



**YORK REGION ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
ROCK CLIMBING PLAYING REGULATIONS**



**1. Playing Season**

Winter Co-ed

All YRAA sports will be offered at two tiers of competition provided the following conditions are met:

- A) The minimum number of teams to run a league will be 4. If less than 4 teams declare for a league, the convenor(s) of the league may appeal to the executive for an exception. Appeals must be heard before the pre-season meeting for that sport.
- B) If a sport declares less than 4 teams three years in a row, the sport will no longer be offered as an option by the YRAA.

**2. Divisions**

Female – Recreational, Sport, Elite

Male – Recreational, Sport, Elite

- a) Discipline: Top-rope
  - Recreational: climbing consistently up to 5.9 level of difficulty
  - Sport: climbing consistently at 5.9-5.11 levels of difficulty
  - Elite: climbing consistently at 5.11 level of difficulty or above
- b) Discipline: Bouldering
  - Recreational: climbing consistently at V1-V3 levels of difficulty
  - Sport: climbing consistently at V3-V5 levels of difficulty
  - Elite: climbing consistently at V5 level of difficulty or above

\*\*Team entry forms including competitor names, divisions, and genders must be submitted to the convenor and the host gym a minimum of **4 days** prior to the competition.

**3. Eligibility:**

- a) See YRAA Transfer Form.

- b) Age Division Categories:

**Varsity**      School Year: **2024-25**  
Year of Birth must be no earlier than: **2005**  
Date of Entry to grade 9 must be no earlier than August of: **2020**

- c) All climbers must be properly **trained** as outlined in the OPHEA guidelines
- d) The sport convenor has the option to set maximum team size based on the capacity of the host climbing gym. All climbers entering as a team must attend the same high school.



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**4. Governing Rules:**

- a) Refer to current OPHEA safety guidelines for this sport
- b) All climbers must abide by gym requirements for equipment
- c) All competitors will use a Gri Gri as their belaying device whether they are climbing or belaying on top rope
- d) All climbers must climb on top rope at each competition.
- e) Competitors must sign a waiver from the climbing gym hosting the competition if they are 18 years of age or older or have a parent/guardian sign otherwise.
- f) A “friendly format” will be used during all competitions
- g) Competitors may not help each other verbally or physically once the climber has begun a route.
- h) Each team will be responsible to bring enough qualified belayers to belay their own teammates.

**5. QUALIFYING ROUND SCORING:**

- a) Judging will be based on high point rules.
- b) A climb officially begins when both feet are lifted off the ground.
- c) Competitors may be assigned a specific number of climbs to complete during the preliminary round. Any missing climbs will be awarded a score of zero (0).
- d) **A climb ends when the climber either falls off the wall entirely, places their weight on the belay rope or uses any feature on the wall not considered to be part of the route. This is considered an attempt.**
- e) climbing routes will be worth different values based on their level of difficulty. **Top 5 scoring climbs will be used to determine the climbers qualifier scores. Divisions will be assigned based on the top 3 scoring climbs. Boulder climbs must be topped for points and top-rope is based on zones completed.**
- g) **A climber finishes or tops a climb by holding the final rock with both hands in control for 3 seconds confirmed by the judge of the route.**
- h) **Climbers are not required to attend all qualifiers**
- i) **Top three (3) male and top (3) females for the Recreational division per discipline will be announced after all qualifying rounds are completed**
- j) **Qualifiers will be in a scramble format. Top rope qualifiers may require a longer duration to account for belay setup.**



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**6 FINALS FORMAT AND SCORING:**

- a) Only Elite and Sport divisions for the finals.
- b) There will be thirty (30) spots for each division's finals, regardless of gender.
- c) In the event not all spots are filled, invites will be extended to those in lower division.
- d) Climbers will have five (5) minutes to complete each climb. Once completed, they may rest until their next climb. If the climber is still on the wall when time expires, they must immediately stop climbing and come off the wall.
- e) Climbers compete in reverse order of their climbing placement in the qualifier rounds and may attempt to complete each route as many times as they wish.
- f) All climbers waiting must be off the climbing area, but not necessarily in isolation.
- g) A climb ends when the climber either falls off the wall entirely, places their weight on the belay rope or uses any feature on the wall not considered to be part of the route. This is considered an attempt.
- h) A climber finishes or tops a climb by holding the final rock with both hands in control for 3 seconds confirmed by the judge of the route.
- i) Scoring is not time based.
- j) Scoring will be based on progression completed and number of attempts. Score for topping supersedes zones and higher zones supersedes lower zones. Number of attempts works against the score.
- k) Tie breakers will be determined by the convenor and/or host gym at the finals.
- l) The convenor or host gym will assign the route belayers, judges and official timer for the finals.
- m) Top three (3) male and top three (3) females for the Elite division per discipline will be announced at the end of the finals.
- n) Top three (3) male and top three (3) females for the Sport division per discipline will be announced at the end of the finals.



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**7. Supervision of Teams/Individuals:**

- a) All teams or individuals must have on site supervision by a member of the teaching staff or retired teacher from the school that they represent.
- b) This teacher shall be responsible to the YRAA for the conduct of his/her team and shall be the only person involved in all exchanges with officials, opposing teacher/coaches and members of school staffs.
- c) A non-teacher (community volunteer, parent, etc.) is permitted to assist in the coaching of an individual or team provided that a teacher is present and responsible.
- d) The teacher must be present on the bench for all games for team sports or in the immediate vicinity for all other sports.
- e) Unless the staff member (as defined in Section 1 a) – above) of the competing school is present, the opposing teacher/coach and/or convenor shall not allow the game to begin or an individual to compete and the competition shall be forfeited.
- f) It is the teacher/coaches' duty to ensure the accuracy of the information provided on the game sheets compared to the team's eligibility list.

**8. Costs:**

- a) an individual entry fee to be set **for each qualifier**, with separate fees charged for equipment rentals. **This fee will be affected by the hosting gym(s).**
- b) **An athletic fee, separate from qualifier fees, is required once from each climber participating in at least 1 qualifier to cover the cost of finals and/or any potential additional costs.**

**9. Awards:**

- a) **Individual medallions** will be awarded to the top three (3) males and top three (3) females in each division per discipline.
  - I. Top **Recreational** climbers will be announced after all qualifying round(s).
  - II. Top **Elite and Sport** climbers will be announced at the end of the finals.
- b) A team trophy and banner will be awarded to the winning team which scores the most overall points in the Preliminary Round totaled from both top-rope and bouldering events. Team points will be calculated by finding the sum of the best single route score for the top 15 climbers on that team as follows – full best route points for the top 5 climbers on the team, plus 80% of best route points for the next 5 climbers, plus 60% of points for the next 5 climbers,

- c) Bill Crothers SS is ineligible to win the above team award. For scoring purposes, Bill Crothers SS team results will be omitted after the competition scoring has been done. Final results for events will be posted with Bill Crothers SS students included in the results.

**Sept 2024**