

IFSC GUIDELINES

LEAD TOPO NUMBERING



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SPORT CLIMBING

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1. General

These guidelines shall be read in conjunction with the IFSC Rules. The guidelines clarify the Topo numbering process for Lead competitions and will help to get consistent high-quality Topo for IFSC Lead Competitions

1.1. Definition of numbered handholds

An artificial hold means a manufactured climbing hold attached to the climbing surface by means of screws or bolts (either for hands or feet). A climbing hold can also be a part of the climbing wall. Any object (artificial hold, feature, edge ...) can be defined as a handhold by the routesetter and marked on the Topo. Only the useable parts of objects are the actual handholds. A single object can have one or more handholds.

1.2. Safety Hold and protection point (see Hold 24)

The Chief Routesetter may rule that a Protection Point must for reasons of safety be clipped from a particular hold (a "Safety Hold") or earlier, in which case such hold(s) and the relevant Protection Point(s) shall be clearly marked on the Topo with a blue cross including the signing of the Protection Point which has to be clipped from that handhold. (IFSC-Rule 7.3)

2. Timeline and responsibilities

2.1. Timeline

The preparation of the Topo should be finished at least one hour (1h) before the start of the round and the Topo should be signed by the IFSC Chief Routesetter and IFSC Judge/IFSC Jury President before publishing the Topo. Scoring values will be annotated on the Topo, which values will be fixed for the duration of the round. (IFSC-Rules 7.19)

2.2. Preparation of Topo

The IFSC Routesetter and / or the IFSC Chief Routesetter shall number the handholds on the Lead Topo, as described in this document. The IFSC Judge and / or the IFSC Jury President shall control the Topo with the IFSC Chief Routesetter or the IFSC Routesetter. Together they shall verify that all the handholds are numbered and discuss possibly problems from a judging point of view.

3. Preparation of the Lead Topo

The progression line of the route is fluent without sharp bends. It can be drawn on the route Topo by following the general path of the handholds. The line of a route can not contain any loops or small detours.

Every handhold is numbered based upon its distance along the line of the route, with consecutive numbers.

When two handholds are at the same distance along the line of the route and only one of them must be used, then both handholds should be given the same number.

When preparing the Lead Topo, the IFSC Routesetters should consider simplicity as key element of the preparation.

4. Duoholds

4.1. What is a Duohold?

Duoholds are exceptions to the **basic rule**: the higher the handhold along the line of the route, the higher the number.

It should be noted that duoholds might represent a challenge from the judging point of view. Special attention should be taken in declaring duoholds and the decision should be taken by IFSC Chief Routesetter and IFSC Jury President/Judge.

Duoholds might be declared only in the following cases:

4.1.1 Duohold type 1: Matching Hands (see Topo example: handhold 8/9 and 22/23)

This type of Duohold can only be declared when a handhold must be used with both hands. If an handhold can be held with two hands, but is not essential to proceed, the handhold should not be marked as a duohold.

4.1.2 Duohold type 2: Combining two handholds (see Topo example: handhold 11/12 or 16/17)

Two handholds, either beside or above each other can be combined as one duohold, only if the competitor

- A) Must make use of the duohold with both hands in order to proceed and
- B) The sequence of use may vary or it is predicted to conflict with the **basic rule** (e.g. take the higher hold first, than the lower one).

4.2. Marking and Scoring of a Duohold

The IFSC Chief Routesetter together with the IFSC Judge or the IFSC Jury President will usually draw a circle around the handholds which are included and give them the numbers separated by a slash (/). See Topo example: handhold 11/12.

A duohold cannot have more than two numbers; and the numbers shall be consecutive.

The first number is given when the duohold is controlled with one hand. The second number is given, when the duohold is controlled with the second hand.

5. Example of numbered Topo

