

2026 CODE OF CONDUCT

FOR INTERNATIONAL ICE CLIMBING COMPETITIONS

ANNEX 14 OF UIAA EVENT ORGANISER AGREEMENT (EOA)

Table of Contents

1. **Acknowledgment**
2. **Preamble (Purpose)**
3. **Scope of the Code of Conduct**
 - 3.1 Persons Bound
 - 3.2 Scope of Applicability
 - 3.3 Applicability of Time
4. **Breach of Code**
5. **General Principles**
6. **Non-Discrimination**
7. **Neutrality**
8. **Confidentiality**
9. **Protection of Physical and Mental Integrity**
10. **Conduct of Athletes**
11. **Conduct of Coaches**
12. **Conduct of Officials (Including Judges and Route Setters)**
13. **Conduct of Office**
 - 13.1 Offering and Accepting Gifts
 - 13.2 Bribery and Corruption
 - 13.3 Votes
 - 13.4 Conflicts of Interest
14. **Integrity of Competitions**
 - 14.1 Manipulation of Events
 - 14.2 Betting and Gambling
 - 14.3 Anti-Doping
15. **Relations with Third Parties**
 - 15.1 Partners
 - 15.2 Candidatures for UIAA Competitions and Events
 - 15.3 Bidding Information
 - 15.4 Lobbying
16. **Obligation to Report**
17. **Safeguarding**
18. **Sanctions / Disciplinary Actions**
 - 18.1 Types of Disciplinary Offences
 - 18.2 Possible Sanctions

UIAA Ice Climbing Code of Conduct

Acknowledgment

By registering for a UIAA sanctioned event, all athletes and officials are acknowledging they have read, understood, and agreed to abide by this Code of Conduct prior to participating in any UIAA Ice Climbing competition.

Preamble (Purpose): The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to uphold the integrity, fairness, and spirit of the sport of ice climbing. It outlines the standards of behavior expected from all people detailed below participating in UIAA Ice Climbing competitions to ensure a safe, respectful, and sportsmanlike environment.

Scope of Code of Conduct:

- Persons Bound: Those involved in UIAA Ice Climbing Competitions
 - Athletes
 - Officials
 - Coaches
 - Entities subject to UIAA Regulations
 - UIAA staff and Consultants
 - Event Organizers

Scope of Applicability

The Code shall apply to conduct that damages the integrity and reputation of Ice Climbing and, in particular, to illegal, immoral, and unethical behavior.

Applicability of Time

This Code applies to conduct whenever it occurs, including before the enactment of this Code. The investigation of breaches of the Code may no longer be initiated after a period of 10 years from the date when the incident leading to the alleged breach took place. Provided that the investigation is initiated in a timely manner, a disciplinary panel shall be entitled to complete pending cases and render decisions.

Breach of Code

As a general rule, any breach of the Code may be established whether it was committed deliberately or negligently, whether the breach constitutes an act or an attempted act, and whether the parties acted as participant, accomplice, or instigator. Any breach of code will go before the UIAA Court, and in certain cases before the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

General Principles

- Persons bound by the Code of Conduct are expected to abide by the obligations and responsibilities arising from their position and adhere to the highest degree of ethics. They shall conduct themselves with utmost integrity, honesty, dignity, impartiality, and dedication when executing their function. They shall not act, or fail to act, in a manner likely to harm the reputation of UIAA or contrary to the objectives of UIAA, not limited to activity directly related to their function.
- Persons bound by the Code shall not in any way abuse their position, in particular to obtain personal gains or to pursue private interests.
- In addition to these general principles, all persons bound by the Code shall observe the rules below and shall immediately report any potential breach to the UIAA Court.
- Be a positive role model for the activity you are volunteering or participating in.
- Respect the rights, dignities and worth of everyone.
- Encourage two-way communication with all, fostering a pleasant, respectful and friendly atmosphere.
- Take care of your own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by your actions or omissions whilst volunteering or participating in UIAA activities.
- Do not use illegal drugs at any UIAA sanctioned event within and only smoke/vape or consume alcohol if old enough to legally do so and in designated areas.
- Ensure appropriate use of social media/digital communication in line with the UIAA policy/guidelines.
- Ensure all policies, guidelines and best practice laid down by the UIAA are followed.
- Always report concerns you have about safeguarding, bullying, harassment and discrimination or breach of any applicable policy to the UIAA.
- Promote, maintain and uphold the reputation of the UIAA at all times. If you disagree with the opinion or decision of the UIAA or person e.g. a competition judge, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than question their judgement and honesty in public.
- Cooperate fully with the UIAA and other relevant authorities when requested to provide any evidence or other information and make a written statement in connection with any investigation by the UIAA or other authorities.
- Promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. mental and physical health benefits, risk management and fair play. Encourage participants to enjoy and value their performance and not just the outcome).
- Respect the natural outdoor environment and minimize the environmental impact of their activities.
- Comply with all rules and regulations set forth by the UIAA.
- Avoid conduct that brings the sport or the UIAA into disrepute.
- Minimize waste, avoid littering, and follow all sustainability practices

Non-discrimination

- The persons bound by the Code shall not in any way and in any circumstance discriminate a person or a group of persons because of race, nationality, skin color, religion, language, sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, or gender identity), disability, social origin or status, age, political preferences, or any other reason contrary to human dignity.
- Will respect members of athletes' team, other teams, UIAA volunteers/representatives, spectators and officials, and engage in no form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse, whether in person, online, or via any social media platform.

Neutrality

- In dealings with government institutions, national and international organizations, associations and groupings, persons bound by the Code shall remain politically neutral, in accordance with the principles and objectives of UIAA, whenever expressing themselves on behalf of the UIAA or of the organization they represent.

Confidentiality

- Persons bound by the Code shall not disclose information entrusted to them in confidence and which has not been made public. Other information shall not be divulged for personal gain or benefit, nor be undertaken in bad faith to damage the reputation of any person or organization.
- The obligation of confidentiality survives the termination of any relationship which makes a person subject to the Code.

Protection of Physical and Mental Integrity

- Persons bound by the Code shall respect the physical and mental integrity of all persons with whom they interact in the context of their functions. All forms of harassment and abuse, with particular attention to minors and to sexual harassment in any form, is strictly forbidden.

Conduct of Athletes

- Participate within the rules and respect coaches, officials, judges and their decisions.
- Always perform to the best of their ability.
- Always promote fair play.
- Listen and respond positively/respectfully to their coach.
- Allow the coaches to do their job, do not openly criticize.
- Respect all other participants.
- Never condone rule violation or use of prohibited substances.
- Always wear appropriate clothing.
- Always use only UIAA-approved equipment and ensure it is in safe working condition.

- Follow all safety protocols as directed by officials and organizers.
- Be honest with your coach and/or medical personnel concerning illness, injury and your ability to train and compete fully.
- Always be on time for meetings and starting times
- Do not consume alcohol or smoke/vape in the premises of the event during the competition schedule.
- Act as an ambassador for UIAA Ice Climbing and the athletes respected country

Conduct of Coaches

- Develop an appropriate working relationship with UIAA officials based on mutual trust and respect.
- Never abuse or misuse any relationship of trust or position of power or influence with UIAA officials.
- Always inform your country's federation/UIAA if you are concerned about the health or wellbeing of an athlete or participant.
- Inform the UIAA if you have been arrested for, or charged with a criminal offence, or have any criminal conviction.
- Never discuss the performance of an athlete in a derogatory manner during a competition within the earshot of any coach, athlete or member of the public.
- Ensure compliance to any rules or regulations relating to the practice of the sport, for example (but not limited to) the rules and regulations of your country's federation, UIAA, or International Olympic Committee (IOC).
- Ensure that any conflicts of interest are declared to the UIAA prior to or at the event.
- Do not consume alcohol or smoke/vape whilst in the act of coaching at a UIAA sanctioned event.
- Always inform a UIAA delegate or jury president if you are approached or hear anything suspicious about fixing any part of a competition.

Conduct of Officials Including Judges and Route Setters

- Always consider the wellbeing and safety of participants as paramount.
- Follow the advice or guidance given by a physician (or other medically qualified specialist) in determining whether an injured or ill (including mentally ill) athlete/climber is ready to participate in competition.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with participants based on mutual trust and respect.
- Hold appropriate, valid qualifications and insurance cover.
- Ensure all activities are planned, risk assessed and that participants are suitably prepared mentally and physically.
- Never victimize, attempt to victimize or encourage the victimization of any individual (or their parents, guardians or dependents) for raising concerns or making a complaint.

- Never discuss the performance of an athlete in a derogatory/insulting manner during a competition within the earshot of any coach, athlete or member of the public.
- Never assume responsibility for any role for which you are not qualified, prepared for, or that is beyond the scope of your expertise.
- Ensure compliance with any rules or regulations relating to the practice of the sport or activity, for example (but not limited to) the rules and regulations of your country's federation, UIAA or International Olympic Committee (IOC).
- Never instruct, encourage, or facilitate any other party, to bet on a competition that you are involved in.
- Never give or receive any gift, payment or other benefit that might reasonably be expected to influence either your, or the recipient's, judgment or otherwise bring the UIAA into disrepute.
- Never share sensitive information you have access to that is not available to the public.
- Always inform a UIAA delegate or jury president if you are approached or hear anything suspicious about fixing any part of a competition.

Conduct of Office

Offering and accepting gifts

- Persons bound by the Code shall neither offer nor accept gifts or other benefits in the context of their function, unless such gift or benefit fulfils all the following requirements:
 - It has symbolic or trivial value (in any case, it shall not exceed EUR 200.-), or is exclusively aimed at sharing local customs
 - It is not offered or accepted as a way of influencing any actions undertaken within the roles of either of the persons or entities concerned.
 - It is not offered or accepted in contravention of the duties of the persons bound by the Code.
 - It does not create any undue pecuniary or other advantage.
 - It does not create a conflict of interest; and
 - It has been declared.
 - In case of doubt, the gift or benefit in question shall not be offered or accepted.
 - The gift, offer, promise, acceptance, solicitation, or request of cash, in any amount or form, is forbidden in all cases.

Bribery and corruption

- Persons bound by the Code shall not, directly or indirectly give, solicit, request, accept, offer, promise any form of undue remuneration or fee, nor any concealed benefit or service of any nature.
- This rule shall apply to all activities related to the organization of competitions or the governance of the sport, whether within or outside the UIAA, Continental Councils or Member Federations and whether in connection with the person's official activities or not.

Votes

- Persons bound by the Code shall neither give nor accept instructions to vote (unless given specific permission/instructions in an official proxy vote scenario) or intervene in a certain manner, conflicting with their respective functions and duties, within the organization of the UIAA, Continental Councils or Member Federations and their affiliates, or any organization to which the UIAA is affiliated.

Conflicts of interest

- Persons bound by the Code shall refrain from placing themselves in any actual or potential/perceived conflict of interest and shall not perform their duties in situations in which an existing or potential/perceived conflict of interest might affect such performance. [Persons bound by the Code shall respect the UIAA Conflict of Interest Policy.](#)

Integrity of Competitions

Manipulation of events

- Any activity that is aimed at or that may potentially modify or influence the course or result of a competition, or any part thereof, in any manner contrary to sporting ethics, is forbidden.

Betting and gambling

- Persons bound by this Code shall not bet or gamble, either directly or indirectly, or instruct, permit, cause or enable any individual to bet or gamble on the result, progress, conduct or any other aspect of, or occurrence in or in connection with, any Ice Climbing competition.

Anti-doping

- Any activity promoting, facilitating, associating with, or otherwise supporting behavior or actions that violate the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code as well as your nation's anti-doping agency, is forbidden. For the avoidance of doubt, the application of the Code shall be subsidiary to that of the World Anti-Doping Code in respect of any person bound thereto.
- [Athletes shall comply fully with the World Anti-Doping Code and the UIAA's Anti-Doping regulations.](#)
- Athletes shall submit to any doping control procedures required.

Relations with Third Parties

Partners

- In dealings, negotiations and decisions concerning relationships with partners, including but not limited to sponsors, broadcasters, and suppliers, the persons bound by the Code shall

act in compliance with the Code and neither be influenced in any manner nor accept any kind of interference.

Candidatures for UIAA competitions and other events

- Persons bound by the Code shall observe the applicable rules in all activities regarding the bidding and selection processes for organizers of UIAA competitions and other events, and neither be influenced in any manner nor accept any kind of interference.
- The applicants wishing to organize UIAA competitions and other events shall respect the provisions of the Code in their entirety as well as all other applicable rules.

Bidding information

- The information contained in the applicant's bidding material shall be complete and truthful, shall not include comparisons of other bids, and shall not insult, belittle, or humiliate other applicants or organizers of UIAA competitions or other events.

Lobbying

- Applicants shall refrain from approaching any person, party, or third authority, with a view to obtaining any financial, political, or de facto support inconsistent with the provisions of the Code and the regulations concerning the relevant bidding process.

Obligation to Report

- Persons bound by the Code who become aware of any breaches or any action that may be reasonably considered a breach of the Code shall notify the UIAA Court. All information provided will be handled with the strictest confidentiality. If a person bound by the Code fails to report a breach, and it is established that he/she was aware of the existence of such breach, the failure to report shall itself constitute a breach of the Code.
- Any disclosure of information must not be for personal gain or benefit, nor be undertaken in bad faith to damage the reputation of any person or organization. Reporting for personal gain or benefit or in bad faith will constitute a breach of the Code.

Safeguarding

- [Abide by the UIAA safeguarding measures, outlined in the UIAA safeguarding document.](#)
- Not allowing or engage in bullying behavior, rough physical games, sexually provocative games, inappropriate physical contact of any kind or making sexually suggestive comments about or to a child.
- Ensure that parents/guardians and children are aware of and given consent for the activities being undertaken within the UIAA.

Sanctions/Disciplinary Actions

Types of Disciplinary Offences

- Athletes may be subject to disciplinary penalties for the following:
 - Obtaining additional information regarding the route to be climbed that is not permitted under competition rules.
 - Distracting or interfering with athletes preparing to start or who are currently competing.
 - Acting to the detriment of other athletes.
 - Damaging property.
 - Unsportsmanlike conduct or other serious disruption of the competition.
 - Activities leading to a highly unsportsmanlike lifestyle, violating legal order and ethical-moral norms, particularly during sports competitions and instructional.
- Our aspiration is for these Codes of Conduct to embody a straightforward and practical approach to creating a safe and positive atmosphere, enabling all participants to get maximum enjoyment from the event they are part of. We believe that they are simple to follow and that the following sanctions will not need to be applied. However, any breach of any of the above Codes of Conduct may result in any or all of the following:
 - Verbal or Written Warning from UIAA official.
 - Disqualification and/or removal from an event/competition/training.
 - The withdrawal of any awards, placings, records or other achievements bestowed in any tournaments, competitions, activities or events held or sanctioned by the UIAA
 - Dismissal from future UIAA sanctioned events, training, competitions.
 - The complete suspension from participation as a competitor, coach, judge, referee, administrator, official, spectator or staff member.
 - If an athlete requires legal representation because he or she is accused of criminal misconduct or an anti-doping violation, or if for any other reasons he or she may require the services of legal counsel, he or she will be personally responsible for payment of such legal fees and expenses.