Aerial Rescue

Standard Event Run Time: 5 minutes

This Judges' Quick Reference Guide is intended to help guide conversation prior to the event. It is not a substitute for reading the Rule Book. Please use this guide as you review the event with the judging team to ensure consistency across competitors and events.

Setup Notes

- Additional guidance added in Appendix 3 regarding EMS arrival time.

Rule Changes

- There are no changes to this event.

Scoring Guidelines

- Event Head Judges should announce if they are giving a penalty where a repeat offense may result in disqualification.
- Scoring points shall be the same for all judges. These are the double-lined boxes on the left side of the scoresheet.
- If a competitor does not show up for the event, inform the scoring team.
- The time the score sheet(s) are submitted to the Scorer shall be noted by the Scorers or Event Head Judge in the bottom-right corner of each competitor's score sheet.

Reminders

- This event requires three (3) or five (5) judges.
- If the time limit for the event is changed, inform the scoring team.
- The injured climber needs to be between 60 to 80 kg (132 to 176 lbs).

	PENALTY	DISQUALIFICATION
MANDATORY	• Failure to issue an audible warning when necessary (excluding descent with injured climber)(see Rules 2.3.34 to 2.3.35) • Failure to end "extended stand clear" 1-point penalty, up to 3 offenses, then DQ (-1, -2, -3, DQ)(see Rule 2.3.35)	• Dropping a piece of equipment while working aloft • Failure to remain secured to the tree on at least one point of attachment • Being more than 5 minutes late for the event • Misconduct • Third offense of breaking a limb within the diameter range as set by the Event Head Judge prior to the beginning of the competition • Breaking a limb larger than the predetermined maximum size, unless it is determined by the Event Head Judge that the break was not due to unnecessary force applied to the limb • Tampering with the injured climber's independent fall-arrest system • Failure to safely manage the friction required for the additional weight of the injured climber • Placing handsaw in the mouth • A third discretionary penalty • Failure to be equipped with all required equipment once event time has started
DISCRETIONARY	• Head Judge may issue −3, −6, or DQ for unsafe acts. • Failure to maintain a taut climbing system or climbing above the tie-in point • Dangerous uncontrolled swing • High-speed or dangerous movement • Excessive lateral movement when using an ascending system not approved for descent or lateral movement • Unsportinglike conduct • Breaking a limb within the diameter range designated by the Event Head Judge prior to the beginning of the competition will result in a 1-point penalty, unless it is determined by the Event Head Judge that the break was not due to unnecessary force applied to the limb	None

Ascent Event

Standard Event Run Time: 4 minutes

This Judges' Quick Reference Guide is intended to help guide conversation prior to the event. It is not a substitute for reading the Rule Book. Please use this guide as you review the event with the judging team to ensure consistency across competitors and events.

Setup Notes

- The event belay/back-up line should be installed within 38 cm to 60 cm (15 in to 24 in) from the main climbing line.
- Systems, including backups, will be verbally reviewed and approved by Ascent Event Head Judge or Head Tech during gear inspection. If clarity is needed, the competitor will be asked to demonstrate their ascent system and or backup.
- All ascent systems must be approved and meet Rule 2.3.1.

Rule Changes

- There are no changes to this event.

Scoring Guidelines

- Three times shall be recorded for a successful changeover to descent system. The timers start the "changeover" clock when the competitor rings the bell at the top of the climb (this same ring of the bell stops the "ascent" time).
- Up to two additional points may be earned for incorporating a system backup within an ascent system (see Appendix 5 for definition of system backup).
- The time the score sheet(s) are submitted to the Scorer shall be noted by the Scorers or Event Head Judge in the bottom-right corner of each competitor's score sheet.

	PENALTY	DISQUALIFICATION
MANDATORY	• Tampering or interfering with components of the fall-protection system • Preventing the correct function of a mechanical device • Placing hands above a footlock Prusik • Misconfigured or detached life-support components during the timed portion of the event • Not securing equipment prior to ringing the changeover bell a second time	• A second mandatory penalty • Dropping a piece of equipment while working aloft • Failure to remain secured • Being more than 5 minutes late for the event • Misconduct • Failure to be equipped with all required equipment once event time has started
DISCRETIONARY	• Unsportinglike conduct • Unsafe act	None

Belayed Speed Climb

Standard Event Run Time: 5 minutes

This Judges' Quick Reference Guide is intended to help guide conversation prior to the event. It is not a substitute for reading the Rule Book. Please use this guide as you review the event with the judging team to ensure consistency across competitors and events.

Setup Notes

- The setup team may choose to add tape to certain branches that could break should a competitor touch them beyond a designated point. If needed, add tape and inform competitors of the potential for a penalty or disqualification during the walkthrough.
- Prior to the start of the competition, the event team shall perform a number of trial runs of the event with climbers comparable to those who will be competing. If a good time is expected to be 30 seconds or less, inform the scoring team to change the time points to 1 second/point (like the Footlock Event). If a good time is expected to be greater than 30 seconds, then 2 seconds/point will be used (the default in the scoring program). If a 1-second/point system is used, inform the competitors during the walkthrough. This decision shall be made by the Event Head Judge.

Rule Changes

- There are no changes to this event.

Scoring Guidelines

- Event Head Judges should announce if they are giving a penalty where a repeat offense may result in disqualification.
- This event is based purely on time.
- Competitors need to be within 20 seconds (10 seconds if 1 second/point) of the fastest time to score points in this event.
- The time the score sheet(s) are submitted to the Scorer shall be noted by the Scorers or Event Head Judge in the bottom-right corner of each competitor's score sheet.

Reminders

- This event requires three (3) or five (5) timers.
- Make sure to always enter scores on the scoresheet from Timer A to E. Do not skip boxes. If a stopwatch malfunctions, put a line through the box so the scoring team knows to ignore that box.

	PENALTY	DISQUALIFICATION
MANDATORY	• Touching a branch beyond the tape	• Second infraction of using the lead of the rope to advance position • Dropping a piece of equipment while working aloft • Failure to remain secured • Being more than 5 minutes late for the event • Misconduct • Third offense of breaking a limb within the diameter range as set by the Event Head Judge prior to the beginning of the competition • Second infraction of touching branch beyond the tape • Failure to be equipped with all required equipment once event time has started
DISCRETIONARY	• Unsportinglike conduct • Unsafe act • Breaking a limb within the diameter range designated by the Event Head Judge prior to the beginning of the competition will result in a 1-point penalty, unless it is determined by the Event Head Judge that the break was not due to unnecessary force applied to the limb	• Dangerous uncontrolled swing • Leaping or jumping, creating excessive slack • Breaking a limb larger than the predetermined maximum size, unless it is determined by the Event Head Judge that the break was not due to unnecessary force applied to the limb

Masters' Challenge

Standard Event Run Time: 25 to 35 minutes

This Judges' Quick Reference Guide is intended to help guide conversation prior to the event. It is not a substitute for reading the Rule Book. Please use this guide as you review the event with the judging team to ensure consistency across competitors and events.

Setup Notes

- Prior to the start of the event, work with the Head Technician and the Tree Technician to determine the maximum height allowable for a single and double load. They do not need to be marked but should be discussed ahead of time.
- The initial setup of the event shall be performed by climbing and not solely with an aerial lift. Climbing will help the judges predetermine potential tie-ins, inspect for defects, and evaluate rope angles based on the placement of the stations.
- Two clocks shall be used. When the Head Judge calls time, the second clock continues to run until all of the equipment hits the ground.
- The timing judges' clock is the standard with the Head Judge's clock as a backup.

Rule Changes

- There are no Rule changes to this event.

Scoring Guidelines

- Note that 8.2.16–8.2.18 and 8.2.22 (2024) have been moved to 8.3.4–8.3.7 (2026).
- Judges may award 0–3 points to competitors who incorporate emergency response planning.
- Judges may award 0–4 discretionary bonus points per box, for a total of 12 possible bonus points.
- Limb Toss—Competitors who complete the task (by ringing the bell) shall earn a minimum of 4 points.
- Event Head Judges shall announce if they are giving a penalty where a repeat offense may result in disqualification.
- Scoring points shall be the same for all judges. These are the double-lined boxes on the scoresheet.
- The time the score sheet(s) are submitted to the Scorer shall be noted by the Scorers or Event Head Judge in the bottom-right corner of each competitor's score sheet.

Reminders

- This event requires three (3) or five (5) judges.
- A competitor who utilizes more than five throws to install a throwline receives no height points.
- A competitor receives points only for tasks that were completed within the time limit. If the competitor times out, s/he can receive points, at the judges' discretion, in any of the scoring sections, even if all the tasks pertinent to that section have not been completed.

	PENALTY	DISQUALIFICATION
MANDATORY	• A 20-point deduction will be assessed for failing to retrieve all equipment within the time limit • A 2-point penalty for each failure, after the first, to issue an audible warning before throwing or removing a throw weight with the weight attached (includes mechanical devices). The first offense will result in a verbal warning (VW) from the Event Head Judge. Ensuing offenses will result in 2-point penalties. • A 3-point penalty for failure to issue an audible warning when necessary while aloft. Up to two 3-point penalties will be allowed. A third offense will results in disqualification (see Rules 2.3.34 and 2.3.35). • Throws that land outside of flagged area, −6, DQ • Failure to issue an audible warning when required on the ground, VW, −2, −4, DQ • Failure to end "extended stand clear" 1-point penalty, up to 3 offenses, then DQ (-1, -2, -3, DQ) (see Rule 2.3.35)	• Dropping a piece of equipment while working aloft • Failure to remain secured to the tree on at least one point of attachment • Fourth offense of failure to issue an audible warning prior to throwing or removing a throw weight • Third offense of failure to issue an audible warning when necessary while aloft • Two throws (throwlines with weights attached or climbing lines) that land outside the flagged area • Being more than 5 minutes late for the event • Misconduct/unsafe act • Leaving the predesignated area or bringing in equipment from outside the predesignated area once the official time has begun • Placing handsaw in the mouth • Third offense of breaking a limb within the diameter range as set by the Event Head Judge prior to the beginning of the competition • Breaking a limb larger than the predetermined maximum size, unless it is determined by the Event Head Judge that the break was not due to unnecessary force applied to the limb • A third discretionary penalty (as determined by the Event Head Judge) • Failure to be equipped with all required equipment once event time has started
DISCRETIONARY	• Head Judge may issue −5, −10, or DQ for unsafe acts. • Scoring Judges may issues 0–10 points for Unsafe acts, poor performance, poor techniques (assessed by Scoring Judges) • Dangerous uncontrolled swing • Failure to maintain a taut climbing system or climbing above the tie-in point • High-speed or dangerous movement • Breaking a limb within the diameter range designated by the Event Head Judge prior to the beginning of the competition will result in a 2-point penalty, unless it is determined by the Event Head Judge that the break was not due to unnecessary force applied to the limb	None

Discretionary Scoring Guidelines (for stations)

9-10	*Exceptional performance*
7-8	*Good performance*
5-6	*Adequate performance*
3-4	*Fair performance*
1-2	*Poor performance*

Scoring Guidelines (for limb toss) — all judges shall agree

10	*Hit target first throw*
8	*Hit target second throw*
6	*Hit target third throw*
4	*Rang bell but did not hit target*
0	*Did not hit the target or ring bell*

Other Scoring Guidelines

3	*Exceptional performance*
2	*Good performance*
1	*Fair performance*
0	*Unsafe/Poor performance*

Throwline

Standard Event Run Time: 6 minutes

This Judges' Quick Reference Guide is intended to help guide conversation prior to the event. It is not a substitute for reading the Rule Book. Please use this guide as you review the event with the judging team to ensure consistency across competitors and events.

Setup Notes

- The heights of the targets should be between 10 and 20 m (32.8 and 65.6 ft).

Rule Changes

- There are no changes to this event.

Scoring Guidelines

- Event Head Judges should announce if they are giving a penalty where repeat offense may result in disqualification.
- Record the first score time and the final time. The first score time is registered at the first time the competitor asks for either a throwline or climbing line to be registered.
- The final score time is recorded when a competitor has successfully installed both climbing lines in the tree(s), when the competitor requests the time to stop, or when time has expired.
- Time Points are assessed based on the final time. If scores are tied, the competitor with the fastest final time is the winner. If times are identical, the competitor with the fastest first score time is the winner.
- Competitors will have the option of adding a canopy anchor SRS system to their successfully scored climb line for an additional 2 points per side of the tree(s). The canopy anchor SRS system must be retrievable by the competitor immediately after the event ends. If the system is not retrievable after time has expired, no points will be awarded for installing the climb line. The competitor will get credit for a successful throwline if "Score" was declared (see Rule 5.4.5 regarding nonscoring lines).
- An additional 1 bonus point may be awarded by the Event Head Judge for innovative or exceptional techniques during the event.
- The time the score sheet(s) are submitted to the Scorer shall be noted by the Scorers or Event Head Judge in the bottom-right corner of each competitor's score sheet.

Reminders

- If the time limit of the event is changed, inform the scoring team.

	PENALTY	DISQUALIFICATION
MANDATORY	• Failure to issue an audible warning • Not installing a climbing line • Each nonscoring line or throw weight left in the tree when the time expires • Throw weight or climbing line landing outside the flagged area	• Failure to issue four audible warnings • Being more than 5 minutes late for event • Two throws (throwlines with weights attached or climbing lines) that land outside the flagged area • Misconduct • Third offense of breaking a limb within the diameter range as set by the Event Head Judge prior to the beginning of the competition • Breaking a limb larger than the predetermined maximum size, unless it is determined by the Event Head Judge that the break was not due to any unnecessary force being applied to the limb • Failure to be equipped with all required equipment once event time has started
DISCRETIONARY	• Unsportinglike conduct • Unsafe act • Breaking a limb within the diameter range designated by the Event Head Judge prior to the beginning of the competition will result in a 1-point penalty, unless it is determined by the Event Head Judge that the break was not due to unnecessary force applied to the limb	None

Work Climb

Standard Event Run Time: 5 minutes

This Judges' Quick Reference Guide is intended to help guide conversation prior to the event. It is not a substitute for reading the Rule Book. Please use this guide as you review the event with the judging team to ensure consistency across competitors and events.

Setup Notes

- The beginning of the limb walk shall be marked. The mark shall be a minimum of 30 cm (12 in) wide.
- The rules require the plumb bob to measure movement in all directions. ISA recommends using a plumb bob that will redirect the weight horizontally to allow deflection in all directions. Contact ISA for design ideas.

Rule Changes

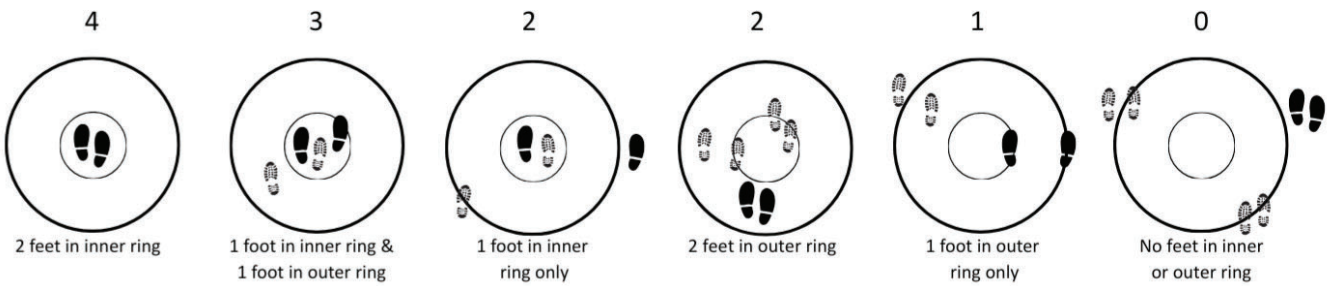
- There are no changes to this event.

Scoring Guidelines

- Event Head Judges should announce if they are giving a penalty where a repeat offense may result in disqualification.
- Scoring points shall be the same for all judges. These are the double-lined boxes on the left side of the scoresheet.
- To earn time points, at a minimum, all bells must be rung. Mark the box on the upper left corner for each station as the competitor rings each bell.
- If a competitor does not complete a task, they do not earn or lose any scoring or discretionary points for that station. Write a 0 for each box in that station.
- Discretionary points are assigned on a scale of 0 to 3. Use the following guidelines for assigning discretionary points.
- The time the score sheet(s) are submitted to the Scorer shall be noted by the Scorers or Event Head Judge in the bottom-right corner of each competitor's score sheet.

3 — Exceptional performance
2 — Good performance
1 — Fair performance
0 — Unsafe or below average

Reminders

- If the time limit of the event is changed, inform the scoring team.

	PENALTY	DISQUALIFICATION
MANDATORY	• Failure to use work-positioning lanyard correctly when required • Failure to issue an audible warning (see Rules 2.3.34 to 2.3.35)(-3, -6, DQ) • Failure to use the working end of the pole pruner to ring the bell • Failure to properly rehang the pole pruner • Failure to ring the bell with two hands on the pole pruner • Failure to end "extended stand clear" 1-point penalty, up to 3 offenses, then DQ (-1, -2, -3, DQ)(see Rule 2.3.35)	• Dropped piece of equipment • Equipment left in the tree, except the preinstalled climbing line • Breaking a limb larger than the predetermined maximum size, unless it is determined by the Event Head Judge that the break was not due to unnecessary force applied to the limb • Third offense of breaking a limb within the diameter range as set by the Event Head Judge prior to the beginning of the competition • Failure to remain secured on at least one point of attachment • More than 5 minutes late for the event • Placing handsaw in the mouth • Misconduct • A third discretionary penalty • A second failure to use a work-positioning lanyard when required • A third failure to issue an audible warning • Failure to be equipped with all required equipment once event time has started
DISCRETIONARY	• Dangerous uncontrolled movement • Failure to maintain a taut climbing system or climbing above the tie-in point • Unsportinglike conduct • Head Judge may issue -3, -6, or DQ for unsafe acts • Breaking a limb within the diameter range designated by the Event Head Judge prior to the beginning of the competition will result in a 1-point penalty, unless it is determined by the Event Head Judge that the break was not due to unnecessary force applied to the limb	None