



Appendix 1 – British Speed Climbing Championship Rules 2019 – Records Format

1.1 GENERAL

- 1.1.1 These rules shall be read in conjunction with all applicable sections of BLCC General rules including those on eligibility – Article 1.2 in BLCC rules.
- 1.1.2 Speed competitions shall normally consist of a qualification round and a final round.
- 1.1.3 Speed competitions shall be carried out on two parallel routes of identical length, profile, design and difficulty (Records Format).
- 1.1.4 The flash system shall be used in a Records Format competition.

1.2 SAFETY

- 1.2.1 All routes shall be climbed with the competitor secured by top-rope, belayed from below. The rope shall be a single rope.
- 1.2.2 The top-rope shall pass through two separate protection points, each consisting of one locking karabiner secured to the protection point by a quickdraw sling and an approved and properly closed 8 mm or 10 mm Maillon Rapide.
- 1.2.3 The position of the highest protection point shall be above the switch controlling the timing device or finishing signal for the route.
- 1.2.4 The position of the protection points shall be such as to neither assist, hinder nor endanger a competitor during his/her attempt on a route.
- 1.2.5 The climbing rope shall be connected to each competitor's harness. Connection shall be either:
 - a) using a 'figure of eight' knot, secured with an extra knot (i.e. tying-in), or
 - b) using a screwgate karabiner of a type that minimises the possibility of cross loading and of the possibility of 'roll out' of the rope through the gate, or by using two screwgate karabiners in opposition. The climbing rope shall be attached to the screwgate using a 'figure of eight' knot, secured with an extra knot.
- 1.2.6 Each rope shall be controlled by two belayers. The belayers shall be situated in a position at the bottom of the wall such as to prevent accidents due to a falling competitor, or falling holds or other equipment, which may occur during climbing.
- 1.2.7 The belayers shall at all times during a competitor's attempt on a route pay careful attention to the progress of the competitor to ensure:
 - a) That the competitor's movements are not hindered in any way by the rope being too tight or too loose;
 - b) That all falls are stopped in a safe manner;
 - c) That no excessive fall shall be experienced by the competitor being belayed;
 - d) That great care is taken to ensure that a falling competitor shall not be exposed to any danger of injury caused by the edge of an overlapping section or any other feature of the climbing wall.
- 1.2.8 After having completed the attempt or after a fall, the competitor shall be lowered to the ground. Care shall then be taken to ensure that the competitor does not come into contact with any ground-based equipment.
- 1.2.9 All excess equipment (karabiners, quickdraws, etc.) shall be removed from the routes.
- 1.2.10 The routes shall be designed in such a way that the competitors cannot interfere or unduly distract each other. If the lines of the routes are not vertical, they shall be diverted towards opposite directions.

1.3 ROUTE TIMING

- 1.3.1 The climbing time shall be determined either by mechanical-electrical timing or by manual timing and shall be registered to two decimal points (0.01 second) and shall also shown in result lists and to the public as such.
- 1.3.2 When mechanical-electric timing is used, the climbing time shall be measured with an accuracy of 0.01 second. The system shall incorporate a reaction time of 0.1 second, i.e. a starting pad signal within the first 0.1 second after the starting signal implies a false start.
- 1.3.3 Should the timing system suffer a failure during any attempt, manual timing shall then not be used to determine the result(s), but a technical incident shall be declared for all competitors involved.
- 1.3.4 If manual timing is used, each route shall be equipped with an audible signal. Each route shall be timed by a judge and two assistants, operating a stopwatch each. The official time for each competitor shall be determined as follows:
 - a) Where the time recorded by all three timekeepers agree, as the recorded time;

- b) Where two of the three times recorded are equal and the third different, as the time recorded by the two timekeepers in agreement;
- c) Where each timekeeper has recorded a different time, as the middle time of the three.

1.4 COMPLETION OF A ROUTE

- 1.4.1 An attempt on a route shall be considered successfully completed if it has been climbed in accordance with the rules and if the competitor has struck the timing switch with his/her hand.
- 1.4.2 A competitor shall be deemed to be unsuccessful in completing an attempt on a route when a false start has occurred for any competitor or if he/she:
 - a) Falls;
 - b) Makes use of areas, holds or features demarcated;
 - c) Uses the side edges or the top edges of the wall for climbing;
 - d) Touches the ground with any part of the body after having started;
 - e) Uses any artificial aid.

1.5 PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

- 1.5.1 Information on the preliminary ranking place and climbing times of each competitor in each round of the competition shall be provided to spectators and coaches directly after determining results
 - a) on electronic display (board or screen), or
 - b) on the official competition notice board if a) is not possible.
- 1.5.2 Overall result lists shall show the competitors' achieved climbing times on all routes and in all rounds.

1.6 QUALIFICATION ROUND – RECORDS FORMAT, TWO LANES

- 1.6.1 The starting order of the qualification round shall be randomised. The competitors are divided over two groups that are (almost) equally large.
- 1.6.2 Both routes are climbed simultaneously and the competitors shall always climb in pairs. When a competitor has finished his/her attempt on one route, he/she is added at the end of the starting list of the other route.

Examples

Even number of competitors (8)	
1	5
2	6
3	7
4	8
5	1
6	2
7	3
8	4

Uneven number of competitors (7)	
1	5
2	6
3	7
4	1
5	2
6	3
7	4

- 1.6.3 Each competitor shall be ranked in accordance with the best climbing time achieved on one of the two routes.
- 1.6.4 If a competitor fails to complete both routes, he/she shall be eliminated and ranked in the last position.

1.7 FINAL ROUND – RECORDS FORMAT, TWO LANES

- 1.7.1 Number of competitors in the final round:
 - a) If the number of competitors completing the qualification round is 16 or more, then 16 competitors shall qualify for the final round;
 - b) If the number of competitors completing the qualification round is between 16 and 7, then 8 competitors shall qualify for the final round;
 - c) If the number of competitors completing the qualification round is between 8 and 3, then 4 competitors shall qualify for the final round;
 - d) If the number of competitors completing the qualification round is less than 4, then the qualification shall be re-run until at least 4 competitors qualify for the final round.
- 1.7.2 The final round may thus consist of the following stages: an eighth final, a quarter final and always a semifinal and a final.
- 1.7.3 The final round shall take place as a series of knock-out heats, decided by the climbing time on the route (Records Format, two lanes).
- 1.7.4 Overall results of the losers of the pairs in the eighth final (places 9 – 16) and in the quarter final (places 5 – 8) shall be decided in accordance with their climbing time(s) in the last heat.

1.7.5 The starting order for the first stage of the final round shall be based on the final ranking of the qualification round, as follows:

Scheme 1: 16 competitors

Heat number	Competitor ranked	with	Competitor ranked
1	1		16
2	8		9
3	4		13
4	5		12
5	2		15
6	7		10
7	3		14
8	6		11

Scheme 2: 8 competitors

Heat number	Competitor ranked	with	Competitor ranked
1	1		8
2	4		5
3	2		7
4	3		6

Scheme 3: 4 competitors

Heat number	Competitor ranked	with	Competitor ranked
1	1		4
2	2		3

The starting order for other stages of the final round is shown by the schemes in Figure 1 below.

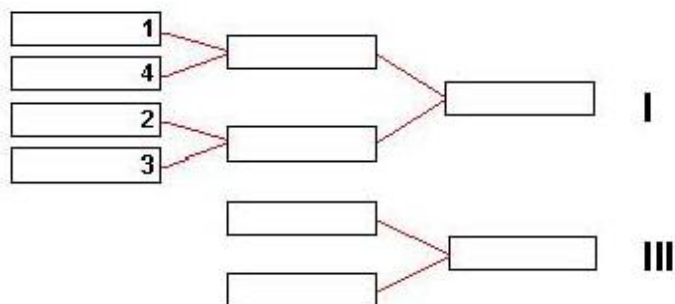
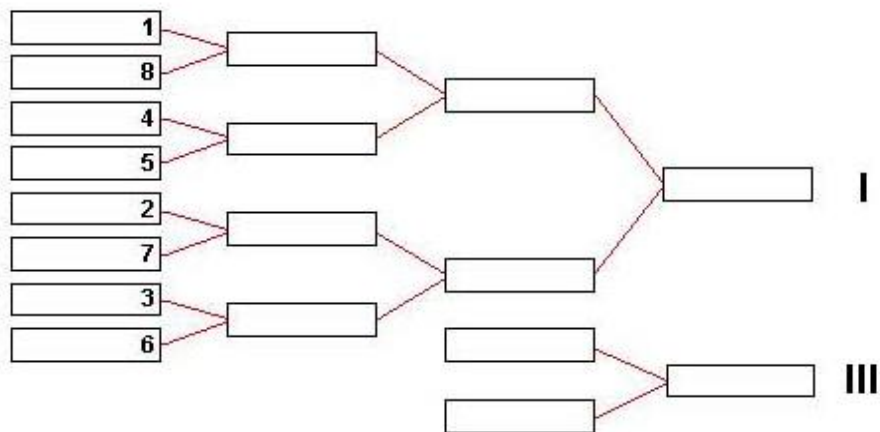


Figure 1: Starting order for different stages of the final round with 16, 8 and 4 competitors respectively (Roman figures indicate the final ranking of that competitor).

The competitor with a higher position in the box scheme shall start on Route 1 (Records Format, two lanes).

If one competitor fails to successfully complete a route, he/she is ranked in the last position in that stage and the other competitor is declared the winner among the two. If both competitors fail to successfully complete a route, then the heat(s) shall be re-run immediately until a winner is decided.

- 1.7.6 Remark: when a competitor falls he/she might not be eliminated in the following cases:
- a) When both competitors fall in the final round (both restart);
 - b) In the semi-final stage (proceed to small final for 3rd and 4th place).
- 1.7.7 The heats to determine the third and fourth places (small final) shall take place before the heat to determine the first and second places.

1.8 RANKING AFTER EACH ROUND

- 1.8.1 After each round of the competition, the competitors shall be ranked according to Articles 1.1.4, 1.7.3 and 1.8.2.
- 1.8.2 Tied competitors:
- a) If, because of tied competitors on the last qualifying place(s) for the final round, the number of qualified competitors exceeds the fixed number in accordance with rule 1.8.1, none of these tied competitors shall proceed to the final round. They shall be ranked equally;
 - b) If two or more competitors are tied in the qualification round for any other place than the last, then they shall be separated at random for placement in the starting order of the final round;
 - c) If two competitors are tied in the semifinal and final stage of the final round, then the winner shall be determined by additional elimination heats between the two competitors;
 - d) If two competitors are tied in any other stage of the final round, then the winner shall be determined by their results of the preceding stage of the final round or, for the first stage of the final round, by their results in the qualification round.

1.9 PRACTICE PERIOD

- 1.9.1 Where possible, the Qualification round should be preceded by a practice period. The Jury President shall announce the timing and duration of any practice period at the Technical Meeting (and if necessary, any reason why a practice period is not possible).
- 1.9.2 The practice period shall normally take the form of either:
- a) A pre-run of the Qualification round, each competitor eligible to participate in the Qualification round being allowed one attempt on each lane in the starting order published for the Qualification Round; or;
 - b) A series of individual practice periods, one for each team entered into the competition. In this case, the Jury President shall define a practice schedule identifying the time that each team shall report to the competition area and the duration of the period allocated to each team, which shall be proportionate to the number of competitors in the team.
- 1.9.3 The Jury President shall be allowed to vary the timing and format of the practice period to reflect any circumstances specific to the competition.
- 1.9.4 The practice period shall include a demonstration of the false start signal and of the timing equipment.

1.10 CLIMBING PROCEDURE

- 1.10.1 On being called to the start of a route, each competitor shall take up an assembly position not more than two (2) meters in front of the wall. A belayer shall attach the climbing rope to the competitor's harness.
- 1.10.2 At the command 'At your marks', each competitor shall:
- a) Step forward to the wall;
 - b) Position the starting pad for their preferred starting position; then
 - c) Take a position on the starting pad with one foot; placing both hands and one foot on their preferred starting holds.
- 1.10.3 If for any reason, the Starter is not satisfied that the start can proceed after the competitors are on their marks, he shall order all competitors to withdraw from their marks and shall place them on the assembly position again.
- 1.10.4 Once all competitors are motionless in the starting position, the Starter shall announce 'Ready!' and after a short pause of less than 2 seconds shall sound the starting signal.
- 1.10.5 No appeal against the starting instruction shall be allowed unless the competitor clearly calls that they are not ready by raising a hand when the starter asks 'Ready!'
- 1.10.6 Where in the judgement of the Starter, a competitor either
- a) Fails to comply with the commands 'At your marks', or does not place themselves in their final starting position after a reasonable time; or
 - b) After the command 'At your marks!' disturbs other competitors through sound or otherwise, then the Starter shall abort the start. The Jury President may warn the competitor for improper conduct and issue a Yellow Card warning in accordance with the disciplinary procedures. If the Jury President does not agree with the Starter's decision, then the competitors shall be advised accordingly.

- 1.10.7 At the top of the route each competitor shall stop the timing device by striking the switch with his/her hand.
- 1.10.8 If a competitor does not stop the timer, their attempt shall be considered unsuccessful and no valid time shall be recorded. No re-run or additional attempt will be allowed unless it is determined that the Timing System is faulty.

Note. An individual failure to stop the timer shall not be grounds to assert that the equipment is faulty.

Note. If consecutive competitors on the same route fail to stop the timer, or if systematic failures occur, the Jury President may require the system to be tested. If this testing shows a fault, then the Jury President shall consider whether or not affected competitors should be allowed to re-run. If this testing reveals no fault then the results shall stand. Testing may include asking a Route-Setter to climb the route and strike the pad/switch.

Note. The Jury President may consider video recordings in determining whether or not any equipment test is necessary, however video recording that a competitor struck the pad/switch (but the timer did not stop) shall not be taken as conclusive evidence of equipment fault.

- 1.10.9 An attempt shall be considered unsuccessful and no valid time recorded if the competitor:
- Falls;
 - Uses the side edges or the top edges of the wall for climbing;
 - Touches the ground with any part of the body after having started; or
 - Uses any artificial aid.

1.11 False starts

- 1.11.1 A competitor shall be ruled as having made a false start if, in the opinion of the Starter (or an assigned Recaller) the competitor either:
- Leaves the starting pad at any time after the starter has declared 'Ready!' and before the starting signal; or
 - Reacts to the starting signal in less than 1/10th of a second.

Note. Where a Mechanical-Electrical Timing System is in use, the evidence of this equipment shall normally be accepted as conclusive. i.e. Absent clear evidence that the equipment is faulty, the records made by a Timing System shall be taken as determining whether a false start has occurred.

If the competitor makes a false start within the competition, he shall be recorded as having no valid time for the race in which the false start was made and shall not participate further in the competition.

Note: The competitor who has not made a false start may choose to (but is not obliged to) complete their attempts in the relevant stage.

- 1.11.2 In the event of a false start, the starter shall stop both/all competitors immediately.
- 1.11.3 A valid time cannot be recorded by any competitor in a race where a false start has occurred.

1.12 TECHNICAL INCIDENTS

- 1.12.1 A technical incident in speed competitions is defined as:
- A broken or loose hold;
 - A tight rope which assists a competitor;
 - A loose rope which hinders a competitor;
 - A failure of the timing system;
 - Any other 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.
- 1.12.2 If a competitor suffers a technical incident in the qualification round he/she shall be given a new attempt. The competitor shall climb alone on his/her new attempt. In case of a technical incident that resulted in a disadvantage of the competitor, the best attempt of the competitor counts. Otherwise the second attempt counts.
- If a competitor suffers a technical incident during the final round, his/her opponent competitor(s) shall continue to climb. If the technical incident is confirmed, then the attempt shall be re-started with all competitors except those competitors who were already eliminated.
- A minimum recuperation time of 5 minutes shall be allowed for competitors affected by a technical incident.

1.13 SPEED WORLD RECORDS

- 1.13.1 IFSC speed world records can only be set on an official standardised and recognized IFSC speed route built on a climbing wall constructed in accordance with specifications for the IFSC Homologated Speed Walls issued separately by the IFSC. Such walls can be of either 10 or 15 metres height, and shall have a width of at least 3 metres for each route and an overhanging angle of 5 degrees.
- 1.13.2 There will be one world record for 10 metres for men and women respectively, and one world record for 15 metres for men and women respectively. There will also be separate world records for all youth age groups in both categories.
- 1.13.3 The timing of a world record attempt shall be made by using the IFSC mechanical-electrical timing system.
- 1.13.4 A world record can be set only at a competition which is included in the official IFSC calendar of events, and for which there is a Jury President appointed by the IFSC.
- 1.13.5 A new world record shall be validated and reported to the IFSC by the Jury President.