



## **ISA Tree Climbing Championship** **Rules Committee Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Title:** ISA Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) Rules Committee Member

**Role:** Provide leadership and direction for the ISA TCCs, responsible for reviewing, evaluating, and providing recommendations regarding the rules and approved gear used in the ITCC. The role involves collaborating with other committee members to ensure that the organization's rules remain clear, effective, and up-to-date. The position requires a strong attention to detail and an understanding of organizational governance.

Individuals serving on this committee represent ISA and are expected to understand and support the organization's positions and policies in carrying out their responsibilities.

**Committee Composition:** Members of the Rules Committee comprise the ITCC Head Judge, four (4) Regional Events Head Judges (APTCC, ETCC, LATCC, & NATCC), a technical member, a committee chair, and two additional members at the ISA Executive Director's discretion.

### **Duties:**

- Review and assess proposed rule changes or amendments.
- Participate in regular committee discussions to evaluate the current state of rules and recommend improvements.
- Analyze the potential impact of rule changes and the future of TCC events.
- Assist in drafting new rules and updating existing policies as needed.
- Provide feedback and suggestions to the committee chair and other members regarding rule-related concerns or issues.
- Attend and participate in committee meetings, offering expert opinions and perspectives.
- Help create and distribute materials related to rule changes or updates.
- Support the implementation of new or revised rules during regional TCC events

### **Qualifications:**

- Available to travel to TCC competition(s) (depending on committee representation).
- Minimum three (3) years of prior experience as an ISA Component Head Judge, ISA Regional TCC Head Judge, or ITCC Event Head Judge.
- In-depth knowledge of the ITCC rules.
- Strong communication skills.
- ISA Certified Tree Climber, ISA Certified Arborist, or hold a nationally recognized arboriculture qualification or certification.
- ISA Member.

**Time Commitment:** Average of one (1) to two (2) hour committee meetings per month and up to four (4) days for participation in one or more TCC competitions.

**Term:** One three (3) year term with the possibility of re-appointment, maximum of two (2) terms, by the CEO & ISA Executive Director with the support of ISA Rules Committee Chairperson.



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**Supervisor:** Appointed by the CEO & ISA Executive Director

**ISA Staff Liaison(s):** ISA Outreach and Education Lead

**ISA Tree Climbing Championship**  
**Rules Committee Chair Position Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Title:** ISA Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) Rules Committee Chair

**Role:** Provide leadership and direction for the ITCC Rules Committee. Responsible for reviewing, evaluating, and providing recommendations regarding the rules and approved gear used in the ITCC. The role involves collaborating with other committee members to ensure that the organization's rules remain clear, effective, and up to date. The position requires a strong attention to detail and an understanding of organizational governance.

The individual serving in this role represents ISA as a member of the committee and is expected to understand and support ISA's positions and policies in carrying out their responsibilities.

**Duties:**

- Facilitates discussions and decision-making, sets the agenda in collaboration with the ISA Staff Liaison, maintains order, and guides the committee toward its goals of upholding ITCC Rules.
- Review and assess proposed rule changes or amendments. Participate in regular committee discussions to evaluate the current state of rules and recommend improvements.
- Analyze the potential impact of rule changes and the future of TCC events.
- Assist in drafting new rules and updating existing policies as needed.
- Provide feedback and suggestions to the committee chair and other members regarding rule-related concerns or issues.
- Attend and participate in committee meetings, offering expert opinions and perspectives.
- Help create and distribute materials related to rule changes or updates.
- Support the implementation of new or revised rules during regional and international TCC events
- Consults with the ITCC Head Technician on updating the ITCC Approved Mechanical Devices List
- Works in collaboration with the ISA Educational Products and Services editorial team for production deadlines for printing and publishing new editions of the ITCC Rules Book (printed and digital copies)
- Assists in succession planning for the committee

**Qualifications:**

- Available to travel to the TCC competition(s) (based on committee representation needs)
- Minimum three (3) years prior experience as an ISA Component Head Judge, ISA Regional TCC Head Judge, or ITCC Event Head Judge.
- In-depth knowledge of the ITCC rules.
- Strong communication skills.
- ISA Certified Tree Climber, ISA Certified Arborist, or hold a nationally recognized arboriculture qualification or certification.
- ISA Member.

**Time Commitment:** Average of one (1) to two (2) hour committee meetings per month and up to four (4) days for participation in one or more TCC competitions.



**ISA Tree Climbing Championship**  
**Rules Committee Chair Position Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Term:** One three (3) year term with the possibility of one-term re-appointment, maximum of two (2) terms, by the CEO & ISA Executive Director.

**Supervisor:** Appointed by the CEO & ISA Executive Director

**ISA Staff Liaison(s):** ISA Outreach and Education Lead



## ISA Tree Climbing Championship Operations Liaison Position Description

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Title:** ISA Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) Operations Liaison

**Role:** Serve as a general resource for the TCC Ops Committee, assisting the Head Judge and Head Technician and filling the gaps as needed. They share responsibility for ensuring compliance with all applicable industry safety regulations, standards, and ISA ITCC Rules to ensure a safe event for competitors, judges, technicians, and the public.

The individual serving in this role represents ISA as a member of the committee and is expected to understand and support ISA's positions and policies in carrying out their responsibilities.

### **Duties:**

- Attend TCC Operations Committee meetings and conference calls as required.
- Attend the annual competition.
- Assist the TCC Head Judge, Head Tech/Tech Advisor with event duties.
- Assist event Judges with rules questions and clarifications.
- Assists with equipment review, management, and inventory in coordination with ISA staff and/or volunteers.
- Assists with on-site equipment inspection and technician training.
  - Assist with the TCC Gear Check process.
  - Ensures all equipment and techniques comply with applicable industry standards, regulations, and TCC rules.
- Aids in implementing and overseeing event safety protocols.
  - Be aware of the event emergency response plans.
  - Ensure the safety of the competitors, volunteers, staff, and spectators during the competition.

### **Qualifications:**

- Available to travel to the TCC competition
- Minimum two (2) years prior experience volunteering at ISA Component event, ISA regional TCC or ITCC as a judge or technician.
- In-depth knowledge of the ITCC rules
- Strong communication skills
- ISA Certified Tree Climber, ISA Certified Arborist or hold a nationally recognized arboriculture qualification or certification.
- Extensive knowledge of climbing techniques and safety procedures.
- ISA Member

**Time Commitment:** Average of one (1) day per month for committee meetings and/or planning needs for six (6) months a year, and an average of two (2) days per month of committee meetings or planning needs for the four (4) months preceding the event. Four (4) to six (6) days for the setup and participation in the annual competition.



**ISA Tree Climbing Championship**  
**Operations Liaison Position Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Term:** One three (3) year term with the possibility of re-appointment, maximum of two (2) terms, by the ISA CEO & Executive Director with full support of the Chair and Head Judge for that regional or international TCC.

**Supervisor:** Appointed by the CEO & ISA Executive Director

**ISA Staff Liaison(s):** ISA Event Planner(s) and ISA Outreach and Education Lead



## ISA Tree Climbing Championship Operations Committee Head Technician Position Description

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Title:** ISA Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) Head Technician

**Role:** Serve as the Safety Officer for the TCC, responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable industry safety regulations, standards, and ISA ITCC Rules to ensure a safe event for competitors, judges, technicians, and the public.

The individual serving in this role represents ISA as a member of the committee and is expected to understand and support ISA's positions and policies in carrying out their responsibilities.

**Duties:**

- Attend TCC Operations Committee meetings and conference calls as required.
- Attend the annual competition.
- Assist the TCC Head Judge with the selection of technicians.
- Assist event Judges with rules questions and clarifications.
- Responsible for equipment review, management, and inventory in coordination with ISA staff and/or volunteers.
- Responsible for on-site equipment inspection and technician training.
  - Plan and manage the TCC Gear Check process.
  - Ensure all equipment and techniques comply with applicable industry standards, regulations, and TCC rules.
- Responsible for implementing and overseeing event safety protocols.
  - Provide input into the event emergency response plans.
  - Ensure the safety of the competitors, volunteers, staff, and spectators during the competition.

**Qualifications:**

- Available to travel to the TCC competition
- Minimum two (2) years prior experience volunteering at an ISA Component event, ISA regional TCC or ITCC as a judge or technician.
- In-depth knowledge of the ITCC rules
- Strong communication skills
- ISA Certified Tree Climber, ISA Certified Arborist, or hold a nationally recognized arboriculture qualification or certification.
- Extensive knowledge of climbing techniques and safety procedures.
- ISA Member

**Time Commitment:** Average of one (1) day per month for committee meetings and/or planning needs for six (6) months a year, and an average of two (2) days per month of committee meetings or planning needs for the four (4) months preceding the event. Four (4) to six (6) days for the setup and participation in the annual competition.



**ISA Tree Climbing Championship**  
**Operations Committee Head Technician Position Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Term:** One three (3) year term with the possibility of re-appointment maximum of two (2) terms, by the ISA CEO & Executive Director with full support of the Chair and Head Judge for that regional or international TCC.

**Supervisor:** Appointed by the CEO & ISA Executive Director

**ISA Staff Liaison(s):** ISA Event Planner(s) and ISA Outreach and Education Lead

**Title:** ISA Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) Head Judge

**Role:** Supports the TCC Chair in planning and managing the technical elements of the event in accordance with ISA ITCC Rules, ensuring a fair and safe competition for all participants and the public.

The individual serving in this role represents ISA as a member of the committee and is expected to understand and support ISA's positions and policies in carrying out their responsibilities.

**Duties:**

- Serve as a member of the ITCC Rules Committee.
- Attends all ITCC Rules committee meetings, TCC planning meetings, and related conference calls, as requested.
- Assist the ISA CEO & Executive Director in succession planning for the Head Judge role.
- Participate in the selection of event trees for the competition.
- Coordinate the setup of competition events and the overall site layout.
- Select judges, technicians, and scorers for each event.
- Lead or assist in the training of Head judges and their judging teams.
- Supports Event Head Judges with rule clarifications or interpretation.
- Serve as Head Judge for the Masters' Challenge event.
- Oversee or assist with ensuring safety for competitors, volunteers, and spectators.
- Manage the review of competition rulings in collaboration with the Head Technician and available Rules Committee member(s).
- Remain available post-event to support competition review and rule development.

**Qualifications:**

- Available to travel to the TCC competition.
- Prior experience judging at the ISA Component TCC level, ISA TCC Regional level, or ITCC for at least three (3) years prior to being appointed for the job.
- Extensive knowledge of climbing techniques and safety procedures.
- Preference for a Head Judge who has previously been a competitor at the ISA Component, ISA TCC Regional, and/or International level.
- Supported the previous TCC Head Judge for at least one (1) TCC Competition before accepting the role (this is not mandatory but preferred).
- ISA Certified Tree Climber, ISA Certified Arborist, or hold a nationally recognized arboriculture qualification or certification.
- ISA Member

**Time Commitment:** Average of 1 day per month for committee meetings and/or planning needs for 6 months a year, and an average of two (2) days per month of committee meetings or planning needs for the four (4) months preceding the event. Four (4) to six (6) days for the setup and participation in the annual competition. There is also time required for the Rules Committee participation as detailed in that position description.



**ISA Tree Climbing Championship Series**

**Head Judge Position Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Term:** One three (3) year term with the possibility of re-appointment by the CEO & ISA Executive Director with full support of the Chair and Head Tech for that regional or international TCC.

**Supervisor:** Appointed by the ISA CEO & Executive Director

**Staff Liaison:** ISA Event Planner(s) and ISA Outreach and Education Lead

**ISA Tree Climbing Championship**  
**Operations Committee Chair Position Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Title:** ISA Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) Operations Chair

**Role:** Provide leadership and direction for the TCC Operations Committee in planning, coordinating, and executing the technical aspects of the ISA ITCC. This role ensures all operations align with ISA ITCC Rules and uphold the highest standards of safety and efficiency.

The individual serving in this role represents ISA as a member of the committee and is expected to understand and support ISA's positions and policies in carrying out their responsibilities.

**Duties:**

- Chair committee meetings and delegate TCC operations assignments to committee members.
  - Assist in selecting event trees for competition (as requested).
  - Support the TCC Head Judge and Head Tech to accomplish their duties.
  - Oversee the development of emergency response plans for events.
    - Ensure the safety of the competitors, volunteers, and spectators during the competition.
    - Direct questions, information requests, and feedback to the correct contacts during the planning process.
- Attend the annual competition and be present to support the activities of the TCC operations committee.
  - Participate in the TCC Awards Ceremony(ies), working with the ISA onsite team, as the Emcee.
  - Act as an on-site point of contact for the TCC Operations Committee members as well as competition volunteers.
  - Direct questions, information requests, and feedback to the correct contacts during the TCC event.

**Qualifications:**

- Available to travel to the TCC competition.
- Minimum three (3) years of prior experience as chair of an ISA Component event, ISA regional TCC, or ITCC.
- In-depth knowledge of the ITCC rules.
- Strong communication skills.
- ISA Certified Tree Climber, ISA Certified Arborist, or hold a nationally recognized arboriculture qualification or certification.
- ISA Member.

**Time Commitment:** Average of one (1) day per month for committee meetings and/or planning needs for six (6) months a year, and an average of two (2) days per month of committee meetings or planning needs for the four (4) months preceding the event. Four (4) to six (6) days for the setup and participation in the annual competition.



**ISA Tree Climbing Championship**  
**Operations Committee Chair Position Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Term:** One three (3) year term with the possibility of re-appointment, maximum of two (2) terms, by the CEO & ISA Executive Director with full support of the Head Judge and Head Tech for that regional or international TCC.

**Supervisor:** Appointed by the CEO & ISA Executive Director

**ISA Staff Liaison(s):** ISA Event Planner(s) and ISA Outreach and Education Lead



## ISA Tree Climbing Championship Technical Advisor Position Description

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Title:** ISA Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) Technical Advisor

**Role:** Serve as a resource for the TCC Ops Committee, shadowing the Head Tech for 1-2 years prior to the HT rotating off the committee. They share responsibility for ensuring compliance with all applicable industry safety regulations, standards, and ISA ITCC Rules to ensure a safe event for competitors, judges, technicians, and the public.

The individual serving in this role represents ISA as a member of the committee and is expected to understand and support ISA's positions and policies in carrying out their responsibilities.

### **Duties:**

- Attend TCC Operations Committee meetings and conference calls as required.
- Attend the annual competition.
- Assist the TCC Head Judge and Head Technician with the selection of event technicians.
- Assist event Judges with rules questions and clarifications.
- Serves as a subject matter expert and resource for equipment review, management, and inventory in coordination with ISA staff and/or volunteers.
- Assists Head Tech with on-site equipment inspection and technician training.
  - Assist with the TCC Gear Check process.
  - Ensure all equipment and techniques comply with applicable industry standards, regulations, and TCC rules.
- Assists the Head Tech with implementing and overseeing event safety protocols.
  - Provide input into the event emergency response plans.
  - Ensure the safety of the competitors, volunteers, staff, and spectators during the competition.

### **Qualifications:**

- Available to travel to the TCC competition
- Minimum two (2) years of prior experience volunteering at an ISA Component event, ISA regional TCC, or ITCC as a judge or technician.
- In-depth knowledge of the ITCC rules
- Strong communication skills
- ISA Certified Tree Climber, ISA Certified Arborist, or hold a nationally recognized arboriculture qualification or certification.
- Extensive knowledge of climbing techniques and safety procedures.
- ISA Member

**Time Commitment:** Average of one (1) day per month for committee meetings and/or planning needs for six (6) months a year, and an average of two (2) days per month of committee meetings or planning needs for the four (4) months preceding the event. Four (4) to six (6) days for the setup and participation in the annual competition.



**ISA Tree Climbing Championship**  
**Technical Advisor Position Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Term:** One three (3) year term with the possibility of re-appointment, maximum of two (2) terms, by the ISA CEO & Executive Director with full support of the Chair and Head Judge for that regional or international TCC.

**Supervisor:** Appointed by the CEO & ISA Executive Director

**ISA Staff Liaison(s):** ISA Event Planner(s) and ISA Outreach and Education Lead



**ISA Tree Climbing Championship**  
**Sequester Judge Volunteer Position Description**

Oct. 6, 2025



**Title:** ISA Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) Sequester Judge Volunteer

**Role:** Serve as an impartial monitor responsible for enforcing sequester protocols during the Masters' Challenge event at the ISA Tree Climbing Championship. The Sequester Judge ensures that all competitors and authorized individuals in the Defined Sequester Area comply with established procedures to maintain the integrity, fairness, and credibility of the competition.

This position represents ISA in an official volunteer capacity and is expected to understand and uphold ISA's positions, policies, and ITCC Rules throughout the event.

**Duties:**

- Attend pre-event orientation and training provided by ISA staff or designated Rules Committee members.
- Review and adhere to a written checklist of sequester enforcement expectations and reporting procedures.
- Monitor the Defined Sequester Area at all times while competitors are present.
- Verify that only authorized individuals (competitors and approved companions, coaches, or guests) enter the sequester area.
- Confirm that any companion entering the sequester area has not witnessed or viewed any portion of the Masters' event before entry.
- Ensure that once individuals enter the Defined Sequester Area, they do not exit and re-enter.
- Enforce mobile phone usage restrictions (personal use only; no competition-related communication or live-streaming).
- Prevent and report any instances of unauthorized communication, coaching, or strategy discussion between competitors and outside individuals.
- Maintain a professional and neutral presence, ensuring consistent enforcement across all competitors.
- Follow the established chain of command to report potential violations immediately to the Head Judge or designated ISA staff member.
- Participate in a debrief or review meeting following the competition to provide feedback on enforcement and improvements.

**Qualifications:**

- Available to travel to the TCC competition
- Strong communication skills
- ISA Member

**Time Commitment:** Last full competition day

**Supervisor:** Appointed by the ITCC Head Judge

**ISA Staff Liaison(s):** ISA Event Planner(s) and ISA Outreach and Education Lead



## **ISA Tree Climbing Championship** **Rules Committee Technical Member Position Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Title:** ISA Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) Rules Committee Technical Member

**Role:** Provide leadership and direction for the TCCs by reviewing, evaluating, and providing recommendations regarding the rules and approved gear used in the ITCC. The role involves collaborating with other committee members to ensure that the organization's rules remain clear, effective, and up-to-date. The position requires a strong attention to detail and a thorough understanding of the ISA TCC series and its associated events.

The Technical Member provides expert leadership and guidance to ensure the clarity, safety, and relevance of the International Tree Climbing Championship (ITCC) rules. This role is focused on the technical aspects of competition, including the evaluation and integration of gear, climbing systems, and field practices.

As a subject matter expert in advanced climbing techniques and industry-approved equipment, the Technical Member collaborates closely with fellow committee members to review, evaluate, and recommend updates to rules, ensuring they reflect current arboricultural standards and the realities of competition. This position requires detailed knowledge of mechanical climbing devices, industry-accepted practices, and international safety protocols within a competitive environment.

The individual serving in this role represents ISA as a member of the committee and is expected to understand and support ISA's positions and policies in carrying out their responsibilities.

### **Duties:**

- Review and assess proposed rule changes or amendments.
- Participate in regular committee discussions to evaluate the current state of rules and recommend improvements.
- Analyze the potential impact of rule changes and the future of TCC events.
- Assist in drafting new rules and updating existing policies as needed.
- Provide feedback and suggestions to the committee chair and other members regarding rule-related concerns or issues.
- Attend and participate in committee meetings, offering expert opinions and perspectives.
- Help create and distribute materials related to rule changes or updates.
- Support the implementation of new or revised rules during regional TCC events

### **Qualifications:**

- Available to travel to TCC competition(s) (depending on committee representation).
- Minimum three (3) years prior experience as an ISA Component Head Technician, ISA Regional TCC Head Technician, or ITCC Event Head Technician.
- In-depth knowledge of the ITCC rules.
- Strong communication skills.
- ISA Certified Tree Climber, ISA Certified Arborist, or hold a nationally recognized arboriculture qualification or certification.
- ISA Member.



**ISA Tree Climbing Championship**  
**Rules Committee Technical Member Position Description**

Approved 24 Nov. 2025



**Time Commitment:** Average of one (1) to two (2) hour committee meeting per month and up to four (4) days for participation in one or more TCC competitions.

**Term:** One three (3) year term with the possibility of re-appointment, maximum of two (2) terms, by the CEO & ISA Executive Director with the support of ISA Rules Committee Chairperson.

**Supervisor:** Appointed by the CEO & ISA Executive Director

**ISA Staff Liaison(s):** ISA Outreach and Education Lead