



2026 World Climbing Youth World Championships Athlete Selection Criteria

CEC Board of Directors approved March 17, 2026

Definitions

- **Competition Rank:** the relative placements of athletes within a competition, as determined after each round, following competition scoring rules
- **Adjusted Competition Rank:** an average of tied athletes' competition round ranks.
- **Competition Points:** the points allocated for an athlete's performance during a competition round
- **Aggregate Point Total:** a Lead or Boulder athlete's calculated competition points total that includes results from their performance during specific competition rounds
 - **Boulder Aggregate Point Total:** simple addition of athlete points earned in the semi-final and final rounds
 - **Lead Aggregate Point Total:** geometric mean of the adjusted competition ranks for qualification, semi-finals, and finals
 - See examples of calculation in Annexes A and B
- **Competition Rounds:** qualification, semi-finals, and final rounds of a competition

Boulder

U17/Youth B

Athlete selections are made based on results from the U17/Youth B category of the 2026 Youth Boulder National Championships.

- **First Selection Priority** (maximum of 1 athlete quota*): Gold medalist of the U17/Youth B category of the 2026 Youth Boulder National Championships.
 - a. Should a tie for the gold medal exist, Aggregate Point Totals will be used to break the tie.
 - b. *Should a tie for the gold medal remain, additional athlete quotas will be allocated to this Selection Priority to a maximum of three athlete quotas
- **Second Selection Priority** (remaining athlete quotas): The highest placed finalists in the Aggregate Point Total will be selected. In case of Aggregate Point Total ties, the tie breakers will be in priority:
 - a. Competition rank in the final round
 - b. Competition rank in the qualification round

U19/Youth A

Athlete selections are made based on either 1) an athlete's placement on the Senior National Boulder Team ranking or 2) the results from the most recent U19/Youth category at the 2026 Youth Boulder National Championships.

- **First Priority** (maximum of 1 athlete quota): The highest-ranked U19/Youth age-eligible athlete on the Senior National Boulder Team Program (ie, Elite, Performance and Development Squads) as of May 4, 2026.
 - a. Should a tie for the highest-ranked athlete under this priority occur, the tied athletes' competition ranks from their most recent competition will be used to break the tie.
 - b. Should the tie remain, the Aggregate Point Totals for the last competition at which they both competed will be used to break the tie.
 - c. Should the tie persist, the HPD shall break the tie.
- **Second Priority** (maximum of 1 athlete quota*): Gold medalist of the U19/Youth A Boulder category of the 2026 Youth Boulder National Championships.

- a. Should a tie for the gold medal exist, Aggregate Point Totals will be used to break the tie.
- b. *Should a tie for the gold medal remain, additional athlete quotas will be allocated to the Selection Priority to a maximum of three athlete quotas.
- **Third Priority** (remaining athlete quotas): The highest placed finalists in the U19/Youth A Boulder Aggregate Point Total will be selected. In case of aggregate ranking ties, tie breakers will be, in priority:
 - a. Rank in the final round
 - b. Rank in the qualification round

Lead

U17/Youth B

Athlete selections are made based on results from the U17/Youth B category of the 2026 Lead National Championships.

- **First Selection Priority** (maximum of 1 athlete quota*): The gold medalist of the U17/Youth B Lead category of the 2026 Youth Lead National Championships will be selected.
 - a. In the event of a gold medal tie, Aggregate Point Totals will be used to break the tie.
 - b. *Should a tie remain, additional athlete quotas will be allocated to the selection priority to a maximum of three athlete quotas.
- **Second Selection Priority** (remaining athlete quotas): The highest placed finalists in the Aggregate Point Total will be selected. See Appendix B for a sample calculation table. In case of aggregate ranking ties, the tie breakers will be, in order of priority:
 - a. Competition rank after finals
 - b. Finals route time

U19/Youth A

Athlete selections are made based on 1) an athlete's placement on either the Senior National Lead Team ranking or 2) the results from the U19/Youth A Lead division of the 2026 Youth Lead National Championships.

- **First Priority** (maximum of 1 athlete quota): The highest-ranked U19/Youth age-eligible athlete on the Senior National Lead Team Program (ie, Elite, Performance, and Development Squads) as of April 27, 2026, will be selected.
 - a. Should a tie for the highest-ranked athlete under this priority occur, the tied athletes' competition ranks from their most recent competition will be used to break the tie.
 - b. Should the tie remain, the Aggregate Point Totals for the last competition at which they both competed will be used to break the tie.
 - c. Should the tie persist, the HPD shall break the tie.
- **Second Priority** (maximum of 1 athlete quota*): The gold medalist of the U19/Youth A Lead category of the 2026 Youth Lead National Championships will be selected.
 - a. In the event of a gold medal tie, Aggregate Point Totals will be used to break the tie.
 - b. *Should a tie remain, additional athlete quotas will be allocated to this selection priority to a maximum of the remaining athlete quotas.
- **Third Priority** (remaining athlete quotas): The highest placed finalists in the Aggregate Point Total will be selected.08In case of aggregate ranking ties, the tie breakers will be, in order of priority:
 - a. Competition results after finals
 - b. Finals route time

Speed

U17/Youth B

Athlete selections are made based on results from the U17/Youth B division of the 2026 Speed National Championships.

- **First Priority** (maximum of 1 athlete quota): The athlete achieving the fastest climb time in either the qualification or final rounds of the U17/Youth B age category of the 2026 National Speed Championships will be selected.
- **Second Priority**: Remaining athlete selections will be based on the final competition results of the U17/Youth B age category of the 2026 Speed National Championships.

U19/Youth A

Athlete selections are made based on 1) an athlete's placement on either the Senior National Speed Team ranking or 2) the results from the 2026 National Speed Championships. All selected athletes must meet the minimum speed wall times on Table 1 below by May 19th, 2026. See Appendix C for details related to athlete minimum speed time confirmation.

- **First Priority** (maximum of 1 athlete quota): The highest-ranked U19/Youth age-eligible athlete on the Senior National Speed Team Program (ie, Elite, Performance, and Development Squads) as of April 27, 2026, will be selected.
- **Second Priority** (maximum of 1 athlete quota): The athlete with the fastest climb time in either the qualification or final rounds of the U19/Youth A age category of the 2026 National Speed Championships will be selected.
- **Third Priority** (remaining athlete quotas): Remaining athlete selections will be based on the final competition results of the U19/Youth A age category of the 2026 Speed National Championships.

Table 1: 2026 World Climbing Youth World Championship Minimum Speed Times

Age	Gender	2026 Minimum Wall Times (15m)*
U17	Male	8.823
U17	Female	10.959
U19	Male	7.494
U19	Female	10.313
*2025 IFSC Youth World Championships Top 50% of the field wall climb times multiplied by a factor of 1.25		

Appendix A: Calculation of Boulder Athlete Aggregate Point Total

Example:

Priority 1: no athlete selected from that criterion

Priority 2: Competitor A is selected

Priority 3: Competitors B and D are selected

Selection order for unfulfilled quotas: Competitors C, G, E, F and H

COMPETITOR	SEMIS ROUND SCORE	SEMIS RANK	FINALS ROUND SCORE	FINALS RANK	AGGREGATE RESULT (SEMIS+FINALS)	AGGREGATE RANKING
A	84.6	4	99.1	1	183.7	2
B	100	1	84.6	2	184.6	1
C	73.8	8	84.2	3	158	4
D	83.5	7	84.1	4	167.6	3
E	84.1	6	69.8	5	153.9	6
F	84.2	5	68.9	6	153.1	7
G	99.7	2	54.6	7	154.3	5
H	99.2	3	45	8	144.2	8

Appendix B: Calculation of Lead Athlete Aggregate Point Total

Example with Qualis, Semis and Finals rankings as published with the competition scoring tool, with adjusted ranking values for competition ties:

Priority 1: no athlete selected from that criterion

Priority 2: Competitor A is selected

Priority 3: Competitors B and C are selected

Selection order for unfulfilled quotas: Competitors D, E, H, G AND F

COMPETITOR	RANK AFTER QUALIS ROUND	RANK AFTER SEMIS ROUND	RANK AFTER FINALS ROUND	AGGREGATE RESULT	AGGREGATE RANKING
A	2	2	1	1.59	2
B	1	1	2	1.26	1
C	3	3	3	3.00	3
D	6	4	4	4.58	4
E	4.5	5	5	4.83	5
F	13	7	6	8.17	8
G	7	6	7	6.65	7
H	4.5	8	8	6.60	6

Appendix C: Minimum Speed Times

Speed athletes who wish to submit a minimum speed time for review may do so under the following conditions.

Times from competitions:

Athletes may submit times recorded in the qualification or final rounds of provincial or national events, provided that an approved electronic timing system was used. Athletes can email the High Performance Director (HPD) and Youth Team Coaches with a link or reference to the official scoring/results system that clearly shows the time.

Times from practice or competition warm-up rounds:

Athletes may also submit times recorded during competition warm-up rounds or training, provided that all of the following criteria are met:

1. The attempt was conducted in the presence of a CEC Screened Coach (registered CEC coach).
2. A video recording of the performance is provided.
3. The video is a single continuous take with no cuts or edits.
4. The athlete's face is clearly visible.
5. Before starting, the athlete must face the camera to ensure clear identification, then turn to the wall to begin the attempt.
6. The video must show the entire start sequence, including the timer's auditory beeps.
7. At the end of the attempt, the video must clearly show the final time, including a zoomed-in view of the timer display.