



## General QE Setting Guidelines

### Big Picture Overview

- Set new boulders and/or select preexisting boulders in your facility that satisfy the grade range that you have chosen.
  - If selecting preexisting boulders, you will likely have to make some changes to accommodate youth C and D unless your facility regularly sets for that demographic
  - Should be at least 20 new boulders (can use up to 10 already in the facility)

### Maintain difficulty spread across the region

- Select one of the grade spreads provided in the host agreements and implement that across the entire region as closely as possible
  - Each gym may set more than the 30 listed boulders, but none harder than the hardest within the provided distribution list.
  - If gyms across your region decide that they want to set more than 30 boulders, all gyms should agree upon that number and difficulty spread as closely as possible.
    - This ensures that one competition will not offer a drastically higher amount of points than another
    - Ex. Gym A sets 40 boulders with highest 5 being V8, V8, V9, V9, V10. Gym B sets 40 boulders with highest 5 being V8, V9, V9, V10, V10 thus offering the potential to score many more points than the other even though the highest grades are the same.
    - This also keeps the highest point values the same at most of the events
  - Grading note: grades are subjective, but the point is to keep the total available points the same or close to it, the ability to score those points due to soft or stiff grading isn't something that we expect to be considered

### Category sizes, ability level

- Specific for Youth C and Youth D
  - Of 30 boulders, ensure that 6-10 are accessible for Youth C and Youth D

## Bouldering Virtual Redpoint Setting Guidelines

- Starting hold height should be addressed ensuring that starting holds are reachable by the smallest Youth D in your respective region
- Smallest Youth D starting hold height: 48" off padding
- Generally, the smallest standing reach for Youth D's will be about 60" or 5 feet and Youth C will be about 66" or 5 feet 6 inches.
- New height rule for Youth C and Youth D is maximum for **lowest point of the body** is 8 feet
- Communicate with the RC team for your region to determine what grade levels should be accessible for Youth C and Youth D athletes

## Taping and Marking of Boulders

- All QE boulders will be taped with a 4-point start
  - One flash of tape corresponds to one point of contact with either a hand or a foot.
  - Examples found in video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDz4Puu-wt8>
- Do not use red or black tape as these colors are used for demarcating boundaries.
- Boulder may finish topping out. If you set a boulder where the finish tops out, thus without a finish hold, you must indicate that the boulder is a "top out finish" boulder near the start placard of the boulder. Also, add note in Plastick to the specific boulder, denoting that the boulder has a "top out finish". This is accomplished by adding to the name of the boulder (e.g. USAC #2 – Top Out Finish)

## Taping for gyms that mark boulders with tape

- Overlapping tape colors
  - Reference in video on USAC Youtube channel
    - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDz4Puu-wt8>
  - Tape each boulder with a base layer, then mark the starting position with a different color and the top if needed.
- Do not use red or black tape as these colors are used for demarcating boundaries.

USA Climbing will provide placards that MUST be posted to all competition designated Boulders.

- The posted placard number must be consistent with the number listed in KAYA.
- V-grades and point values will be presented to competitors in the KAYA app. Routesetters may also post the V-grade on the Boulder itself if they so desire.

## Bouldering Virtual Redpoint Setting Guidelines

Plastick access/integration with KAYA – setter instructions, support, point of contact (POC) for troubleshooting

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General routesetting questions for virtual redpoint season

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## Rules

- Rules are available in the recent addendum for the redpoint virtual series and competitors and coaches are responsible for knowing them
- [USA Climbing Rulebook](#)
- [USA Climbing Rulebook Addendum A](#)

## Additional Info

- [Virtual Redpoint FAQ](#)
- [Virtual Redpoint Placards](#)
- [Virtual Redpoint Generic Scorecard](#)