

## **Addendum to UIAA Annex 2 – 2021 UIAA Ice Climbing Competition Regulations - to be used at UIAA sanctioned Ice Climbing Competition events that are affected by COVID-19**

For the 2021 winter season the UIAA Ice Climbing Commission has made the decision to postpone the World Cups, World Championships and World Cup Overall Titles to the 2022 winter season due to the restriction in place caused by COVID-19 meaning that any event that is run and sanctioned by the UIAA will not be representative of the worldwide community of athletes we would normally expect to contest our events.

However we do plan to run events where we can and the aim of this addendum to the current rules is to define some measures that must be adopted in any UIAA sanctioned ice climbing competition during the corona virus (COVID -19) pandemic. This addendum is in addition to the UIAA Ice Climbing Competition Regulations and the UIAA Event Organiser Handbook, and where there is conflict this document supersedes the main regulations. The UIAA Ice Climbing Commission, following the advice of the UIAA Medical Commission, the IOC and the WHO, will declare when this addendum shall not be used anymore.

Due to the fast-evolving nature of the pandemic these rules will be regularly reviewed and updated. The UIAA office and Ice Climbing Commission will regularly check and analyse together with Event Organisers the latest available guidance on the COVID-19 pandemic both globally and locally to each of the host venues. The UIAA Ice Climbing Commission reserves the right to update/change these rules at any time.

All the current information pertaining to each event shall be added to the UIAA Event Fact Sheets in the Athlete Handbook and published on UIAA website and UIAA Athletes Facebook Group. However things are changing fast with COVID-19 and the regulations and requirements can be different depending on the country in questions. This will be a working document and may need to be altered slightly depending on the country the event is in and at what point we are at in the season.

**No World Cup ranking points will be calculated for the 2021 Season events, and subsequently there will be no World Cup overall rankings and series titles or World Championship titles awarded for 2020.**

### **PRE-EVENT RULES**

All participating athletes, officials and organising staff must submit a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than 72 hours prior, to their first event, to the UIAA Event Coordinator, Jury President or designated person from the local organiser team upon arrival/registration at the event, to be allowed to be involved in the event in their designated capacity.

For those participating athletes, officials and organising staff who plan to participate in more than one of the provisionally planned event series, they must also take re-test for COVID-19 no more than 72 hours prior to each subsequent event they take part in. The results of this test must be submitted to the UIAA Event Coordinator, Jury President or designated person from the local organiser team upon arrival/registration at the event, to be allowed to be involved in the event in their designated capacity. The UIAA will provide details of where athletes can obtain tests as close as possible to the second and third events of the season.

All athletes are recommended to have insurance coverage that would cover them to enter the countries they are planning to visit, cover hospitalisation and all other medical cover if required due to COVID-19 and possible repatriation back to their home country. The UIAA will not be responsible for any of these costs.

## **EVENT RULES**

### **1.1 EVENT DOCTOR**

A doctor shall be appointed by the EO as a COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator, it can either be the Competition Doctor or another doctor, and his/her phone number shall be published on the info sheet, with a clear indication about the hours when he/she can be contacted by NFs for any need. The COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor shall fluently speak English. The EO shall contact their local public health authorities to determine the health restrictions applicable to each country in conjunction with the Health Authority of that country as well as the local current transmission level, local contact tracing and reporting mechanism and how participants could interact with the local Health care system, besides the COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator. This information should be made available to the athletes via the UIAA, since the conditions/restrictions may vary weekly.

### **1.2 PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

EO shall provide personal protective equipment (e.g. face masks, PPE gloves, gowns, face shields etc.) for onsite medical personnel and athletes (if they require medical treatment) or ensure that they have it; they should provide hand sanitizer and alcohol rubs/hand gels, tissues, frequently replaced soap canisters and closed bins for safe disposal of hygienic materials (e.g. tissues, towels, sanitary products) in washrooms and changing rooms; provide hand sanitizers and alcohol rubs for all entrances and throughout the venue.

### **1.3 WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF (SUPPOSED) A POSTIVE COVID-19 TEST**

The Event Fact Sheet shall contain the protocol to follow in case a person feels unwell and/or shows symptoms associated with COVID-19 during the event. The relevant Team Manager or the athletes shall inform by phone the Event coordinator, and they will coordinate with EO and COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor on how to treat and isolate the case (treatment will vary from country to country). The COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor shall decide what to do with the other direct contacts and members of their team based on the local requirements on contact tracing.

### **1.4 DECISION PROCESS IN CASE OF (SUPPOSED) POSTIVE COVID-19 TEST**

In case a person feels unwell and/or shows symptoms associated with COVID-19 during the event, after having applied the protocol article 1.3. The Event Coordinator will organise an online meeting with UIAA President, UIAA Operations Director, Jury President, Event Organiser and COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor in order to decide if the competition shall be suspended, postponed, or cancelled. The COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor has the final decision about the competition. The Event Coordinator will inform all the participants about the final decision and this decision will be immediately published on the UIAA Athletes Group and on the UIAA website. It will be necessary to trace exactly who the effected person/s had been in contact with during the competition and inform them they are recommended to self-isolate for 14 days according to local public health requirements.

If an athlete or official tests positive for COVID-19 from any of the pre-event required testing then they will immediately be removed from the competition and given the rank that they were in at the point in the competition that they were removed. The athlete will not be able to take part in any further events in the series.

## **2. GENERAL RULES, TECHNICAL MEETING, UIAA ATHLETES FACEBOOK GROUP AND VIDEO DEMONSTRATION**

### **2.1 CALENDAR of EVENTS**

A calendar of events should be confirmed at least 8 weeks before the 1st day of the competition.

### **2.2 EVENT FACT SHEET**

The Event Fact Sheet, containing information about the competition and also the specific information detailed in article 1.1 (interaction with the host country healthcare system) and article 1.3 (protocol to follow in case a person feels unwell and shows symptoms associated with COVID-19 during the event) should be published on UIAA website not less than 30 days before the first day of competition.

### **2.3 CONFIRMATION**

The participation of all team members must be confirmed to the Event Coordinator by phone or via email after arrival to the event's location within 24h before the 1st competition day of the event.

### **2.4 TECHNICAL MEETING**

The Technical Meeting, as defined by the rules, will be replaced by an online-only Technical Meeting held 5 days before the event to prepare teams, ahead of travel, with COVID-19 mitigation measures and event requirements; and if necessary an online-only second Technical Meeting one day before the event. Information about the meeting will be included in the Event Fact sheet, and information about the second meeting will be communicated via the UIAA Athletes FB Group. A short summary of the Technical meeting will be posted on the UIAA Athletes FB Group.

### **2.5. STARTING LISTS**

The Starting List will be published on UIAA website and on the UIAA Athletes FB Group the day before the 1st competition day of the event.

### **2.6 UIAA ATHLETES FACEBOOK GROUP**

All event information will be shared via the UIAA Athletes FB Group.

### **2.7 VIDEO DEMONSTRATION FOR LEAD QUALIFICATION**

In order to guarantee social distancing no video demonstration will be provided in the isolation area. Demonstration videos will be published on the UIAA YouTube channel the day before the competition and will be announced on the UIAA Athletes FB Group.

### **2.8 TIMELINE**

Days – 30	Confirmation that the Calendar Event is not cancelled
Days – 30	Publication of the Event Fact Sheet
Days – 5	Online Technical Meeting
Day - 1	Publication of video demonstration
	Publication of Starting Lists
	Online Technical Meeting (if required)

### **2.9. GENERAL INFORMATION**

All athletes, UIAA Officials, National officials, volunteers will be checked by Emergency COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor: in case of high body temperature (checked with a contactless thermometer and value defined by WHO) or in case of symptoms associated with COVID-19 (i.e. cough, shortness of breath, loss of sense of taste/odour, sore

throat, cold, aching limbs) they shall not be allowed in any part of the venue. Before travelling to competitions, it is recommended to check that Athletes and Team Officials insurance covers COVID-19 travel and health support. Sharing materials (axes, crampons, boots, ropes, bottles, towels, face masks etc.) is strictly forbidden.

It is the responsibility of all athletes participating in any calendar event to ensure that they are fully informed and that every athlete in their teams are fully informed of all details relating to the competition, particularly about all the COVID -19 related measures.

**National rules and regulation provided by the host country will be respected. In addition to their normal equipment, athletes will have their personal face mask (to be used when necessary). Hand gel dispenser, and towel: minimum 150 x 70 cm**

### 3. ATHLETE AREAS

#### 3.1 ISOLATION/WARM UP ZONE

Volunteers working in common areas (isolation/warmup zone, transit zone and field of play) shall always wear a face mask. Athletes shall always wear a face mask in the isolation area.

In order to keep social distancing, the isolation/warmup zone shall be arranged in two separate zones: holding area and warm up. If isolation is not necessary (i.e. in speed and in lead qualification) the same rules for health screening (temperature check, hands sanitizing etc.) will apply at the entrance of the warm-up area. In the holding area there shall not be a warm-up wall: athletes can warm up here only with their personal equipment. In order to guarantee the same stay in warm up area to all athletes, the first athletes to climb will be allowed, 30 minutes before their supposed climbing time, to move to the warm up area and the next athlete will be allowed every 5 minutes and so on.

Isolation/warmup holding area shall guarantee an area sufficient to ensure physical distancing of participants at least of 1.5 – 2 meters, according to local public health regulations. In order to reduce the total number of people in isolation, no team officials will be allowed. The COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor shall check all the registered athletes before they are allowed to enter isolation zone: in case of high body temperature (checked with a contactless thermometer) or in case of symptoms associated with COVID-19 (i.e. cough, shortness of breath, loss of sense of taste/odour, sore throat, cold, aching limbs) athletes shall not be allowed in. After having been checked all the athletes shall wash their hands using an alcohol-based hand gel. The EO shall provide alcohol-based hand gel dispenser in isolation area, but a personal hand gel dispenser is recommended. No common food or drink or water dispensers will be provided by EO. Every athlete must have their personal towel to be put on the floor or the chair when seating in common areas or be wearing full body clothing (long trousers and long-sleeved top). All the persons inside isolation/warmup (athletes, volunteers, officials etc.) will respect social distance (1 meter minimum). At the end of the round, points/surfaces that are touched frequently (i.e. doors, chairs, WC etc.) shall be cleaned with alcohol or disinfectant by EO staff. Both isolation and warm up zones if applicable should be equipped with closed bins with lids for safe utilisation of any tissues etc.

#### 3.2 WARM UP AREA (if separate to Isolation)

In order to reduce the total number of people in warm up area, no Team Officials will be allowed in. Every athlete must have their personal towel to be put on the mat and/or the chair or be wearing full body clothing (long trousers and long-sleeved top). When moving from isolation to warm up every athlete will bring all their personal belongings. EO shall provide alcohol-based hand gel dispenser in warm up, but a personal hand gel dispenser is

recommended. At the end of the round, points/surfaces that are touched frequently (i.e. doors, chairs etc.) shall be cleaned with alcohol or disinfectant by EO staff. When using the warmup wall, climbing gloves must be worn at all times – no touching the holds with bare hands. Both isolation and warm up zones if applicable should be equipped with closed bins with lids for safe utilisation of any tissues etc.

### **3.3 TRANSIT ZONE**

When moving from warm up to transit zone every athlete, possibly helped by a volunteer, will bring all their personal belongings. In the transit zone every athlete shall have a personal alcohol-based hand gel dispenser. The transit zone chair shall be covered by athlete's personal towel. When the athlete goes out from transit zone to climb a volunteer, wearing face mask and ppe gloves, will pick up the towel and the athletes personal belongings and move it to the hot seat area. At the end of the round points/surfaces that are touched frequently (i.e. doors, chairs etc.) shall be cleaned with alcohol or disinfectant by EO staff.

## **4. COMPETITION AREA**

### **4.1 LEAD**

Belayers and all officials shall wear face masks and a visor which after the athlete is above the second quick draw this can be removed. During observation time all athletes shall wear their face masks. During their competition attempt athletes do not need to wear a face mask.

Every athlete will climb using their own personal rope. The ropes should be 9-10mm in diameter, 60 meters in length, a UIAA Safety Label certified brand and shall be in suitable rope bag. In case the rope is not judged appropriate by the Chief Routesetter, in consultation with other officials, the EO will provide an alternative rope.

The athlete will tie into the rope in the transit zone, then the rope will be clipped into the first quickdraw of the route during the athletes permitted 60 seconds preparation time prior to them starting their attempt. If this process takes longer than 60 seconds the athlete must be ready to start immediately after they are given permission from the belayer. The athlete is responsible for collecting their rope from the belayer after their attempt is over.

If an athlete drops an ice axe during their attempt, it is their responsibility to collect it from the floor of the field of play when they are lowered to the ground after their attempt.

If an athlete's ice axe remains in the route after their attempt a representative from the EO team will be remove it whilst wearing ppe gloves, these gloves must be discarded after each occurrence and fresh gloves worn for the next occurrence of this situation. The athlete is then responsible for collecting their ice axe which will be left in a designated area.

### **4.2 SPEED**

Belayers and all officials shall wear face masks. During their competition attempt athletes do not need to wear a face mask.

If an athlete drops an ice axe during their attempt, it is their responsibility to collect it from the floor of the field of play when they are lowered to the ground after their attempt.

## **5. EVENT AND UIAA OFFICIALS**

National rules and regulation provided by the organising country will be respected. In addition, in any period of the competition all UIAA officials and volunteers shall wear a face mask. Every Officials meeting shall comply with the relevant national rules. In any case every

meeting will be held respecting social distancing.

## **6. MEDAL CEREMONY**

The protocol used in the awarding ceremony will be the usual protocol with some small modifications. Athletes shall wear a face mask during all the awarding ceremony. Prize givers shall wear a face mask/ Medals, trophies and flowers will be directly picked up from the tray by the athletes. No handshakes, no hugs, no kissing from athletes or prize givers shall be allowed.

## **7. EVENT ORGANISER RESERVED AREAS**

EO shall provide alcohol-based hand gel dispenser in all these areas.

### **7.1 MEDIA AND PHOTOGRAPHERS**

A special area will be reserved for all accredited media and photographers. All national rules and regulation provided by the organising country will be respected. In addition, when in this area they will wear a face mask and will respect social distancing measures. Any infringement of this rule will be sanctioned with a verbal warning and, in case of repetition, with the withdrawal of the accreditation.

### **7.2 PUBLIC**

The decision to have public and the rules for the public will depend on organising country rules and regulations.