

FAQ's for Parents and Competitors Regarding Changes for 2020-21

Regional Realignment

1. How do I determine my new home Region?

The new map of Youth regions is located on the Regions page on the USA Climbing website. Competitors choose their home Region based either on their home address OR the address of their team/home gym when purchasing/renewing their membership via the USA Climbing online [membership portal](#). Membership registration will be available beginning October 1. To minimize confusion, the use of Regional names will be ended; Regions will only be referred to by their two-digit number. Questions regarding the new Regional map may be submitted to bree@usacimbing.org

2. If my team/gym is in a different Region than my home, which region do I register for?

You may select either of the two Regions as your home Region. Keep in mind that the Region you choose is the one where you must compete at Regionals and the Division in which you earn Ranking Points to qualify for Regionals (see below). If you are unsure which Region to select, we recommend contacting your team coach prior to purchasing/renewing your membership.

3. May I change my home Region during the season?

If a competitor moves to a residence in a different Region and/or changes team affiliation after the start of the season, s/he may request a change of her/his home Region by submitting a request to info@usacimbing.org. Changes to a competitor's home Region may not be made less than two weeks prior to the closing of registration for a Regional championship. In addition, competitors are not permitted to change their home Region back to a Region that was their home Region at any time in the preceding 12 months. This rule is designed to prevent Region-hopping from one discipline to the next.

4. How will I know whether the Regional Coordinators in my Region have changed, and how will RCs communicate with the members in their Region?

We're in the process of putting together a new list of Regional Coordinators for each region. Once finalized, it will be shared on the USA Climbing website. In some cases, the Regional realignment means that existing Regional Facebook groups will need to be changed and/or new groups established. Regional Coordinators will soon begin communicating any such changes. The Regional sections of the USA Climbing Forum will also change to reflect the new realignment.

Qualification Events

1. What is a Qualification Event?

Qualification Events (QEs) are USA Climbing-sanctioned events held in each Region (similar to "local comps" from previous seasons) that provide competitors the opportunity to earn Ranking Points in an effort to qualify for Regionals.

2. What will be the competition format for Qualification Events?

Qualification Events will likely be restricted to either a Modified Redpoint or Onsite format. USA Climbing does not believe that the Classic Redpoint format contains the level of fairness necessary for a championship-Qualification competition and therefore will not be permitted for QEs.

3. Can I compete at a Qualification Event hosted in a Region other than my home Region?

Competitors will be allowed to compete and earn Ranking Points in Qualification Events anywhere within their home Division (each Division is comprised of two Regions). We are currently considering whether and how competitors will be allowed to compete in QEs outside of their home Division. If this is allowed, competitors will not earn Ranking Points at QEs hosted outside their Division.

4. How many Qualification Events will be held in a Region?

Each Region will likely be allowed to schedule as many QEs that Regional Coordinators believe reasonably make sense based on competitor numbers and gym availability within that Region. Having said that, there will likely be a minimum of four QEs per Region for each discipline season. Additional rules may be established to handle circumstances where a Region is unable to schedule a minimum of four QEs in a season.

5. How many Qualification Events may a competitor participate in?

While we do not anticipate limiting the number of QEs in which an individual competitor may participate, only the Ranking Points only earned from a competitor's best two results (the two Qualification Events where s/he has the highest rank) will be counted toward her/his Regionals qualification.

6. Where do I find the schedule of Qualification Events in my Region?

As Qualification Events are confirmed between USA Climbing and host facilities, the competition schedule will be updated on the Region's page on the USAC website as well as shared on the Region's Facebook group and section on the USAC Forum.

7. How do I register for a Qualification Event?

Registration for all USA Climbing-sanctioned competitions (Qualification Events and Regional/Divisional/National Championships) will now take place through the USAC membership portal. Details on how this process will work will be provided as we get closer to the start of the new season this fall.

Ranking Points

1. What are Ranking Points and how are they calculated?

Ranking Points are earned based on a competitor's rank in their category at the conclusion of a Qualification Event. Ranking Points will be awarded to all competitors finishing in the top 40 places in a category, regardless of whether they hold Introductory or Competitor memberships. *The Ranking Point values will likely be similar to the scale that is used by the IFSC for World Cups.*

2. May a competitor earn Ranking Points at a Qualification Event hosted outside their home Region?

A competitor will only earn Ranking Points at QEs hosted within their home Region or the other Region located in their home Division. *If USA Climbing ultimately*

decides to allow competitors to compete at QEs outside of their home Division, those competitors will still be assigned Ranking Points based on their placement at the competition. However, those Ranking Points will not be counted towards their Regional Qualification standing back in their home Region.

3. How are Ranking Points used to determine qualification for Regionals?

At the conclusion of each discipline season (Bouldering/Sport), the competitors in each category in a Region will be ranked based on the sum of Ranking Points earned at their two best finishes at QEs during that season. The top 25 or 30 (still to be decided) competitors in each category in a Region will earn invites to Regionals.

4. Where will I find my current ranking for Qualification for Regionals?

The Regional Qualification ranking for each category will be updated throughout the season and available in the Results section of the USA Climbing website.

Other

1. When will the updated USA Climbing Rulebook be available?

The new USA Climbing rulebook is scheduled to be published in August 2020.