

Annex 11 - UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour – World Level Event - Route Setting Guidance

1. Pre-event – setting requirements

The appointed Chief Route setter should work with the UIAA Event Coordinator and the local organisers to confirm exactly what the route setting requirements are for the event for qualification, semi-finals and finals and make sure that the event can run as smoothly as possible. Especially allowing for the maximum number of routes to be used at the same time during qualification for maximum efficiency of time, with many athletes on the start list.

2. Holds

- All holds used in UIAA events should be capable of withstanding the rigors of competition ice axe placement for the entirety of the competition and should not degrade or change in shape during the event itself.
- All the holds should ideally be clear of out of bounds areas, but if out of bounds red paint is absolutely necessary, then this must be clearly visible from ALL angles, especially from the ground for the benefit of the athlete and officials – if this is not possible a different hold should be used.

3. Out of bounds areas

- The use of red tape/paint to mark out of bounds areas should be avoided if at all possible, however if it is essential for an unavoidable reason then these areas must be clearly marked, in a way that means it cannot be worn off as the competition progresses.
- It should also be made sure that athletes cannot accidentally brush, rub or scuff these areas when doing dynamic moves to pass the out of bounds area.

4. Video Demonstrations

- See the Annex 12 - UIAA Demonstration Video Filming & Editing Guidelines.
- The video demonstrations need to be sent to the UIAA Event Coordinator in a downloadable format the night before qualification starts, so that they can be posted to the UIAA YouTube channel in a timely fashion for the athletes to view. Please use WeTransfer or OneDrive or similar.
- The requirement for TVs to be available in the warmup zone for the athlete to view the demos on the day of qualification is still mandatory.

5. Walk through with UIAA Officials

Before the start of every event there will be a mandatory briefing/walkthrough of all the routes to be used during the competition with the Jury President, International Judges and the Event Coordinator, looking at safety issues, fall zones and possible technical incidents and how these can be avoided and/or mitigated.

6. Safety

The safety of everyone involved in the competition is the number one priority of the UIAA. Great care is required to risk assess the routes and where potential unexpected falls may occur – where the athlete is likely to end up, and if the athlete is likely to hit anything in the event of an unexpected fall from any part of the structure, even with a perfect belay. These sorts of incidents are still possible and should be avoided or mitigated against. All these possibilities should be looked at and discussed before the event with the route setting team, the Jury President and the Event Coordinator in the walkthrough. The route setters should provide clear descriptions of the routes, even those not currently up on the wall, ideally using

the demonstration videos as reference to look at all the possible scenarios.

7. Equipment

All equipment used in in UIAA events must be UIAA Safety Label certified and conform to all the rules detailed in the UIAA Rules and Regulations and UIAA Event Organisers Handbook. This includes quickdraws, slings, extenders, maillon rapides and all structural equipment used in the placement and securing of anchors and protection points.

8. Technical incidents

At least one of the route setters must be always on site and close to the event structure during the competition. If a technical incident occurs, then the route setter should immediately join the Jury President to ensure that the technical incident protocol is followed, and the incident is resolved as soon as possible with minimal disruption to the competition and the athletes involved.

9. Retrieval of stuck ice axes

There must be a procedure in place to make it possible to retrieve stuck ice axes from any point on the structure in a timely manner at all times during the competition.

10. Speed Wall

Although it is not the responsibility of the route setters to ensure the quality of the events speed ice wall in the run up to the event. The route setters should use their experience to check the speed walls ice conditions and make sure that the setup of the top anchor and the belaying system is safe and correct, as well as assist with the installation of the timing equipment where necessary.

11. Event debrief

Once the event has concluded either the next day or during the proceeding week (via zoom if necessary) there will be a mandatory debrief between the Chief Route setter, the Jury President, the Event Coordinator and a representative from the athlete commission to discuss the event - any issues that occurred and what improvements can be made. These issues will be included the event report that will be provided to the organisers and route setters at the end of the season.

12. Insurance

All route setters must have their own personal insurance which adequately covers them in case an accident occurs whilst they are setting at a UIAA sanctioned event. This cover will not be provided by the UIAA or the local organiser.

Please sign below and print your name to show that you have read and understood the guidelines detailed above and will abide by these in the coming season.

Name _____

Signature _____

Role – Judge/Route setter – circle appropriate

Date _____

Event allocation for 2023 season _____