Flatlander's Fling Competition Rules

Climbers Code of Conduct

- We expect that all competitors will treat other climbers, judges, belayers, and volunteers with respect, and represent themselves well. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from an event.

- The use of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol at The Flatlander's Fling events is strictly prohibited.

General Competition Rules

- This is a flash format competition – points are awarded if the climber completes each route or boulder problem without falling or reaching the half way point on a roped route. Climbers are allowed as many attempts on each problem as they can do, however each attempt is worth fewer points.

- Prizes are awarded to the top finishers in the Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced categories for each gender.

- All belayers MUST be certified to belay by the Adventure Program staff. Belayers or climbers exhibiting unsafe practices will be replaced.

- The belayer must leave an appropriate amount of slack in the rope at all times. Any tension on the rope may be deemed as an artificial aid or hindrance to a competitor and may result in disqualification of the attempt or of the competitor.

- Spotters should not have any physical contact with the climber during a bouldering attempt.

- For bouldering problems, the route judge should not serve as both spotter and judge.

- Only climbers, spotters and judges are permitted to be in crowded bouldering areas, for safety's sake. Please stand away from crowded areas/fall zones.

- Competitors will have 3 hours to complete the rope section of the competition and 3 hours to complete the bouldering section of the competition.

- Competitors are responsible for tracking their own scoring.

- Climbers will belay themselves. Once the current climber is finished, the belayer for that climber becomes the next climber. Each belayer must have a backup belayer. The backup belayer becomes the belayer and a new competitor becomes the backup.

Climbing

- Belayers shall know how to belay with a grigri in a competent manner.

- Climbers will be given a "five minute warning" near the end of the event. At the end of those five minutes any climbers still on the wall (on an official attempt) will be allowed to continue. The Coordinator may choose to allow competitors with their scorecards in a queue, to also make one last attempt (time permitting). Otherwise, climbers MUST turn in their scorecard.

- Beta MAY be given to a competitor BETWEEN attempts on a route, but NOT before the first attempt on the route by that climber, nor while the competitor is attempting the route.

- Climbers may try as many routes as they wish, or as time allows.

- Climbers declare their intention to attempt a route by handing their scorecard to the route judge and specifying the route number.

- Upon successful completion of a route, the judge will award the appropriate number of points and note this award on the score card.

- After each failed attempt the climber must move back of the queue or may move on to another route.

- The entire surface of the climbing wall shall be permitted to be used for climbing with the following exceptions:
    - The holes created in the climbing wall for the placement of bolt-on holds shall not be used for climbing by a competitor's hands/fingers.
    - Bolt hangers and quickdraws are not permitted to be used as hand holds or foot holds at any time.
    - Neither the side edges nor the top edge of the wall shall be used for climbing, unless specifically designated as part of the route/problem.

- A climber's attempt shall be deemed to have started when both feet have left the ground.

- The climber must CONTROL and MATCH HANDS on the finish hold(s) of a boulder problem to receive points for completion of that problem. The climber must establish contact with the route judge so that the judge may verify control of the finish hold.

- The climber must CONTROL the finish hold on a roped route, but is not required to match hands to receive points for completion of that route. The climber must establish contact with the route judge so that the judge may verify control of the finish hold.

- Only designated holds and features are permitted for climbing each route.

- Weighting of the rope will be considered a fall.

- Each competitor's attempt shall be deemed to have started when both feet have left the ground.

- Rules and instructions regarding a route may be given by the Route Judge prior to a competitor's attempt. These rules and instructions shall be given in full to all competitors climbing on a particular route.

- Once a climber has been given final instructions by the Route Judge and has acknowledged his/her readiness to start, no further instructions or information shall be given to any climber. A climber may, however, request and receive clarification from the Route Judge concerning usability of a hold or climbing surface.

- The Route Judge may order that the attempt be terminated and the greatest height (or greatest distance) measured, if he or she decides that to proceed further would contravene the regulations regarding safety of the competitor.

- The refusal by a competitor to obey the instruction of a Route Judge to terminate their attempt on a route shall result in the disqualification of the competitor.

Scoring

- The number of points awarded is based on the percentage of the route finished, minus 10 point deductions for each fall. The percentage of a route finished; 0%, 50%, or 100%.

- Competitors will receive awards based on the point accumulated through the round.

- Each competitor's best 6 (3 top rope and 3 bouldering) completed climbs in his or her division will be used to calculate the climber's final score.

- Ties will be decided in favor of the climber who used fewer attempts, i.e. falls will break ties. If a tie still remains climbers will climb a route of the next highest category. The climber with control of the most holds wins.

Scoring Chart & Rating Points

5.5 = 500	5.12a = 1200
5.6 = 600	5.12b = 1225
5.7 = 700	5.12c = 1250
5.8 = 800	5.12d = 1275
5.9 = 900	5.13a = 1300
5.10a = 1000	5.13b = 1325
5.10b = 1025	5.13c = 1350
5.10c = 1050	5.13d = 1375
5.10d = 1075	5.14a = 1400
5.11a = 1100	5.14b = 1425
5.11b = 1125	5.14c = 1450
5.11c = 1150	5.14d = 1475
5.11d = 1175	

Technical Incidents

- A technical incident is:
    - A broken or spinning hold
    - Tape stuck to a shoe
    - An open wound
    - Anything else that creates an unfair disadvantage to a competitor that is not the result of an action on the part of the competitor
    - If a technical incident occurs, the climber may reclimb the route from the beginning without penalty

- It is the climber's responsibility to ensure that his/her clothing, chalk bag, and other equipment is properly secured. There are no grounds for a technical if the above-mentioned items impede the climber.

- Spinning holds or other technical incidents must be declared by the climber AT THE TIME OF ITS OCCURRENCE.

- If the competitor feels he/she is the subject of an unfair disadvantage while climbing, he/she must declare so WHILE ON THE ROUTE. If the route judge agrees that the incident has created an unfair disadvantage, the competitor will be lowered to the ground and will be allowed another attempt on the route, with no penalty incurred. If the route judge does not agree that a technical incident has occurred, the competitor must continue his/her current attempt on the route.

- If a competitor does not agree with the score, he or she must appeal to the Chief Judge

Disqualification

- The following infringements may result in the immediate disqualification of the competitor from the competition:
    - The use of non-approved equipment
    - The use of any knot other than a standard figure 8 with back-up safety knot.
    - Untying from the rope while climbing.
    - Distracting or interfering with any competitor, who is preparing for, or attempting, a route.
    - Distracting or interfering with any official while they are carrying out their duties.
    - Failure to comply with the instructions of the official judges and/or the organizer's officials.
    - The use of prohibited drugs, and/or use of alcohol by a minor, at any point during the event, including but not limited to, registration, check-in and any hotel stay specifically for the event.
    - The use of abusive, insulting and/or violent words and/or behavior towards anyone in the competition area.
    - Unsporting behavior, abusive, insulting and/or violent words and/or behavior to the event organizer or their officials and/or team officials and/or other competitors and/or members of the public.

Source: USA Climbing