



**WORLD
CLIMBING**

WORLD RANKING REGULATION

Issue record

Issue	Date	Description
A	28-11-2022	First version
B	02-01-2022	Second version
C	01-01-2025	Third version
D	01-15-2026	Fourth version

Applicability

Competition	Applicability
World Events	Y
Continental Events	Y
International Events & Masters	Y
Games & other events	Y

Contents

1. General	3
2. Ranking basis	3
3. Counting Competitions	4
4. Ranking points.....	5
5. Reference implementation	6
6. Frequency of calculation	6
TABLE 1 BASE POINTS	7
TABLE 2 CONTINENT STRENGTH FACTORS.....	8
TABLE 3 EVENT TYPE PARAMETERS	8
TABLE 4 CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS	9
TABLE 5 INTERNATIONAL CLIMBING SERIES POINTS.....	10
TABLE 6 CONTINENTAL SERIES POINTS.....	11
ANNEX 1 CALCULATION FORMULAE.....	12
1. World Rankings	12
2. Ranking Points.....	12
3. Quantity Functions	12

1. General

- 1.1. World Climbing maintains a ranking system for individuals and National Federations (“Federations”) participating in international sport climbing competitions for each of the following disciplines and gender categories:

Individuals	Men (Age 17+)	Women (Age 17+)
Boulder	Y	Y
Lead	Y	Y
Speed ¹	Y	Y
Boulder&Lead	Y	Y

Federations	Men (Age 17+)	Mixed (Age 17+)	Women (Age 17+)
Speed-Relay	Y	Y	Y

These rankings (the *World Rankings*) are also referred to as the *Continuously Updated World Rankings (CUWR)* to distinguish them from seasonal rankings for the World Series and other competition series.

- 1.2. A competitor’s *World Rankings* are independent of their license status. i.e., competitors remain eligible for inclusion within the *World Rankings* irrespective of whether their license is currently “active”.

2. Ranking basis

- 2.1. Competitors and Federations are each ranked in inverse order to the total ranking points gained across the previous twelve (12) month period on a non time-weighted basis.

2.1.1. *World Rankings* are calculated using the “standard competition ranking” methodology. Competitors and Federations with an equal number of total ranking points will have the same World Ranking;

2.1.2. A *Counting Result* for the purposes of any *World Ranking* is a placing (ranking) for which ranking points are awarded in the General Result of a qualifying competition (a *Counting Competition*);

2.1.3. Competitors and Federations who participate in one or more *Counting Competitions* but who have no *Counting Results* (i.e. who have not been awarded any ranking points) will not appear in the relevant *World Ranking*.

- 2.2. If a competitor or Federation has more than six (6) *Counting Results* in the previous twelve (12) month period, only their six (6) best *Counting Results* will be used when calculating their *World Ranking*.

2.2.1. If a competitor or Federation has more than three (3) *Counting Results* from Continental Series and International Climbing Series competitions together in the previous twelve (12) month period, only their three (3) best *Counting Results* from that combined set of competitions will be used when calculating their *World Ranking*.

2.3. For the purposes of Boulder&Lead *World Rankings*:

2.3.1. Competitors must have at least one (1) *Counting Result* in Lead and one (1) *Counting Result* in Boulder. A *Counting Result* in Boulder&Lead can be substituted for either a single Lead *Counting Result* or a single Boulder *Counting Result*;

2.3.2. No more than three (3) *Counting Results* from any single discipline will be used when calculating the *World Ranking*.

2.4. For the purposes of Federation Speed Relay *World Rankings*:

2.4.1. A Federation Counting Result refers to the result attributed to a Federation for a single event. If a Federation enters two (2) teams in the same event and discipline, the ranking points earned by those teams shall be aggregated and will constitute one Counting Result within the competition.

3. **Counting Competitions**

3.1. Ranking points will only be awarded at competitions which are either:

3.1.1. *World Events*, open to participation by competitors from all currently eligible *Member Federations*. e.g., the World Championship, the World Series and specified International Events or Games; or

3.1.2. *Continental Events*, organised by a *Continental Council* and/or open to participation by competitors from currently eligible *Member Federations* of that *Continental Council*. e.g., the Asian Championship, the European Series; or

3.1.3. *International Climbing Series Events*, organized by World Climbing, *Member Federation*, and/or open to participation by competitors from all currently eligible *Member Federations*.

3.2. Ranking points will not be awarded at invitational events. i.e., events where participation is at the discretion of the Event Organiser

3.3. Ranking points will not be awarded for *Continental Events* with only one (1) Country participating to the competition

3.4. World Climbing will publish annually a list of *Counting Competitions*, including the relevant the *Status Factor* values associated with these competitions (or the competition series/league of which they form part), not later than 31 January each year. Any subsequent additions/deletions from this list will require the approval of the World Climbing Executive Board and will be published on the World Climbing website and communicated directly to all *Member Federations*

4. Ranking points

- 4.1. The number and distribution of ranking points awarded at any *Counting Competition* is determined by three factors:
 - 4.1.1. A *Status Factor* specific to the competition, determining its relative “weight” for the *World Ranking*.
 - 4.1.2. A general *Points Function* for the *World Rankings*, defining a base points value associated with placing (ranking) positions in the *General Result* for a competition.
 - 4.1.3. A *Quantity Function* specific to the competition, modifying the number of placing (ranking) positions for which ranking points will be awarded and the distribution of points as compared with the base points values of the general *Points Function*.
- 4.2. The *Status Factor* for each *Counting Competition* will be published by World Climbing with the list of *Counting Competitions* at the start of each year.
- 4.3. The general *Points Function* for the *World Rankings* is set out at Table 1 (*Base Points*). Where two or more competitors or Federation teams have the same placing (ranking) in the *General Result* of a competition, the ranking points awarded to each tied competitor will be averaged for the tied places.
- 4.4. The *Quantity Function* for *World Events* makes no change to the general *Points Function* for competitors or Federation teams placed (ranked) 80th and better in relevant World Events. Lower ranked competitors or Federation teams will receive no ranking points.
- 4.5. The *Quantity Function* for *Continental Events* and *International Climbing Series Events* amends the general *Points Function* with the following effects:
 - 4.5.1. Irrespective of its inclusion in the list of *Counting Events*, ranking points will be awarded for *Continental Events* and *International Climbing Series Events* only where the number of competitors or Federation teams starting the competition in the relevant discipline and category combination is equal or greater to the Minimum Competitors value set out in Table 3 for the event type;
 - 4.5.2. Subject to paragraph 4.5.1, ranking points will be awarded to competitors or Federation teams placed (ranked) at or better than the Lowest Rank Receiving Points value set out in Table 3 for the event type; and
 - 4.5.3. For *Continental Events*, The ranking points awarded for any placing (ranking) will depend upon a *Continent Strength* factor reflecting the relative strength of the relevant Continental Council within the previous year’s *World Ranking*. Separate *Continent Strength* factors will be determined for each combination of category and discipline by calculating the total number of ranking points awarded to the best 20 competitors from each *Continental Council* in the *World Ranking* for that category and discipline as at the end of the previous year. Applicable factors are set out at Table 2 (Continent Strength Factors), assigned to

each *Continental Council* per their relative strength, i.e. the strongest *Continental Council* (i.e., with the greatest number of points) will be assigned a *Continent Strength* factor of 1.5, the weakest a *Continent Strength* factor of 1.0.

For *Continental Events* and *International Climbing Series Events*, the resultant point schedules are as set out in Tables 4, 5, and 6.

- 4.6. World Climbing will publish annually the calculated *Continental Strength* factors applicable to *Continental Events* for each category and discipline in parallel with publication of the list of *Counting Competitions* for the coming year.

5. **Reference implementation**

- 5.1. Reference equations for the calculation of ranking points, World Rankings, and Quantity Functions for World Events/Continental Events are set out at Annex 1 (Calculation Formulae).

6. **Frequency of calculation**

- 6.1. The *World Rankings* are updated daily at 00:00:00 UTC. The ranking points associated with the *General Result* for any relevant competition will be added into the relevant *World Ranking* at midnight UTC on the day the event in which the competition takes place finishes, and the ranking updated as of the following day.

e.g., If the results for a competition are made official at 20:00:00 hours (UTC) on 31 May 2021 (2021-05-31T20:00:00Z) on the last day of an event, the results from that competition will be included in the World Ranking for the period commencing at midnight UTC (2021-06-01T00:00:00Z) and concluding 12 calendar months later (2022-05-31T23:59:59Z).

- 6.2. The *World Ranking* for each category and discipline are published online at <https://www.worldclimbing.com>

TABLE 1
BASE POINTS

Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points
1st	1000	21st	145	41st	14	61st	4
2nd	805	22nd	130	42nd	13	62nd	4
3rd	690	23rd	120	43rd	12	63rd	4
4th	610	24th	105	44th	11	64th	3
5th	545	25th	95	45th	11	65th	3
6th	495	26th	84	46th	10	66th	3
7th	455	27th	73	47th	9	67th	3
8th	415	28th	63	48th	9	68th	3
9th	380	29th	56	49th	8	69th	2
10th	350	30th	48	50th	8	70th	2
11th	325	31st	42	51st	7	71st	2
12th	300	32nd	37	52nd	7	72nd	2
13th	280	33rd	33	53rd	7	73rd	2
14th	260	34th	30	54th	6	74th	2
15th	240	35th	27	55th	6	75th	1
16th	220	36th	24	56th	6	76th	1
17th	205	37th	21	57th	5	77th	1
18th	185	38th	19	58th	5	78th	1
19th	170	39th	17	59th	5	79th	1
20th	155	40th	15	60th	4	80th	1

TABLE 2
CONTINENT STRENGTH FACTORS

Rank	1	2	3	4	5
Continent Strength Factor	1.500	1.375	1.250	1.125	1.000

TABLE 3
EVENT TYPE PARAMETERS

Event Type	Minimum Competitors or Federation Teams	Lowest Rank Receiving Points
World Events	n/a	(80)
Continental Championship	10	20
International Climbing Series	1	20
Continental Series	10	10

TABLE 4
CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

	Continental Strength				
Rank	1	2	3	4	5
1st	300	275	250	225	200
2nd	230	211	192	173	153
3rd	187	171	156	140	125
4th	156	143	130	117	104
5th	131	120	109	99	88
6th	112	103	93	84	75
7th	96	88	80	72	64
8th	81	75	68	61	54
9th	69	63	57	52	46
10th	58	53	49	44	39
11th	49	45	41	37	33
12th	41	38	34	31	27
13th	34	31	28	26	23
14th	28	26	23	21	19
15th	22	20	18	17	15
16th	17	16	14	13	11
17th	13	12	11	10	9
18th	9	8	7	7	6
19th	6	5	5	4	4
20th	3	3	2	2	2

TABLE 5
INTERNATIONAL CLIMBING SERIES POINTS

Rank	Points
1st	150
2nd	115
3rd	94
4th	78
5th	66
6th	56
7th	48
8th	41
9th	35
10th	29
11th	25
12th	21
13th	17
14th	14
15th	11
16th	9
17th	7
18th	5
19th	3
20th	2

TABLE 6
CONTINENTAL SERIES POINTS

	Continental Strength				
Rank	1	2	3	4	5
1st	150	138	125	113	100
2nd	109	100	91	82	73
3rd	83	76	69	63	56
4th	65	59	54	49	43
5th	50	45	41	37	33
6th	38	35	31	28	25
7th	28	26	23	21	19
8th	19	18	16	15	13
9th	12	11	10	9	8
10th	6	5	5	4	4

ANNEX 1 CALCULATION FORMULAE

1. World Rankings

- 1.1. The ranking points awarded to a competitor or Federation for any consecutive twelve month period:

$$P = \sum_{k=1}^{|B|} B_k \text{ where } B = \underset{A' \subset A, |A'| \leq n}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{a \in A'} a$$

where:

A is the set of ranking points gained by the competitor or Federation from their Counting Results for a given discipline over the preceding twelve (12) months

B is the set of ranking points used to calculate the World Ranking

n is the maximum number of Counting Results allowed to be counted for the World Ranking

2. Ranking Points

- 2.1. The ranking points awarded to a competitor or Federation starting in any *Counting Competition* will be calculated according to the following formula:

$$P(r|r \in \mathbb{Z}^+, n|n \in \mathbb{Z}^+) = \frac{\sum_{k=r}^{r+(n-1)} [S_F * p(k) * q(k)]}{n}$$

where:

r is the competitor's or Federation's placing (ranking) in the General Result of the competition

n is the number of competitors or Federations tied in that rank

S_F represents the Status Factor for the competition

$p(k)$ represents the general Points Function.

$q(k)$ represents the Quantity Function for the competition.

Fractional ranking point values (for competitors or Federations in tied places) are rounded down to two decimal places.

Where no competitors are tied in rank (**r**), this formula simplifies to:

$$P(r|r \in \mathbb{Z}^+) = [S_F * p(r) * q(r)]$$

3. Quantity Functions

- 3.1. The Quantity Function for the calculation of ranking points in World Events can be expressed as follow:

$$q(r|r \in \mathbb{Z}^+) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } r > 80 \\ 1 & \text{if } 1 \leq r \leq 80 \end{cases}$$

- 3.2. The Quantity Function for the calculation of ranking points in Continental Events can be expressed as follow:

$$q(\{r|r \in \mathbb{Z}^+\}, \{n|n \in \mathbb{Z}^+\}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n < N \\ 0 & \text{if } r > R \\ C_s * \frac{(R + 1 - r)}{R} & \text{if } n \geq N \text{ and } r \leq R \end{cases}$$

where:

C_s is the Continent Strength factor; and

n is the number of Competitors or Federation teams starting the competition

N is the Minimum Competitors or Federation teams as set out in Table 3

r is the competitor's or Federation team's placing (ranking) in the General Result of the competition

R is the lowest rank (i.e., the greatest cardinal value) for which world ranking points will be awarded at a competition as set out in Table 3 column Lowest Rank Receiving Points