or belaying. The UIAA Judge will confer with a Route Setter and decide if any action should be taken, and the Competitor should be permitted to climb again.

10. Final Result, Protests, Position Points and World Cup Ranking

10.1 The UIAA Judge will confirm the final result for the competition.

10.2 Position points are allocated according to the attached schedule.

10.3 All events in the World Cup and all competitor results count to the final World Cup Ranking.

10.4 A Competitor's Coach (or if no Coach is available a Competitor's friend) may make a protest concerning the Final Result. The protest must be made to the UIAA Judge within 15 minutes of the confirmation of the final result and must be accompanied with a deposit of EUR100, which will be refunded if the Protest is accepted.

The UIAA Commission for Ice Climbing Competitions welcomes comments and suggestions for improvement concerning these rules.

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