



## USA CLIMBING Competition Belaying Working Group

### Charter & Procedures for Working Group Organization and Operation

Amended & Restated as of August 7, 2019

**Article 1. Name.** The name of this Working Group is the USA Climbing Competition Belaying Working Group (the "Group").

**Article 2. Purpose.** The Group is an advisory group that is operated within the nonprofit USA Climbing ("USAC"), in accordance with Article 9 of the USAC Bylaws. The purpose of this Group is to make strategic and operational recommendations to the USAC Risk Management Committee (the "RMC"), Board of Directors (the "Board"), and USAC Staff on safe and effective competition belaying procedures and practices as well as provide recommendations on overall sport competition field of play safety issues to be utilized at USAC sanctioned events and programs.

**Article 3. Duties and Responsibilities.** The Group is responsible for providing analysis and guidance, as requested from time to time by the Board or the RMC, for matters involving belaying standards, methods, and training. These efforts may include, as applicable to the Group's Purpose and as requested by the Board or the RMC:

1. To collaborate with USAC Committees (e.g., the RMC, Rules Committee, Coaching Committee, Athletes' Advisory Committee, Routesetting Committee) USAC groups (USAC Routesetters, USAC Chief Judges, and USAC Regional Coordinators), industry and association partners, and other stakeholders to develop belaying standards, methods, and training, including curriculum and materials (printed, photo, video, web).
2. To recommend and document best practice procedures for safe and fair competition belaying of top rope and lead climbing to be utilized at USA Climbing events and programs.
3. To design a program to train volunteer competition belayers, Regional Coordinators, Chief Judges, and other stakeholders on recommended belay procedures, practices and supervision.
4. To establish transparent procedures and practices for selection of belaying teams for championship events.

The Group is responsible for investigating and researching belaying practices used internationally and providing analysis and guidance to Risk Management Committee, Board, and USAC staff. Any proposed curriculum or materials created by the Group will first be submitted to the RMC for review, comment, and approval, prior to submitting same to the Board for ultimate approval.

**Article 4. Meetings and Actions.**

- a. The Group shall endeavor to meet at least once per quarter via telephone, or more frequently

as circumstances dictate.

- b. The Group may invite any Board member, officer, or employee of USAC, and such other persons as it deems appropriate, to attend its meetings (or portions thereof) or to meet with or provide relevant information to any members of, or consultants to, the Group.
- c. Group decisions may be made via email and teleconference discussions and voting.
- d. The quorum for transaction of business is more than half of the Group members. Effort should be made for all Group members to be present for the transaction of any business.
- e. The Group Chair will approve the agenda for the Group's meetings, and any Group member may suggest items for consideration. Briefing materials, if any, will be provided to the Group as far in advance of the meetings as practicable.
- f. In the event the Chair is not present at the meeting, the other members present at that meeting shall designate an acting chair for such meeting by a majority vote.
- g. A majority vote of those Group members present or participating is necessary to transact any business brought before the Group.
- h. Minutes of Group meetings documenting business discussed and any official Group votes, along with any relevant reports, shall be submitted to USAC Operations staff, by the Chair or his/her designee. Minutes of the Group meetings shall be kept on file at the USAC main office.

**Article 5. Composition.** The Group shall be composed of seven (7) members. The Board shall select the Group members, which shall include at least 20% Athlete representation, consistent with Section 9.4 of the USAC Bylaws. The Board shall select the Chair from among the Group's members. The Board may seek the recommendation of USAC's Nominating and Governance Committee in the selection of Group members and/or the Chair. The USAC CEO or his designee will serve as staff liaison to the group. The staff liaison shall have no voting rights in the Working Group.

**Article 6. Tenure.** The term of the Group shall commence upon approval of the membership by the Board and shall terminate, if not extended by the Board, on August 31, 2020.

**Article 7. Amendments to Procedures.** Amendments to this Charter may be made by the Board, or by the Group with the approval of the Board. A two-thirds majority vote of voting Group members is required in order to propose any change(s) to the Board for approval.

**Article 8. Conflicts.** In the event of any conflict between this Charter and the USAC Bylaws, the USAC Bylaws shall control.

ADOPTED: August 7, 2019