



CLIMBING INTO THE FUTURE

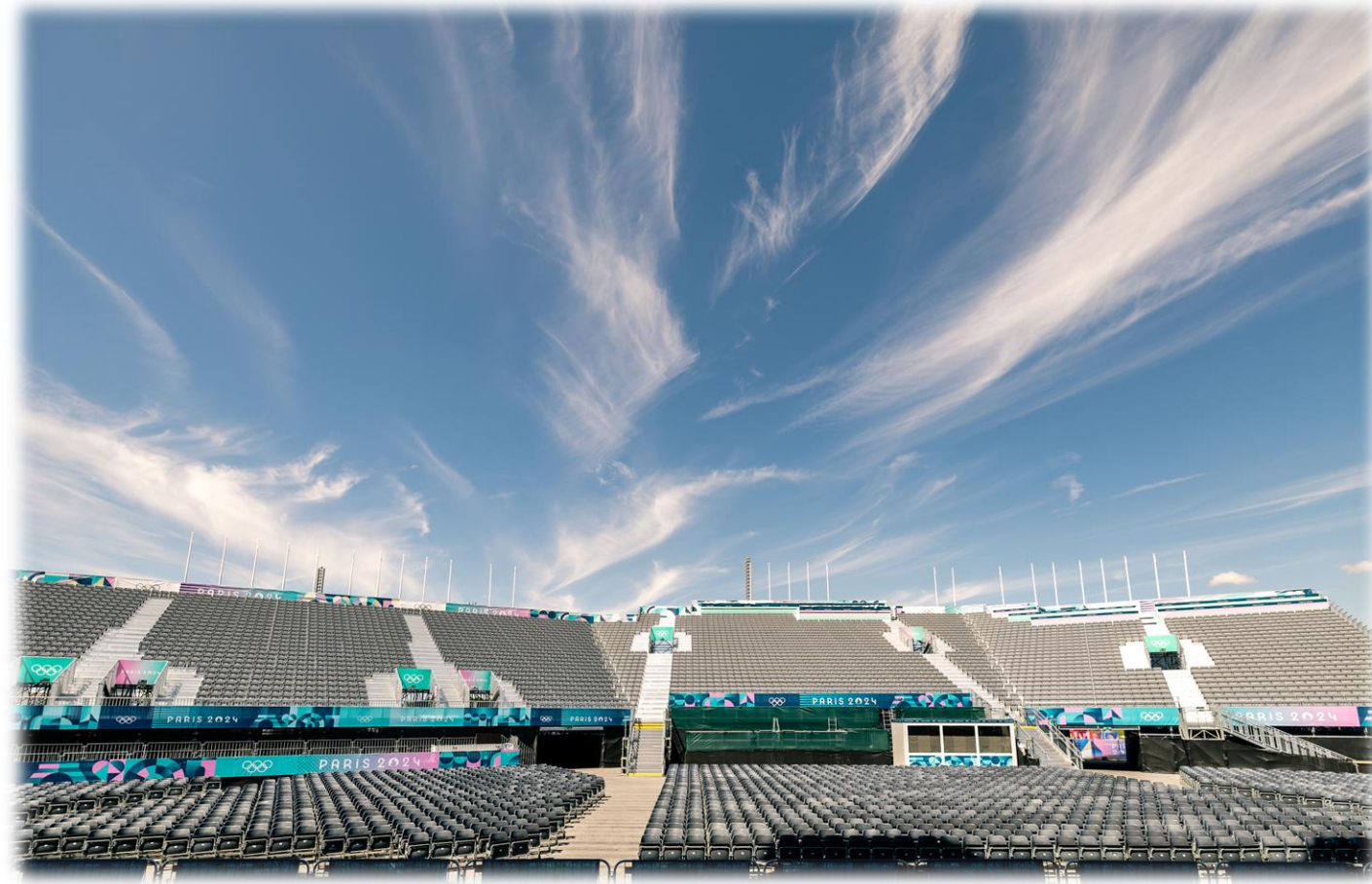
MARCO MARIA SCOLARIS

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SPORT CLIMBING

Olympic cycle 2025 – 2029

THE PROGRAMME

MARCO MARIA SCOLARIS



I am a climber and a mountaineer. I've been a mountain and climbing photographer for three decades before moving full time into the IFSC leadership.

I do not belong to the Global North, or to the Global South. I belong to the planet of sport, to the planet of climbing.

Climbing and its genuine values have been the guiding light in my 66 years. From its foundation I forged the IFSC to propose my climber's way to do sport, to build a sport organization through values and trust. It has been and is an amazing journey.

THE PRICE OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Today, there is the tendency to superficially minimize the complexity of how results are achieved, and to ignore the cost of every accomplishment: the determination, the frustration, the sleepless nights...

Like on the Field of Play, in sport organizations, results are rarely a gift of the gods. They are the outcome of passionate work of experienced leaders, crucial to ensure an organization is performing at the necessary standard to succeed.

What has been built in such short period is incredible; and it is a reason to celebrate.

TRANSITION AND DISRUPTION



The 2023 General Assembly voted for the President's transition from 2025 onward, not for a disruption in 2025.

Transition and disruption are tools that can be used at the right time and in different areas.

Today, disruption is moving all to another level, recognizing the Olympic status of our sport and translating this acknowledgement into sustainable revenues that benefit Athletes, member Federations, partners.

Transition is climbing smoothly into the future.



In order to assure a smooth transition, on March 31, **2023** in Singapore, the **XIX General Assembly** voted:

“to approve an exception to the term limits and allow the sitting President to be eligible in 2025 for another 4-year term (2025-2029)”.

“In this additional term, the President would oversee a transition leading to the next President.”

2 0 2 3 I F S C G E N E R A L A S S E M B L Y

TOMORROW'S LEADERS

EB MANAGEMENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

NEW PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

1. Empowerment of EB members to take responsibility and achieve tasks together. Education, to be extended to National Federations, through existing and ad hoc programmes.
2. The Leadership Programme will naturally be the runway to the Election of the IFSC new President in October 2028. Transition IFSC President to President elect through March 2029 (IFSC General Assembly).
3. IFSC Executive Board members and other possible actors designated by National Federations participate in the Olympic Movement and other International Sport Organizations meetings and activities.

THE PROGRAMME - ACTION SUMMARY

1. ATHLETES
2. OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS
3. CALENDAR – SUBSIDIARY - EDE
4. GOVERNANCE & SUSTAINABILITY
5. GENDER EQUALITY & EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
6. IFSC NATIONAL FEDERATIONS
7. CONTINENTAL COUNCILS
8. BRAND AWARENESS – WORLD CLIMBING
9. GEOPOLITICAL
10. MARKETING & RESOURCES
11. PRIVATE EQUITIES & PRO LEAGUES
12. ESPORTS
13. AI
14. CLIMBING SUMMITS
15. GRASSROOTS

1 – ATHLETES

More resources to Athletes at events.

Athletes' access to the IOC Athletes Career Programme (ACP), through World Climbing Academy. Help achieving their full potential off the field of play.

Timeline: Q3 2025

Inspire Athletes to be heard in every single country, and motivate NFs to give them voice, complying with the IFSC and IOC requirements for Athletes' representation and powers.

Remain vigilant and proactive against Red-S, doping and other threats to Athletes' health.

Extensive educational programmes and fund allocation to NFs with limited resources, to secure access to all tools and processes set to protect Athletes' health and well-being.

Continue to support misplaced athletes and refugees, with the goal of a IFSC Refugee Team in 2027.

2 – OLYMPICS & PARALYMPICS

Continue building the IFSC reputation and credibility earned over the years.

Timeline: Q2 2025

Secure the provision of necessary IOC funding for development, continuing their investment on the success of the organization, its integrity and credibility, in the period 2025-2028.

Timeline: Q2-Q3 2025

Modify the OQS to allow a larger number of Athletes to experience the Olympic environment.

Timeline: Q2-Q4 2025

Strengthen the place of Sport Climbing in the Programme in Brisbane 2032.

Timeline: Q4 2025

Establish Continental qualifying events through the AOC (Associations of Olympic Committees) Games.

Timeline: Q3 2025

2 – OLYMPICS & PARALYMPICS (cont.)

Validate LA 2028 Paraclimbing classes.

Timeline: Q2 – Q3 2025

Confirm Paraclimbing in Brisbane 2032

Timeline: 2026

NFs' long-term Paraclimbing development plans. Regional development through CCs.

Timeline: Q3 2025 – 2028

3 - CALENDAR – SUBSIDIARY - EDE

Categorize tournaments, like ATP, and standardization of wall/infrastructure.

Timeline: 2026 – 2027

IFSC Subsidiary (presented at 2023 GA) and support to National Federations organizing events.

Use EDE (External Delivery Entity) opportunities, e.g. Olympic Games, AOC Games, Multisport Games.

4 – GOVERNANCE & SUSTAINABILITY

With ASOIF and IOC support, create an Integrity Unit, serving multiple IFs.

Timeline: Q2 2025

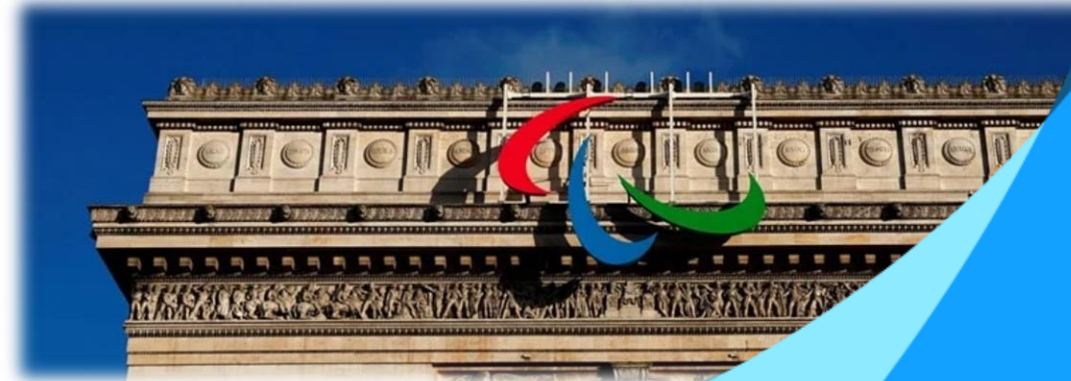
Consolidate the IFSC position among the best governed IFs.

Assign experts to National Federations for raising their standards.

Invest in research for recycling and cost reduction of holds and volumes.

Timeline: Q1 2026

Enforce rules to reduce by 50% operational emissions by 2028 (currently 2030).



5 – GENDER EQUALITY & EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Programmes to incentivize Gender Equality
Policies and processes.

Policies for pregnant and parenting Athletes.

Timeline: Q3 2025

6 – IFSC NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

Create or strengthen links between NFs and
their relevant NOCs

Through World Climbing Academy, support
training paths for officials and coaches, for
integration in national sport systems.

Expand and enhance IOC Solidarity
programmes.

Create a fund for development in
disadvantaged regions.

Design and implement new IFSC-NFs
communication channels, such as virtual
forums, to facilitate opinions exchange.

7 – CONTINENTAL COUNCILS

Identification of areas and matters to move
towards differentiated and progressive autonomy,
in response to local needs and for greater
effectiveness and participation.

Timeline: Q3 2025

Set up the juridical frame for CCs becoming
separate legal entities.

Timeline: Q1 2026

Regionalization of activities (including events) to
facilitate NF participation and growth.

Inclusion in regional Multi Sport events (e.g.
Games of the Small States of Europe,
Mediterranean Games, Commonwealth
Games, Central America and Caribbean
Games, Bolivarian Games, Islamic Solidarity
Games, Island Games, Jeux de la
Francophonie, etc.).

Timeline: 2027-2028

8 – BRAND AWARENESS - WORLD CLIMBING

Rebranding – launch of a contest for a new IFSC logo among climbers and NFs



Timeline: Q2 – Q3 2025

- IFSC AFRICA → AFRICA CLIMBING
- IFSC ASIA → ASIA CLIMBING
- IFSC EUROPE → EUROPE CLIMBING
- IFSC OCEANIA → OCEANIA CLIMBING
- IFSC PANAM → PANAM CLIMBING

Timeline: Q3 2025

9 – GEOPOLITICAL

Working Group to propose Guidelines in case of armed conflicts or international crisis, with regards to responsibilities of Athletes and NFs for their Governments' decision: leading role inside the Olympic Movement.

10 – MARKETING AND RESOURCES

Capitalization of Paris 2024 success and climbing upward trend, elaborating innovative plans and strategies, in collaboration with the IFSC Marketing Agencies.

Maximize the existing IFSC circuit exposure.

Increase visibility in regions hosting the Olympic Games and other major events.

Special focus on the US, then Australia, in the perspective of LA 28 and Brisbane 32.

Reach new Territories.

Fans engagement, creating new contents (shorts, series) and attract distributors.

Approach the world of private events, to propose commons strategies.

Share expertise with global and local operators.

11 – PRIVATE EQUITIES & PRO LEAGUES

Sport is a new investment category. We unlock our potential without losing control.

Timeline: Q1 2026

Pro League project operators' involvement. Merge their plans into a new model of “pro sport”, where the International Federation remains the guardian of the sport, the Athletes capitalize their talents, the National Federations' interests are protected.

Timeline: Q3 2025

12 – ESPORTS

Embrace the digital evolution and move in the direction of the Olympic E-sports Games.

E-Climbing network of experts and companies, leading to an operational E-field-of-play by 2028.

Timeline: Q3-Q4 2025

13 – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

Moving from [IOC AI Agenda](#) description of the impact of AI on sports and its guiding principles for its implementation, tools must be an asset for all IFSC members..

Partnering with start-ups and firms is on the way, exploring several applications (e.g. Performance Analysis, Injury Prevention, Virtual Coaching , Fan Engagement, Virtual Training).

Timeline: Q3-Q4 2025

Collect knowledge and best practices and make them available to the IFSC Community at large.



14 – CLIMBING SUMMITS

Confirm the IFSC Climbing Summits in 2026 and 2028, proposing, among others, new themes as technology and new trends in climbing.

Timeline: Q4 2025

Organization of regional Summits, involving main climbing stakeholders, e.g. climbing wall and gear industry, media.

15 – GRASSROOTS

Building and support projects for Climbing communities.

Boost historical promotional events of great appeal, such as the Rock Junior.

Thank you for your attention

Sincerely yours



World up...
Keep Climbing!

