

The Footlock Event was replaced by the Ascent Event in 2017. If chapters/AOs choose not to host an Ascent Event, or if a Head-to-Head Footlock is held, the following rules shall be followed.

X SECURED FOOTLOCK EVENT

X.1 Event Summary

The Secured Footlock measures the competitor's ability to perform a vertical ascent into a tree using a Prusik hitch or other approved friction hitch for fall protection and the footlock rope-climbing method on a doubled climbing line. The height is 15 meters (49 ft, 2.5 in) for both the men's and women's event at International competition. A height of 12 meters (39 ft, 4.5 in) may be used for both the men's and women's event at Chapter level if height constraints are an issue. The finishing bell shall be installed 38 cm (15 in) horizontally from the competitor's line. Mechanical ascenders may not be used. The event is timed with a maximum time limit of 60 seconds, and the competitor with the fastest time wins.

A footlock world record may be attempted during either the preliminary event or during a stand-alone event. However, for a world record footlock time to stand, all the criteria for a world record attempt as outlined in Appendix 1, shall be met.

X.2 Secured Footlock Rules

- X.2.1 Each competitor shall be equipped with, and use, (an):
- approved climbing-style helmet,
 - approved figure-8 descender or other approved descending device,
 - approved Prusik loop,
 - approved tree-climbing harness, and/or fall-arrest harness with a dorsal attachment,
 - approved eye protection, and
 - appropriate clothing and footwear. (2016)
- X.2.2 Competitors may use the installed line provided for the event or replace the line with an approved climbing line of the competitor's choice.
- X.2.3 Competitors advise the timers when ready and wait for the Event Head Judge to signal that the judges and technicians are ready to proceed. (2016)
- X.2.4 The timers start the clock when a competitor's second foot leaves the ground. (2016)
- X.2.5 The timers stop the clock when a competitor rings the bell at the top of the climb, either by hitting or shaking it with his/her hand. (2016)
- X.2.6 If a competitor does not reach the bell/buzzer within the 60-second time limit, the Event Head Judge will instruct the competitor to stop and descend to the ground. The competitor will receive no points.
- X.2.7 An impartial belayer provides belay for the competitor during the climb.
- X.2.8 Competitors shall keep the belay line attached to the harness and remain on belay at all times while participating in this event.
- X.2.9 Competitors shall use a Prusik hitch or another approved non-mechanical

fall-protection system during the climb.

- X.2.10 Competitors shall perform an “on-rope test” to demonstrate the effectiveness and adjustment of the fall-arrest safety equipment.
- X.2.11 During the ascent, the competitor may not place his/her hand on or above the friction hitch. For the descent, the climber may place his/ her hand on the friction hitch to disable it, only after an approved descending system (e.g., Figure-8) has been installed and the climber has communicated with the belayer his/her intent to change over to the descending system to return to the ground.
- X.2.12 Competitors shall use an approved descending device such as a figure-8 for the descent. Competitors shall not descend on the friction hitch (Prusik, Klemheist).
- X.2.13 Equipment such as a carabiner may be attached to a competitor’s boots in order to keep the climbing line close to the feet.
- X.2.14 Competitors are required to remain on belay at all times during the descent.
- X.2.15 Electronic timers specifically designed to start when a competitor’s foot leaves the ground and stop when the bell is activated by a competitor’s hand are used to record time to the hundredth of a second and are used as the official final time. Three or five stopwatches are also used to record the time to the hundredth of a second to back up the electronic timer. If the electronic timer malfunctions, the three stopwatch times are averaged to produce the official final time. If five stopwatches are used, the highest and lowest times are discarded and the three remaining times will be averaged.
- X.2.16 The three manual times recorded shall have no more than 50/100ths of a second difference between the fastest and slowest time to qualify for recording. When times fall outside this range the time with the greatest difference from the middle time will not be recorded and the two remaining times will be averaged providing there is no greater than 50/100ths of a second difference between them. In the event of more than one stopwatch falling outside this range, no time can be recorded.
- X.2.17 If a valid scoring time cannot be confirmed, the competitor shall be offered the opportunity to re-run the event at a later time during the competition.

X.3 Scoring the Secured Footlock (20 possible points)

- X.3.1 There will be either three or five Secured Footlock timers. When five timers are available, the high and low times are thrown out, and the remaining three times are averaged to provide the official time.
- X.3.2 The event is based purely on time.
- X.3.3 Competitors who do not reach the bell/buzzer within 60 seconds will receive no points.
- X.3.4 The fastest competitor to the top is the winner and receives 20 points.
- X.3.5 The remaining competitors’ scores are calculated by subtracting the fastest competitor’s time (in seconds) from the times of each of the other

competitors.

- X.3.6 For every 1-second difference in time between those scores, 1 point (of the 20 possible points) is deducted from the climber's score.

Example scoring:

The fastest competitor (A) completes the climb in 0:12.49 seconds. The second-fastest competitor (B) completes the climb in 0:13.32 seconds.

(B) 13.32 minus (A) 12.49 = 0.83-point deduction. This competitor's score is $20 - 0.83 = 19.17$.

The tenth-fastest competitor (C) completes the climb in 0:35.29 seconds.

(C) 35.29 minus (A) 12.49 = 22.80-point deduction. This competitor's score is $20 - 22.80 = 0$.

X.4 Penalties

Mandatory Penalty

A competitor will be penalized for the following infractions:

- X.4.1 A 3-second penalty will be added to the competitor's time for placing his or her hands on or above the friction hitch.

X.5 Disqualification

Mandatory Disqualification

A competitor will be disqualified for the following infractions:

- X.5.1 Dropped piece of equipment.
- X.5.2 A second offense of the competitor placing his or her hands on or above the friction hitch (Prusik, Klemheist).
- X.5.3 Being more than 5 minutes late for the event.
- X.5.4 Misconduct.